

NURSING PRACTICE (PSYCHIATRIC/MENTAL HEALTH)- DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (ONLINE)

The **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)** is a doctoral degree for nurses at the highest level of nursing practice. Practice-focused doctoral nursing programs prepare leaders for the highest level of practice and are the terminal practice degree. Courses for this degree are delivered via distance education through NMSU Global Campus (i.e., online), allowing nurses to advance their careers while remaining in their communities. Although the didactic coursework for these programs is offered through distance learning, the clinical component consists of over **1000 contact hours**. Anyone interested in pursuing a nurse practitioner doctorate must ensure they can accommodate the intensive time commitment these programs require.

The **Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP)** track prepares nurses for advanced practice focusing on mental health issues across the lifespan. The curriculum builds upon four core PMHNP competencies: advanced health assessment (physical and psychosocial); diagnosis (diagnosis of mental disorders, pathophysiology, and neurophysiology); psychotherapy (individual, group, and family); and medication management (pharmacology and psychopharmacology). Other courses develop competencies in healthcare systems, best-practice research utilization and translation, and healthcare quality improvement. Graduates are prepared to sit for the Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner national certification exam (ANCC and AANP).

To complete the DNP program, each student is required to generate a project that reflects their advanced coursework in leadership, research translation, and clinical knowledge and skills.

New Mexico State University is a full member of the National Council of State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (SARA) consortium. Students will need to check the NMSU SARA website (<https://global.nmsu.edu/check-your-state/>) before applying to determine if NMSU has a reciprocity agreement with their home state. State Boards of Nursing may regulate NMSU's ability to have APRN students in clinical practice in the home state of out-of-state students. Please refer to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing's APRN Distance Education Requirements (<https://www.ncsbn.org/nursing-regulation/education/distance-education/aprn-distance-education-requirements.page>) website and contact the Nursing Graduate Advisor to confirm eligibility for clinical training in states outside of New Mexico.

For application information, visit the School of Nursing PMHNP webpage (<https://schoolofnursing.nmsu.edu/graduate-program/psychiatric-mental-health-nurse-practitioner-specialty.html>) or contact the Nursing Graduate Advisor for more information about application and admission requirements at (575) 646-4007.

Course Requirements

Prefix	Title	Credits
DNP Core Courses		
NURS 5120	Nursing Informatics	3
NURS 6112	Population Health Leadership and Epidemiologic Decision-Making	3

NURS 6115	Advanced Nursing Knowledge and the DNP Role	3
NURS 6120	Quality Improvement in Healthcare	3
NURS 6125	Evidence-Based Practice in Healthcare	3
NURS 6135	Interdisciplinary Leadership and Role Development for Practice Excellence	3
NURS 6250	Healthcare Policy and Ethics	3
NURS 6260	Population Health and the Environment	3
NURS 6266	Strategic and Financial Decision-Making in Healthcare Systems	3
NURS 6270	Clinical Data Management and Analysis	2
NURS 6305	Introduction to the DNP Project	1
NURS 6991	DNP Project Development	2
NURS 6991	DNP Project Development	2
NURS 6991	DNP Project Development	2
NP Core Courses		
NURS 6220	Advanced Pathophysiology for Clinical Nursing	3
NURS 6230	Advanced Clinical Pharmacology	3
NURS 6224	Diagnostic Reasoning and Advanced Health Assessment	3
NURS 6226	Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	1
NURS 6352	Integrated Care for Diverse Populations	2
NURS 6210	Professional Roles for Advanced Practice Clinical Nursing	3
PMHNP Specialty Courses		
NURS 6404	Neurobiology of Mental Disorders	2
NURS 6405	Psychopharmacology for Advanced Practice	3
NURS 6408	PMHNP Role in Diagnostics and Screening	3
NURS 6410	PMHNP Across the Lifespan I	3
NURS 6411	PMHNP Across the Lifespan I Practicum	2
NURS 6411	PMHNP Across the Lifespan I Practicum	3
NURS 6420	PMHNP Across the Lifespan II	3
NURS 6421	PMHNP Across the Lifespan II Practicum	4
NURS 6430	PMHNP Across the Lifespan III	1
NURS 6431	PMHNP Across the Lifespan III Practicum	2
NURS 6432	PMHNP Across the Lifespan Residency	2
Total Credits		79

First Year		
Fall		Credits
NURS 6112	Population Health Leadership and Epidemiologic Decision-Making	3
NURS 6115	Advanced Nursing Knowledge and the DNP Role	3
NURS 6120	Quality Improvement in Healthcare	3
NURS 6210	Professional Roles for Advanced Practice Clinical Nursing	3
Credits		12

Spring		
NURS 6135	Interdisciplinary Leadership and Role Development for Practice Excellence	3
NURS 6125	Evidence-Based Practice in Healthcare	3
NURS 6220	Advanced Pathophysiology for Clinical Nursing	3
Credits		9

Summer		
NURS 6270	Clinical Data Management and Analysis	2
NURS 6230	Advanced Clinical Pharmacology	3

NURS 6305	Introduction to the DNP Project	1
Credits		6
Second Year		
Fall		
NURS 5120	Nursing Informatics	3
NURS 6224	Diagnostic Reasoning and Advanced Health Assessment	3
NURS 6226	Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	1
NURS 6991	DNP Project Development	2
Credits		9
Spring		
NURS 6250	Healthcare Policy and Ethics	3
NURS 6260	Population Health and the Environment	3
NURS 6266	Strategic and Financial Decision-Making in Healthcare Systems	3
NURS 6991	DNP Project Development	2
Credits		11
Summer		
NURS 6404	Neurobiology of Mental Disorders	2
NURS 6408	PMHNP Role in Diagnostics and Screening	3
NURS 6411	PMHNP Across the Lifespan I Practicum	2
NURS 6991	DNP Project Development	2
Credits		9
Third Year		
Fall		
NURS 6405	Psychopharmacology for Advanced Practice	3
NURS 6410	PMHNP Across the Lifespan I	3
NURS 6411	PMHNP Across the Lifespan I Practicum	3
Credits		9
Spring		
NURS 6352	Integrated Care for Diverse Populations	2
NURS 6420	PMHNP Across the Lifespan II	3
NURS 6421	PMHNP Across the Lifespan II Practicum	4
Credits		9
Summer		
NURS 6430	PMHNP Across the Lifespan III	1
NURS 6431	PMHNP Across the Lifespan III Practicum	2
NURS 6432	PMHNP Across the Lifespan Residency	2
Credits		5
Total Credits		79