Become a leader and advocate for improving healthcare safety and quality

Learn and grow professionally with a dedicated professional faculty

Realize your goal to become an expert in specialized nursing practice

Enjoy the flexibility and convenience of an entirely online program

why you belong here

Are you as passionate about advancing the quality and safety of healthcare as you are about advancing your nursing career? Do you seek to take a more active leadership role to accompany your current nursing expertise? If so, then this program is for you.

Chatham University's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program prepares you to be a leader in the promotion and use of evidence-based practice in healthcare delivery systems. The online coursework will provide you with the skill set and competency to function in clinical and executive leadership roles to fit your interests and career goals.

At Chatham, the format and structure of the online DNP program is intended to work with your schedule, helping you balance work, family, and your studies while teaching you to become an expert in specialized advanced nursing practice. And, it’s 27-credit format is a distinct advantage, which will save your time and money.

what you can expect

Taught with working nurses in mind, the distinctive and selective DNP program provides you with high-level faculty expertise and support in an accelerated, seamless curriculum that is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. You’ll enjoy a highly interactive experience that facilitates and encourages discussion among diverse students while also requiring clinical experiences that allow you to apply what you learn to your work.

In the post-master DNP program, you can choose to complete your degree in three to five semesters, including your required self-directed clinical capstone project. You’ll take each required course in an online, 14-week format on a full- or part-time schedule, and complete one on-campus residency lasting two to three days and consisting of networking, project presentation, faculty review, and collaborative learning. Clinical hours are typically completed in your geographical location, preferably your place of employment.
what you will learn

Through the DNP program at Chatham, you’ll learn how to skillfully promote and lead organizational change for the benefit of patient and system outcomes. You’ll focus on innovative and evidence-based practice with ongoing scientific inquiry and the application of credible research findings to promote safe, quality, patient-centered healthcare to a diverse population with complex needs.

You’ll also learn to apply inter-professional collaboration concepts to improve patient and population health outcomes. You’ll synthesize nursing research and integration of best practices. And you’ll develop and evaluate new practice approaches based on nursing theory and theories borrowed from other disciplines.

where it will take you

With your DNP from Chatham, you’ll be able to continue in your role as an advanced practice RN, qualify for leadership and management roles in your organization and your area of specialty, or become an educator.

learn more

Read faculty bios, browse course descriptions, and review admission requirements at chatham.edu/dnp.

"It is very rewarding to teach the DNP students because they are eager to learn, committed to their patient outcomes, accomplished nurses, and developing scholars. They find the experience at Chatham rewarding as well and are genuinely appreciative of the faculty."

— Diane Hunker, Ph.D., MBA, RN, director of nursing programs, DNP program coordinator and associate professor

take note

• Nursing students who excel in their coursework may be invited to join the Chatham University Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, Chi Zeta, which was developed purposefully as a virtual society in order to allow distance students to participate from across the U.S., while on active military deployment, and from other countries. As a virtual society, members can connect anywhere, anytime to share knowledge, offer support, and to build networks.

• Distance learning students will enjoy full access to the resources and services that the Jennie King Mellon Library has to offer, including online tools you access from anywhere in the world.