Introduction to DNP Role and Culture
NURS 6301
Summer 2025
Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

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Office Hours: Virtual office hours are scheduled weekly and one-on-one by appointment. Please email to make a one-on-one virtual appointment. Weekly office hours will be on **Tuesdays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.** The Zoom link will be posted in Canvas for weekly virtual office hours.

The best way to contact me is via email. Please allow a 24-hour response time (longer on weekends and holidays). **If it is urgent**, you may also text me at the number provided in Canvas. Please use discretion regarding the timing of texts and phone calls. Calls or texts received after 6 p.m. may not be returned until the next office day at my discretion. If you call and expect me to return your call, please leave a voicemail with your name and a good callback number.

Course Description: This introductory course in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program includes an exploration of the various functions, roles, and positions that DNP-prepared nurses may hold. The responsibility of DNP-prepared nurses to promote evidence-based practice is emphasized. Students will use self-assessment and reflection of individual strengths and emotional intelligence to develop action plans for personal growth during the DNP program.

Prerequisites: Admission to the DNP Program

Corequisites: NURS 6302

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply professional communication strategies to foster collaboration, engagement, and advocacy with diverse stakeholders in healthcare. (AACN 2.2, 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, 9.2)

2. Demonstrate a spirit of inquiry and professional maturity to support adaptability, evidence-based decision-making, and lifelong learning. (AACN 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.3, 10.2)

3. Examine the historical and philosophical foundations of the DNP degree, including its evolution, role in advanced practice, and impact on healthcare. (AACN 1.1, 1.2, 9.3, 10.2)

4. Explore the professional identity, ethical responsibilities, and leadership expectations of DNP-prepared nurses as healthcare innovators and change agents. (AACN 7.1, 7.3, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.5, 9.6, 10.2, 10.3)

5. Apply leadership principles to advocate for practice transformation, quality improvement, and healthcare innovation. (AACN 5.1, 5.2, 7.3, 10.2)

6. Evaluate the role of personal well-being and resilience in sustaining professional effectiveness, leadership capacity, and ethical decision-making. (AACN 10.1, 10.2, 10.3)

Required Textbooks and Readings:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). ISBN-13: 978-1433832161, ISBN-10: 143383216X

Bradberry, T. &Greaves, J. (2009). *Emotional Intelligence 2.0*. TalentSmart.

Bradshaw, M. J., & Vitale, T. R. (2024). The DNP project workbook (2nd ed.). Springer Publishing LLC. ISBN: 978-0-8261-7483-3, eBook ISBN: ISBN: 978-0-8261-7483-3

Chism, L. A. (Ed.) (2023). *The Doctor of Nursing Practice: A guidebook for role development and professional issues.* (5ᵗʰ ed). Jones and Bartlet Learning.

Dang, D., Dearholt, S. L., Bissett, K., Ascenzi, J., & Whalen, M. (2022). *Johns Hopkins evidence-based practice for nurses and healthcare professionals: Model and guidelines* (4th ed.). Sigma Theta Tau International. ISBN-13: 978-1948057875, ISBN-10: 1948057875, Used or Rental is acceptable – no requirement to use online resources.

Polit, D. F., & Beck, C.T. (2021). *Essentials of nursing research: Appraising evidence for nursing practice* (10th ed.). Wolters Kluwer. ISBN-13: 978-1975141851

Rath, T. (2007). *Strengthsfinder 2.0*. Gallup Press. (This will be provided to you by the university)

Schadewald, D. (2023). *Zaccagnini & White's core competencies for advanced practice nursing: A guide for DNPs* (5th ed.). Jones & Bartlett.

Sylvia, M. L., & Terhaar, M. F. (2023). *Clinical analytics and data management for the DNP* (3rd ed.). Springer. ISBN: 9780826163233, eBook ISBN: 9780826163240

In clinical courses, all students are required to have an Exaat active subscription.

Recommended but not Required:

Hacker, D., & Sommers, N. (2021). *A writer's reference*. (10th ed). Bedford/St. Martin's
Macmillan Learning

There may be additional assigned readings in the modules in Canvas.

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

Assignment Category	Total %
Participation	10
Leadership Development	20
Discussion Boards	20
DNP Scholarly Project Activity	20
DNP Project Deliverables	30
Total:	**100 %**

Grading Scale: Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the Modules.
Final grades for the course will be determined based upon the following point assignments:

A - 90-100
B - 80-89
C - 70-79
D - 60-69
F - Below 60

Grades will not be rounded when calculating the average (79.5 is not rounded to 80, and 89.5 is
not rounded to 90). Students are required to achieve an average of 80% (B) to complete the
course successfully.

Although the university policy allows 60 days for grade appeals, the School of Nursing follows a
stricter timeline of 10 days to facilitate students' timely progression through the curriculum. In
the case of extenuating circumstances, please consult the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs
for guidance.

Academic Integrity: Cheating of any kind, as defined in Section 8 of the UT Tyler Manual of
Policies and Procedures (MOPP) for Student Affairs (https://www.uttyler.edu/mopp/), will not
be tolerated. Consequences may include:
- reprimand
- exam failure
- course failure
- expulsion from the Nursing program
- expulsion from the University

- other consequences as assigned

Exam and homework materials, questions, and problems are the intellectual property of faculty, UT Tyler, or publishers.
- These materials may not be distributed without permission.
- Distributing or uploading them to online resources destroys the integrity of the assignment and the course, allowing others an unfair advantage by letting them view the materials.
- Uploading these materials to online resources is a violation of UT Tyler's academic misconduct policies and may result in formal conduct charges.
- Sanctions for uploading or otherwise divulging the contents of these materials can include:
  - a reduced or failing grade on an assignment
  - a reduced or failing grade for the course
  - removal from the Nursing program
  - removal from UT Tyler

Late Policy: 5% will be deducted each day an assignment is past due unless prior arrangements have been made with your course faculty. Extenuating circumstances may apply.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in this Course

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, AI is permitted only for specific assignments or situations, and appropriate acknowledgment is required.

During some class assignments, we may leverage AI tools to support your learning, allow you to explore how AI tools can be used, and/or better understand their benefits and limitations. Learning how to use AI is an emerging skill, and we will work through the limitations of these evolving systems together. However, AI will be limited to assignments where AI is a critical

component of the learning activity. I will always indicate when and where the use of AI tools for this course is appropriate.

Repeating a Course: Students repeating this course may not use previously submitted assignments nor utilize the same patients for an assignment. Submitting the same or slightly modified assignments from previous semesters is considered self-plagiarism and is subject to academic discipline, including failing the assignment or the course.

Attendance and Make-up Policy: Attendance/participation is expected. Make-up for exams, quizzes, assignments, and missed clinical time is at the instructor's discretion.

Graded Course Requirements: Detailed information and grading rubrics for course assignments will be provided in Canvas.

Throughout this course, discussion boards are utilized to further understanding and communication among the cohort regarding the DNP role and the leadership a DNP-prepared nurse employs in healthcare. Assignments are also included in which students will demonstrate their understanding of practice problem identification for their DNP Scholarly Project. The focus of additional assignments will be on strengths and emotional intelligence development.

Important Clinical Hours Information and Requirements:

DNP Project Hours Requirement

To successfully pass this course, students must complete and document a minimum of 0 DNP Practice Hours in Exxat for this course, but other courses will have hours and the same syllabi language. Proper and timely documentation in Exxat is mandatory and will be monitored for compliance.

[DNP Required Hours Doc](#)

 Students who are applying approved post-baccalaureate clinical/practice hours to the DNP program are permitted to apply a portion of those hours to satisfy up to 50% of the required hours for this course, provided that these hours meet the program's criteria and are properly verified.

 Within the first two weeks of the course, students must complete the *DNP Practice Hours Plan Attestation form,* specifying the number of hours they plan to apply to this course. The attestation form must also include a statement of the total number of post-baccalaureate clinical/practice hours approved through the *Clinical Hour Verification Request* process, the number of hours applied to previous courses, and the remaining balance of hours available to be applied toward future courses. Failure to complete and submit the attestation form within the required timeframe may result in ineligibility to apply post-baccalaureate hours to the course.

Practice hours must be logged in Exxat within 7 days of completing the activity. Failure to log hours within this timeframe will result in the hours being disqualified for credit, and the activity will need to be repeated to count toward the required hours.

Failure to complete the required hours for the course or to accurately document them in Exxat will result in an incomplete or course failure, as meeting the hour requirement is essential for progression in the program. Students are responsible for ensuring that all hours are properly logged and verified within the designated timeframe.

Practice Hours and Affiliation Agreement Policy

Students are not authorized to complete any DNP practice hours, including activities related to the DNP project, at any site, including their place of employment, without a fully executed Affiliation Agreement between the academic institution and the practice site.

The Affiliation Agreement is a legal contract that ensures appropriate oversight, liability coverage, and compliance with institutional and clinical site policies. This agreement must be in place before the initiation of any practice hours at the proposed site.

Engaging in practice hours at a site without a formal agreement constitutes a violation of program policy and may result in a delay of hours being counted toward program requirements, academic penalties, or dismissal from the course.

Students are responsible for working with their DNP faculty and clinical placement coordinator to initiate and confirm the Affiliation Agreement process well in advance of the proposed start date for site-based activities.

These can be found in the Assignment section of Canvas.

Important Course Dates:

- Orientation: **5/6/25, 8:00 p.m.**
- Census Date: **5/19/25**
- Holidays: **Memorial Day, 5/26/25; Juneteenth, 6/19/25; Independence Day, 7/4/25**
- Last Date to Withdraw: **7/8/25**
- Last Day of Course: **8/9/25**, all assignments must be completed and submitted by this date

Course Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates /Times: Subject to change based on the needs of the course

Module/Week	Assignment	Due Date/Time (All times are Central Time)
Module 1/Week 1 Getting Started	**Zoom Orientation Zoom link in Canvas**	Live: Tues., 5/6/25, 7:00 pm Video: Sun., 5/11/25, 11:59 pm
	Plagiarism Video	Sun., 5/11/25, 11:59 pm
	Graduate Affirmation Forms	
	RISE Model	
	Discussion Board: Professional Bio	DB: Initial post due Fri., May 9th, 11:59 pm Peer responses (2) due Sun., May 11th, 11:59 pm
	Plagiarism Course & Certificate	Sun., May 18th, 11:59 pm
	Begin work on Clinical Hours Verification	Sun., 7/13/25, 11:59 pm
Module 2/ Week 2-3 Introduction to the DNP and the Essentials	**DB: Beginning the DNP Journey**	DB: Initial post due Thu., May 15th, 11:59 pm Peer responses (2) due Sun., May 18th, 11:59 pm
	Obtain Copyright to JHEBP model	Sun., May 18th, 11:59 pm
	Crews (Small Groups)	Sun., June 1, 11:59 pm
Census Date		5/19/25
Holiday	Memorial Day	5/26/25 - Offices Closed

Module 3/ Week 4-6 Defining Practice Problem	**Root Cause Analysis** **Practice Problem Identification** **Appendix B: Initial Steps- Defining the Problem Ch. 3 DNP Workbook**	
Holiday	Juneteenth	6/19/25 - Offices Closed
Module 4/Week 7-9 Internal Evidence and Organization, Setting and Culture	**Internal Evidence Paper** **Description of the Organization Paper**	
Holiday	Independence Day	7/4/25 - Offices Closed
Last Day to Withdraw		7/8/25
Module 5/ Week 10-11 Strengths & Emotional Intelligence for the DNP	**DB: Strengths: Balconies and Basements** **Emotional Intelligence Self-Appraisal** **Emotional Intelligence Self-Awareness and Personal Vision Statement** **Strengths, Emotional Intelligence and Persistence Paper**	DB: Initial post due Thu., , 11:59 pm Peer responses (2) due Sun., 11:59 pm

Module 6/ Week 12-14 Roles and Leadership Development	**Second draft Internal Evidence and Description of Organization and Culture** **DB: DNP Leader Skills Development** **Leadership Development Plan** **Health & Wellness** **RT: Shared Reflections About Learning and the Course**	DB: Initial post due Thu., , 11:59 pm Peer responses (2) due Sun., 11:59 pm
Last Day of Course		8/9/25 (All assignments must be completed and submitted before this date

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information:

https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/student_guide_and_policies.php

Student Resources and University Policies are provided in Canvas.