Overview
College of Nursing at the University of Rhode Island offers a Post Baccalaureate DNP degree with an acute care nurse practitioner concentration. Its purpose is to prepare nurses at the highest level for clinical practice. It prepares clinicians capable of translating scientific findings, evaluating outcomes and programs, producing clinical scholarship, and transforming health care systems and policies.

Curriculum
The ACNP curriculum consists of courses totaling 72-73 semester credit hours. Students in the Post Baccalaureate to DNP program can choose between moving through or stopping to get their masters along the way. Students will need to declare their intentions upon matriculation into the program. Students choosing the Post BS to DNP option earn 43 credits to complete their NP requirements and finish upon completing 28 credits of the DNP portion and 2 credits of electives. Students choosing the Post BS to DNP with Masters along the way will earn 44 credits to complete their master’s requirements and finish upon completing 28 credits of the DNP portion and 1 credit of elective. By enrolling in either direct entry program, students save a minimum of 14 credits.

Required Master’s Core Courses (13 credits)
- NUR 660 - Philosophical & Theoretical Bases of Nursing Science (4 crs)
- NUR 651 - Advanced Methods in Nursing Research I (Qualitative Methods) (3 crs)
- NUR 652 - Advanced Methods in Nursing Research II (Quantitative Methods) (3 crs)
- HDF 527 - Social and Health Care Policy (3 crs)

Required Advanced Practice Courses for Acute Care (12 credits)
- NUR 503 - Advanced Adult Physical Assessment (4 crs)
- NUR 509 - Advanced Assessment for ACNP Practice (2 crs)
- NUR 535 - Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nurses (3 crs)
- NUR 582 - Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Practice Nursing (3 crs)

Required Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Courses (18 credits)
- NUR 565 - ACNP I: Adult (3 crs)
- NUR 566 - ACNP Practicum I: Adult (3 crs)
- NUR 567 - ACNP II: Adult (3 crs)
- NUR 568 - ACNP Practicum II: Adult (6 crs)
- NUR 590 - Directed Advanced Study & Practice (3 crs)

**NOTE: after completing the above 43 credits students may opt out with their MS degree or stop to obtain their masters for those who wish to continue toward the DNP degree. This is done by taking NUR 520 - Graduate Study Seminar (1 cr), completing their masters’ major paper and comprehensive exam. The masters’ major paper may be used as a portfolio component for the DNP. Total credits for out-out masters – 44.**

Remaining Doctor of Nursing Practice Courses (28 credits)
- NUR 549 – Evidence Based Strategies in Health Care Program Evaluation (3 crs)
- NUR 551 – Theoretical Study of Nursing Administration/Leadership (3 crs)
- PHP 540 – Introduction to Epidemiology (3 crs)
- MBA 540 – Organizational Decision Making and Design (3 crs)
- NUR 680 – Informatics in Health Care Settings (3 crs)
- NUR 686 – DNP Role Development (6 crs)
- NUR 688 – Capstone Practicum and Project-Portfolio (7 crs)

Elective (1 credit)
One elective credit to be determined with student’s advisor and taken anytime during the program. Selection should be based on prior knowledge, clinical experience, and career goals.
Clinical Practice
Clinical practice is available in a variety of settings - hospital emergency departments, critical and acute care hospital units. Preceptorship on a one-to-one basis is provided by nurse practitioners and physicians. Students manage a patient caseload with increasing independence as they progress in the program. The practicum experiences are planned with the student, taking into consideration the student’s interests, learning needs, employment plans, and acute care nurse practitioner competencies.

Part Time and Full Time Study
Students take 1 or 2, 3 credit courses per semester for part-time and 3 courses for full-time. Students may choose to move through courses in a two-and-one-half to a five-year time frame.

Transportation
A car is necessary to reach the various clinical practice locations in the cities and rural areas. A local bus service connects the University to most major health service facilities, shopping, and service centers, but the bus routes and schedules may not always be convenient for the graduate student.

Tuition and Fees
Additional information on tuition and a full breakdown of fees can be located on the Enrollment Services Tuition and Fees webpage.

Financial Aid
A variety of traineeships, graduate assistantships and loans are available to help finance graduate education. More information can be found on the Graduate School Financial Support webpage.

Application Deadlines
Your completed application package, including supporting materials, is due by February 15th for Fall start and October 15th for Spring start. Applications missing materials such as test scores, transcripts, resumes, or personal statements will not be reviewed. We recommend submitting your online application by no later than two weeks prior to the deadline which gives your references two weeks to complete their recommendations.

Admission Requirements
- Completed application
- Admission to the Graduate School. Directions and materials needed for a complete application can be found on the College of Nursing - How to Apply webpage.
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Baccalaureate degree in nursing accredited by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing or the National League for Nursing with an upper-division major in nursing.
- Eligibility for RN licensure in Rhode Island
- Positive recommendations
- Statement of purpose which reflects writing ability and goals for pursuing advanced study in nursing
- Two years of clinical nursing experience, relevant to the concentration applied for, prior to enrollment in the advanced practice clinical courses.
- A basic statistics course is a prerequisite for NUR 652.

The mission of the URI College of Nursing can be found at www.uri.edu/nursing/about/
To view the University catalog please go to: www.uri.edu/catalog/
To apply please go to: www.uri.edu/gsadmis/ and click “Apply Online Now!”

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