

**NOTICE OF CHANGE FORM**

**Notice of Change for: Department of Communicative Disorders, graduate program, speech-language pathology**

**Date: 1-28-20**

**A. PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**1. Name of institution**

University of Rhode Island

**2. Name of department, division, school or college**

Department: CMD

College: CHS

**3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.**

Initiation date: Fall, 2020

First degree date:

**4. Intended location of the program**

Not applicable

**5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).**

We are deleting CMD 460 (Speech & Language Disorders) as a prerequisite course for those students in our graduate program whose undergraduate degrees are not in the field of communication disorders. There are two reasons for this. First, this is an upper level, undergraduate survey course and the contents of this class are covered elsewhere in the graduate curriculum that all students are required to take. Second, this prerequisite deletion will help graduate students earn their degrees in a more timely manner.

**6. If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog changes **indicated in Track Changes.****

**Master of Science**

*Admission requirements:* Students who are interested in applying to the graduate program in speech-language pathology, and who have not taken the undergraduate requirements, may wish to enroll as post-baccalaureate

(nonmatriculating) students to fulfill or begin to fulfill these requirements. The undergraduate requirements—courses needed prior to taking graduate courses—include CMD 272, 273, 274, 276, 375, 377, ~~460~~, and 465. Completion of these courses does not, however, assure admission into the graduate program, nor is completion of all the requirements essential for application to the program. Any required undergraduate courses not completed prior to graduate admission will be added to the graduate program. GRE or MAT scores are required for admission. Strong consideration will be given to the cumulative GPA. In addition, performance within a communicative disorders major or prerequisite courses will be viewed as a particularly important criterion for admission. The completed application package must be received by October 15 for spring admission and March 1 for fall admission.

#### **7. Signature of the President**

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David M. Dooley

NOTICE OF CHANGE FORM

**Notice of Change for:** Speech-Language Pathology MS degree; Communicative Disorder Department

**Date:**

**A. PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**1. Name of institution**

University of Rhode Island

**2. Name of department, division, school or college**

Department: CMD

College: CHS

**3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.**

Initiation date: Fall, 2020

First degree date:

**4. Intended location of the program**

Not applicable

**5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).**

CMD 274 (Communication Processes) will be deleted as a required prerequisite course for graduate students seeking their M.S. degrees in speech-language pathology. This course is being deleted because the content is covered elsewhere in the graduate curriculum. This change will allow students to graduate in a more timely manner.

**6. If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog changes **indicated in Track Changes**.**

**Master of Science**

*Admission requirements:* Students who are interested in applying to the graduate program in speech-language pathology, and who have not taken the undergraduate requirements, may wish to enroll as post-baccalaureate (non-

matriculating) students to fulfill or begin to fulfill these requirements. The undergraduate requirements—courses needed prior to taking graduate courses—include CMD 272, 273, ~~274~~, 276, - 375, 377, 460, and 465. Completion of these courses does not, however, assure admission into the graduate program, nor is completion of all the requirements essential for application to the program. Any required undergraduate courses not completed prior to graduate admission will be added to the graduate program. GRE or MAT scores are required for admission. Strong consideration will be given to the cumulative GPA. In addition, performance within a communicative disorders major or prerequisite courses will be viewed as a particularly important criterion for admission. The completed application package must be received by October 15 for spring admission and March 1 for fall admission.

#### **7. Signature of the President**

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David M. Dooley

NOTICE OF CHANGE FORM

Notice of Change for: Electrical Engineering Master of Science degree

Date: February 24, 2020

A. PROGRAM INFORMATION

1. Name of institution

University of Rhode Island

2. Name of department, division, school or college

Department: Electrical, Computer and Biomedical Engineering

College: College of Engineering

3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.

Initiation date: Fall 2020

First degree date: May 2021

4. Intended location of the program

Kingston Campus

5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).

Eliminate the "written comprehensive examination" option to complete the non-thesis M.S. degree.

6. If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog changes **indicated in Track Changes**.

"For the non-thesis option, ~~either a)~~ successful completion of ELE 598 Master's Project; ~~or b) a written comprehensive examination~~ is required."

7. Signature of the President

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David M. Dooley

**Notice of Change form**

**Notice of Change for:** Revision of the (Post-MS) DNP curriculum in the College of Nursing

**Date:** 02/05/2020

**A. PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**1. Name of institution**

University of Rhode Island

**2. Name of department, division, school or college**

Department: Nursing - Graduate Program

College: College of Nursing

**3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.**

Initiation date: August 1, 2020

First degree date: December, 2022

**4. Intended location of the program**

Nursing Education Center (NEC)

350 Eddy St.

Providence, RI 02903

**5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).**

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), refers to the terminal degree and highest level of practice-focused education in nursing. The practice-focused doctorate, or DNP, is designed to prepare experts in specialized advanced nursing practice, with a focus on practice that is innovative, evidence-based, and reflects the application of credible research findings into practice (AACN, 2006). Unlike research-focused PhD programs in nursing, the DNP program includes integrative practice experiences and culminates in a practice immersion experience and a practice improvement project (AACN, 2006).

The DNP program at the University of Rhode Island College of Nursing was launched in 2010. A formal accreditation report is due to AACN/CCNE in December, 2020 and an on-site accreditation is scheduled for February – March, 2021.

Graduate faculty in the CON have been considering curricular changes to the DNP program for the past two years. The MS/DNP program committee has been benchmarking the CON DNP curriculum against the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) document, Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (2006) and collecting data from faculty, students, alumni and employers. Skyfactor exit surveys were conducted in April and December, 2019. Focus groups and interviews were conducted with current DNP students from December, 2019 – February, 2020. The MS/DNP committee met throughout the fall semester, 2019 and during the winter break to: (a) benchmark the curriculum against the AACN Essentials, (b) discuss the strengths, gaps and challenges in the BS-DNP and MS-DNP programs, (c) conduct a review of leading DNP programs across the U.S. (e.g., Rush, Columbia, Johns Hopkins, Yale), and (d) formulate a plan to strengthen specific curricular threads and improve the overall program.

In response to these findings and, in order to be consistent with AACN recommendations and professional standards, Associate Dean Hutchinson and the MS/DNP program committee are proposing to: (a) suspend admissions to the BS-DNP program in favor of separate but seamless MS and Post-MS DNP programs and (b) revise the Post-MS DNP program curriculum to better align with AACN standards and be comparable to the curricula offered at leading DNP programs in nursing. The proposed changes to the Post-MS DNP program will also make it more applicable to a broader range of MS-prepared nurses, including hospital-based nurses as well as primary care advanced practice nurses. The proposed revisions were reviewed and approved by the CON MS/DNP program committee (February 5, 2020), the CON curriculum committee (February 12, 2020), and the CON faculty organization (CONFO) (February 26, 2020). Dean Wolfe and Associate Dean Hutchinson have already spoken with the accrediting agency (AACN/CCNE) about these two proposed changes. Their input has been incorporated into the proposed program revision and timing.

The specific changes proposed for the MS-DNP program include:

- (a) designating selected MS-level courses and statistics as program pre-requisites;
- (b) deleting PhD program required courses that were inappropriate for the DNP role. For example, DNP students were required to take courses in the philosophy of science and advanced qualitative and quantitative research methods [NUR 660, NUR 651, NUR 652];
- (c) in lieu of the philosophy of science course, the DNP program will require a MS-level nursing theory course (e.g., NUR 507 or equivalent) as a pre-requisite;

(d) in lieu of research design and methods courses (NUR 651 and NUR 652), the DNP program thread on the analysis of existing data, interpretation and application to practice (Essential VII from AACN [2006]), will include pre-requisite courses in statistics (300- to 500-level), and research methods (e.g., an MS-level introduction to research methods course [NUR 505 or equivalent]), and required courses in Implementation Science (proposed new course NUR 681) and Secondary Analysis of Health-Related Data (proposed new course NUR 683). The Implementation Science course (NUR 681) and Secondary Analysis of Health-Related Data (NUR 683) will be open as electives to PhD students in nursing and graduate students from other colleges and majors.

(e) 5 credits (approximately 2 courses) will be allocated to electives; students may choose from electives offered within the College of Nursing and across URI.

The total number of credits in the Post-MS DNP program will remain the same (42 credits post-MS). A summary comparing the current and proposed Post-MS DNP curricula is presented in Appendix A.

**6. If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog changes indicated in Track Changes.**

As is shown in Appendix B, the URI catalog language related to the DNP program has been edited to reflect the proposed program changes.

**7. Signature of the President**

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David M. Dooley



## **APPENDIX A: CURRENT AND PROPOSED POST-MS DNP CURRICULUM**

<u><b>Current Curriculum</b></u>	<u><b>Cr.</b></u>	<u><b>Proposed Curriculum</b></u>	<u><b>Cr.</b></u>
<b><u>Pre-Requisites</u></b>		<b><u>Pre-Requisites</u></b>	
MS or MSN degree in nursing		MS or MSN degree in nursing or permission	
		Statistics course (300 – 500 level)	
		NUR 505 or similar (MS-level intro to research)	
		NUR 507 or similar (MS-level nursing theory )	
<b><u>Required Nursing Courses (22 cr.):</u></b>		<b><u>Required Nursing Courses (18 cr.):</u></b>	
NUR 660 – Philosophy of Science & Theory	4	NUR 681 – Implementation Science	3
NUR 651 – Advanced Qual Research	3	NUR 683 – Secondary Analysis of Health-Related Data	3
NUR 652 – Advanced Quant Research	3		
NUR 549 – Evidence-Based Strategies in Health Care Program Evaluation	3	NUR 549 – Evidence-Based Strategies in Health Care Program Evaluation	3
NUR 551 – Theoretical Study of Nsg Admin/Leadership	3	NUR 551 – Theoretical Study of Nsg Admin/Leadership	3
NUR 680 – Informatics	3	NUR 680 – Informatics	3
HDF 527 – Health Care Policy (taught by CON)	3	HDF 527 – Health Care Policy (taught by CON)	3
<b><u>Required Interdisciplinary Courses (6 cr.):</u></b>		<b><u>Required Interdisciplinary Courses (6 cr.):</u></b>	
PHP 540 – Intro to Epidemiology	3	PHP 540 – Intro to Epidemiology	3
MBA 540 – Org. Decision-Making & Design	3	MBA 540 – Org. Decision-Making & Design	3
<b><u>Electives (1 cr.):</u></b>		<b><u>Electives (5 cr.):</u></b>	
xxx xxx – Free Elective	1	xxx xxx – Focused electives selected from options in nursing, pharmacy, health sciences, MHM etc.	5
<b><u>Practicum &amp; Practice Improvement Project (13 credits):</u></b>		<b><u>Practicum &amp; Practice Improvement Project (13 credits):</u></b>	
NUR 686 – DNP Role Development	6	NUR 686 – DNP Role Development	6
NUR 688 – Capstone Practicum and Project	7	NUR 688 – Capstone Practicum and Project	7
<b><u>42 TOTAL CREDITS</u></b>		<b><u>42 TOTAL CREDITS</u></b>	

## APPENDIX B: CATALOG CHANGES

# Doctor of Nursing Practice

401.874.2766, uri.edu/nursing

D.N.P. course work includes nursing courses in ~~scientific thinking nursing science, research methods (qualitative and quantitative), informatics,~~ administration/leadership, ~~informatics, health-related data analysis~~ and ~~implementing~~ evidence-based strategies in health care.

Practicum courses are continuous throughout the program.

Interdisciplinary courses include epidemiology, ~~social and~~ health care policy, and organizational design and decision-making in the Colleges of Pharmacy, Health Sciences, and Business. The program culminates with a practice ~~immersion experience and practice~~ improvement project.

### Specializations

For the Post B.S. – D.N.P.: ~~the concentration is on advanced practice, with specialization as a family and adult/gerontology acute care nurse practitioner or an adult/gerontology primary care nurse practitioner.~~ Admissions are currently on hold for the Post-B.S. – DNP program.

For the Post M.S. – D.N.P.: ~~the concentration is on health care systems innovation, advanced practice concentration.~~

### Admission requirements

For Post-B.S. entry into the Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.) program, the admission requirements are the same as those listed above for the M.S. program. A minimum GPA of 3.30 is required following the advanced practice concentration courses for continuation in the D.N.P. program for students taking this option. Admissions are currently on hold for the Post-B.S. - DNP program.

For the post-M.S. entry into the D.N.P., admission requirements include: a master's degree in nursing or its equivalent (GPA minimum 3.30); eligibility for R.N. licensure in Rhode Island; national certification as an Advanced Practice Nurse; evidence of graduate course work in concept development and theory or equivalent; completion of a 300- to 500-level statistics course; completion of a master's level introduction to research course (NUR 505 or equivalent); completion of a master's level nursing theory course (NUR 507 or equivalent); completed application package with all transcripts; three letters of reference attesting to the applicant's capability for doctoral study (academic and professional, at least one from a doctorally prepared nurse); one scholarly paper or a master's thesis or equivalent; a statement of purpose indicating goals that are congruent with those of the program and institution and a curriculum vitae/resume. All materials must be received by October 15 for spring admission and February 15 for fall admission. Acceptance is based on a full review of the applicant's record and not any single component.

### **Post B.S. – D.N.P. Program Requirements**

Program requirements include a minimum of 72 credits. D.N.P. required first level course work includes 10 credits of core nursing courses and (13 credits) includes NUR 651, 652, 660 and HDF 527 (3 credits).

Required advanced practice core courses (11 to 12 credits) are include NUR 503; NUR 504, 508, or 509; NUR 535 and 582. Students may choose one of three two advanced practice nursing concentrations: family nurse practitioner or; adult/ gerontology primary care nurse practitioner and adult/gerontology acute care nurse practitioner.

Family nurse practitioner concentration courses (18 credits) are include NUR 531, 532, 533, 534 and 590. Adult/gerontology primary care nurse practitioner concentration courses (18 credits) are include NUR 561, 562, 563, 564 and 590 (3 credits). Adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioner concentration courses (18 credits) are NUR 565, 566, 567, 568 and 590. Students who wish to obtain their master's degree after completion of the concentration courses before continuing on for the D.N.P. must take NUR 520 (1 credit) and complete a master's comprehensive exam. The rRemaining 28 credits in the D.N.P. courses program(28 credits) are include NUR 549, 551, 680, 686 (6 credits), 688

(7 credits), PHP 540, MBA 540 and 0 to 2 elective credits depending on concentration. [Admissions are currently on hold for the Post-B.S. - DNP program.](#)

### **Post M.S. – D.N.P. Program Requirements**

Program requirements include a minimum of 42 credits. [Program pre-requisites include a master's degree in nursing, completion of a 300- to 500-level statistics course, a master's level introduction to research course \(NUR 505 or equivalent\), and a master's level nursing theory course \(NUR 507 or equivalent\).](#) D.N.P. required first level course work (~~13~~9 credits) includes NUR ~~660~~681, ~~683~~651, ~~652~~ and HDF 527. Remaining D.N.P. courses (~~29~~20 credits) ~~are include~~ NUR 549, 551, 680, ~~686 (6 credits), 688 (7 credits)~~, PHP 540, MBA 540 and ~~1~~5 elective credits. [Elective credits may be taken in the Colleges of Nursing, Health Sciences, Pharmacy and/or Business. The program culminates with the clinical immersion practicum and practice improvement project associated with NUR 686 \(6 credits\) and NUR 688 \(7 credits\).](#)