Overview of Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree (Post-MSN to DNP)

The program is specifically designed to be relevant and responsive to the needs of those who wish to formally expand knowledge, skills, and their influence within the advanced nursing role at the DNP terminal/highest level. This Post-MSN to DNP program offers three options:

- **Option One**: For certified and practicing nurse practitioners who want to expand their knowledge, skills, and influence within their previously chosen role preparation and earn the DNP.

- **Option Two**: An extended program that includes the additional course work necessary to be eligible for initial certification as an adult-gero or family nurse practitioner along with earning the DNP.

- **Option Three (Available fall 2016)**: A program for applicants who are not APRNs and who wish to pursue advanced specialty practice at the aggregate/systems/organizational level. *A master's degree in a related field may be considered.*

Why earn the post MSN to DNP at Viterbo University?

Viterbo features:
- small and personal classes
- student-centered faculty who are well-prepared in their respective nursing roles and teaching
- a schedule designed for working professionals in a blended online/on-campus delivery
- a new School of Nursing building with cutting-edge technology and friendly, learner-centered spaces

Features of the post MSN to DNP Curriculum

- newly revised curriculum to reflect the latest DNP level nurse practitioner competencies
- clinical practicum hours can be accomplished incorporating indirect care and/or direct care individual learning goals
- the opportunity to learn alongside and collaborate with and mentor BSN to DNP students in certain classes
- expertly mentored DNP project, preferably aligned with an institution’s strategic plan
- ethical leadership option that reflects Viterbo's strong focus on servant/ethical leadership as a university and is consistent with the DNP Essentials.

For More Information  www.viterbo.edu/gradnursing

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Plan of Study (Option One)

The Post-MSN to DNP program for current NPs is designed to be completed in a two-year accelerated or a three-year extended plan using a blended face to face/online format.

### Accelerated Plan

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Semester I</strong></td>
<td>Proseminar* (2 cr.) Ethical and Theoretical Thinking (totally online) (2 cr.)</td>
<td>DNP Clinical Practicum (240 hrs) (4 cr.) DNP Project/Seminar* (3 cr.)</td>
<td>DNP Clinical Practicum (240 hrs) (4 cr.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Selected Saturdays and online

NOTE: Must have a minimum of 65-credit hours total including MSN and above required courses (30 credits). Must have a minimum of 1,000 clinical hours between master's degree and including the above minimum of 480 hours at the post MSN level.

### Three-Year Plan

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</tr>
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</table>

*Selected Saturdays and online

NOTE: Must have a minimum of 65-credit hours total including MSN and above required courses (30 credits). Must have a minimum of 1,000 clinical hours between master's degree and including the above minimum of 480 hours at the post MSN level.

Plan of Study (Option Two)

The plan of study for Post-MSN to DNP that includes initial FNP or AGNP preparation is approximately four years duration and is individualized according to student's previous education, but also includes the above courses.

Plan of Study (Option Three)

The plan of study for Graduate Nursing Program—Post MSN/DNP Ethical Leadership: Advanced Specialty Practice at the Aggregate/Systems/Organizational Level—entry 2016.

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<tr>
<td><strong>Semester I</strong></td>
<td>Proseminar (Saturday/online) (2 cr.) Ethical and Theoretical Thinking (totally online) (2 cr.) and/or (if needed for Plan of Study) DNP Essentials Clinical Practicum (1–2 cr.)</td>
<td>Ethical and Theoretical Thinking (totally online) (2 cr.) and/or DNP Essentials Clinical Practicum (1–2 cr.)</td>
<td>DNP Clinical Practicum (240 hrs) (4 cr.) DNP Project/Seminar (Saturday immersion/online) (3 cr.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*30 credits or more including 480 hours of qualified clinical hours as needed to fulfill requirements.

*NOTE: Must total 65 credits between MSN and the post MSN/DNP program of study above, with at least 1,000 qualified clinical hours between the MSN and post MSN/DNP program.