Nursing Practice (DNP) - BSN To DNP

Degree Requirements

BSN To DNP Curriculum
The BSN to DNP curriculum consist of 69 to 87 credits. The program can be completed in 9 semesters of full-time study or in 10 semesters of part-time study. Full-time study is defined as 6 or more credits per semester. Permission to take more than 12 credits per semester must be obtained from the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs prior to the student enrolling. The program must be completed within 7 years of matriculation.

Course work is offered on-line and students are required to come to campus at least one time when they begin the clinical portion of their specialty program for an intensive classroom and evaluation sessions. Specialty tracks within the College of Nursing’s graduate program require a practice component. Faculty assists students in locating a site and preceptor if it is indicated. Students who are unsuccessful in being accepted by an agency in their home community may have to travel to another area to complete practice requirements or withdraw from the program.

The program does not require a thesis or dissertation; however, students are required to complete a major synthesis project that results in a quality improvement change and has a substantial effect on health care outcomes. Residency requirements for the synthesis project can be completed in the student's home region with an approved mentor.

Department Information

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<tr>
<th>College of Nursing Administrative Staff</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dean</td>
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<td>Associate Dean for Research Faculty Development, and Evaluation</td>
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<td>Assistant Dean Academic Affairs and Director of the DNP Program</td>
<td>Casey Elkins</td>
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<td>Director of Special Projects &amp; Evaluation</td>
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<td>Professors</td>
<td>L. Chilton, C. Dolan, S. Fruh, J. Gunn, H. Hall, J. Harris, E. VandeWaa, J. Varner</td>
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<td>Associate Professors</td>
<td>K. Bydalek, K. Hamilton, T. Harlan, T. Huey, P. Johnson, S. Lawrence, K. McCoy, T. McMullan, L. Minchew, C. Myers, M. Nadler, J. Pittman, B. Riley, D. Swanzy, T. Wright</td>
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The College of Nursing is dedicated to the education of professional nurses who provide the highest quality health care to the communities they serve. The practice of nursing is both an art and a science; the focus of nursing is the diagnosis and treatment of human responses to actual or potential health problems.

The College of Nursing has two locations, one is on the USA main campus, and the other is on the USA Baldwin County campus in downtown Fairhope. The resources of the University, the USA Hospitals and clinics, and the numerous clinical agencies provide excellent opportunities for students to acquire the knowledge and skills essential for professional nursing.

**Mission**

The mission of the College of Nursing is to provide quality innovative educational programs to a diverse student body, to participate in research and scholarly activities, and to provide service to the University, the profession, and the public. The College accomplishes this by providing a caring, engaging environment for the empowerment of student learning potential, the professional development of faculty, and the promotion of the nursing profession.

**Goals**

1. Cultivate a caring, innovative, and engaging environment to facilitate teaching, learning, scholarship, and service.
2. Deliver innovative quality nursing programs that meet the needs of a diverse student body and other communities of interest.
3. Promote the discovery, communication, and preservation of knowledge through scholarly activities and leadership.
4. Provide service to the University, the profession, and the public.
5. Develop community partnerships to promote nursing and the enhancement of the health care delivery system using interprofessional approaches.

**Accreditation**

The baccalaureate program is approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing and the baccalaureate, master's, doctor of nursing practice, and post-graduate APRN certificate programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education:

655 K Street, NW, Suite 750
Washington, DC 20001
P: (202) 887-6791
F: (202) 887-8476

**Application Procedures**

Application forms are available on the College of Nursing’s website. A ($50.00 for BSN; $100.00 for MSN or DNP) non-refundable application fee must be submitted with the application. Money orders or personal checks ($20.00 fee on returned checks) are acceptable. RN to BSN, RN to BSN/MSN, MSN and DNP applicants are also required to complete a primary application in Nursing CAS at www.Nursingcas.org.
Fall semester admission applications should be submitted by March 15 for the BSN program and February 15 for the MSN, DNP, and Post-Graduate Certificate programs. Spring semester admission applications should be submitted by July 15 for the BSN, MSN, DNP, and Post-Graduate Certificate programs. Summer semester admission applications should be submitted by January 15 for BSN program and November 15 for the MSN and Post-Graduate Certificate programs. Applications received at other times will be considered on a space available basis for RN-BSN track only.

Students who choose not to attend during the term in which they are accepted, are not permitted to roll admission status to another semester. Students who wish to be considered for a future semester must reapply, pay another application fee, and compete with other applicants without guarantee of acceptance. Students who drop out of the program for two or more consecutive semesters must apply for readmission through the Office of the Registrar. Readmission is not automatic.

Student Responsibility

While the University of South Alabama will endeavor to provide timely and accurate advisement, it is the responsibility of the student to know and satisfy the degree requirements of the academic program, to be aware of the University calendar, http://www.southalabama.edu/academiccalendar/index.html and to understand and comply with University academic policies and procedures.

Degrees Offered

The College of Nursing offers the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree, the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree, and the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree.

Certificates Offered

Post-Graduate Certificates are awarded to students completing planned programs of study in a nursing specialty area and subspecialty areas.