

ADULT GERONTOLOGY CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST (DNP)

The Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) role provides leadership for best practice initiatives and cost-effective quality improvement.

Clinical Nurse Specialists possess the advanced knowledge and skills to coordinate quality care practices across three spheres of impact: patient care, nursing personnel, and the health care system. The role may include direct patient care, as well as consultation, systems leadership, research, ethical decision-making, and advocacy.

Specialty

Learn about the advanced practice care of patients across the cancer care continuum, by adding an Oncology specialty to your DNP degree.

Learn more about Loyola's Oncology Nursing program. (<https://www.luc.edu/nursing/academics/certificateprograms/oncologynursing/>)

Curriculum

The Adult-Gerontology CNS program can be completed fully online, allowing students to complete their clinical practicum hours at a site close to home. The program is 62-63 credit hours.

Code	Title	Hours
Core Courses		
GNUR 404	Theories & Concepts for Advanced Clinical Practice	3
GNUR 405	Introductory Statistics for Healthcare Professionals	3
GNUR 407	Social Justice and Ethics in Health Care	3
GNUR 408	Research for Advanced Clinical Practice	3
GNUR 420	Leadership and Roles in Advanced Nursing Practice	3
GNUR 521	Population-Focused Health	3
GNUR 523	Health Care Policy and Economics	3
GNUR 545	Evidence Translation for Advanced Clinical Practice	3
Role (CNS) Courses		
CMAN 425	Advanced Quality and Safety in Health Care	3
GNUR 413	Advanced Pharmacology	3
GNUR 425	Advanced Health Assessment Across the LifeSpan	4
GNUR 442	Advanced Physiology/Pathophysiology	3
Population (Adult-Gerontology) Courses		
MSN 447	CNS Practice Across the Adult Age Spectrum	3
GNUR 534	Advanced Practice Nursing Care of Older Adults	2
GNUR 471	Palliative Care	2-3
or GNUR 509	Teaching Methods	
Project Courses		
GNUR 570	DNP Scholarly Project: Planning	1
GNUR 571	DNP Scholarly Project: Proposal and Pre-Implementation	2
GNUR 572	DNP Scholarly Project: Project Implementation	2

GNUR 573	DNP Scholarly Project: Analysis and Dissemination	1
Practicum		12
MSN 510	Clinical Practicum for Advanced Practice in the CNS role	
Total Hours		62-63

Clinical Experience

A minimum of 2,000 hours of recent clinical practice experience is required before entering the first APRN clinical rotation. Students must have an RN license before they begin their clinical experiences/practicums.

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (<https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supersede school policies.

Learning Outcomes

Program Goal

The goal of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program is to prepare nurses to assume advanced roles in direct care and systems leadership domains at the highest level of nursing to improve health care outcomes through practice-based scholarship.

Program Outcomes

At the completion of the DNP program, the graduate has the knowledge and skills to:

- Apply integrated scientific, knowledge and clinical judgements at the highest level of professional nursing practice.
- Evaluate health care delivery approaches and healthcare systems, with an emphasis on quality and safety.
- Apply best evidence in approaches to client and system-centered practices.
- Apply analytic approaches and information technology in the delivery and improvement of client-centered health care and health care systems.
- Employ ethics, leadership, and advocacy concepts to advance healthcare quality and equity for individuals, systems and populations.
- Implement intraprofessional and interprofessional leadership and collaboration competencies and methods, at the highest level of professional nursing practice in advancing health and health outcomes.