



Post-Master's DNP Program

NUND 611: Practicum
December, 2016

Course Description: Under the guidance of the faculty coordinator (advisor) and designated Preceptor(s), the student will develop, implement, and evaluate a specific practice experience concerning an area of interest. This Practicum will synthesize previous coursework.

Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to synthesize practice expertise and knowledge from DNP coursework to influence practice at community, state, national or international levels.

Required Forms/Documentation (submit to DNP Program Assistant, in person or electronically (dnpasst@case.edu):

1. **Official Statement of the number of MSN clinical hours**, submitted by the student upon acceptance into the program.
2. **Practicum Objectives**, student develops these together with Advisor. Advisor signs Objectives form. With the assistance of the advisor, student identifies preceptor, who will also sign Objectives form.
3. **Preceptor Request form**, submitted to DNP Program prior to the start of Practicum, together with Preceptor's license if applicable.
4. **CV and letter of agreement to participate** from Preceptor, submitted prior to start of Practicum
5. **Practicum Report**, signed by Preceptor upon completion of Practicum, documenting accomplishment of goals and hours.

Prerequisite Courses

1. **NUND 504** must be completed prior to the Practicum

Calculation of Hours for NUND 611 (Practicum): Students admitted to CWRU SON after March 1, 2016

1. All DNP students must have 1000 clinical practicum hours post-BSN.
2. The student's MSN practicum hours are subtracted from the AACN requirement of 1000 hours. Every student admitted to the program will have a gap analysis and receive written documentation of the number of hours they are required to complete in the DNP program.
3. **Waiver of the NUND 611 (Practicum)**. Students with >1000 clinical hours in their MSN program will not be required to complete clinical practicum hours in the DNP program but they must complete paperwork for a waiver of NUND 611.

Calculation of Hours: Students admitted to CWRU SON before March 1, 2016

1. CWRU DNP students who provide documentation of completing ≥ 1000 clinical hours in their MSN/APN program are required to complete a minimum of 200 hours.
2. For students that provide documentation of <1000 clinical practicum hours, the number of

required hours is determined by subtracting the number of the student's MSN/APN clinical practicum hours from the AACN requirement of 1000 hours post-BSN.

3. If the result of the subtraction is ≥ 400 hours the student is required to complete a maximum of 400 practicum hours during the course of study in the CWRU DNP degree program.
4. Two examples:
 - a. a student with 500 documented clinical hours in their MSN/APN program would be required to do the maximum of 400 hours in the CWRU DNP program
 - b. a student who had 700 hours in the MSN/APN program would be required to do 300 clinical hours in the DNP
5. 200 clinical practicum hours is the minimum required for the CWRU DNP program for students admitted prior to March 1, 2016

Activities:

1. Students will discuss their ideas/plans for the Practicum with their advisor early in the program. It is strongly recommended that this discussion begin following successful completion of NUND 504. Student and advisor together determine Practicum Objectives, prior to approaching Preceptor.
2. Practicum activities should contribute to the student's career, beyond or different from the student's normal work activities.
3. Up to 25% of activities done for the student's Scholarly Project may be included as Practicum hours as long as they are new experiences for the student.
4. Didactic activities (i.e. curriculum development in an educational setting or classroom teaching) cannot be included in the Practicum.
5. The student, with the help of the advisor as needed, will identify appropriate Preceptors.
6. A Practicum plan form should be completed for each Practicum experience.
7. Objectives for each experience, as well as the means of achieving the goals, will be developed with the Preceptor and approved by the advisor.

Preceptors:

1. Preceptors ideally should have doctoral preparation and have evidence of expertise in the area. The advisor will determine that the Preceptor has the necessary qualifications. Exceptions to this should be discussed with the PM DNP Program Director.

For activities that will involve direct patient contact:

1. A site contract will be initiated by the Dean's Assistant for Special Projects. ****It is essential that this is initiated immediately when the plan is determined so the student's Practicum will not be delayed; so start the discussion on Practicum activities early.****
2. The Preceptor will submit a CV and license as described above.
3. The student will provide a copy of her/his license to the Post Master's DNP Program Assistant.

| What the Practicum could be | What the Practicum is NOT |
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| Testimony related to regional or national policy | Literature review |
| Mentoring in a new leadership role | Writing scholarly project |
| Face-to-face collaboration/data gathering related | Data entry and analysis |
| Implementation of business plan | Didactic experiences in a classroom |

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| Implementing theory into practice | Teaching practicum |
| Action research or any precepted research activity | |
| Quality improvement project | |
| Leadership of an interdisciplinary team | |
| Develop a new or expanded advanced practice role | |
| Implementation of strategies to translate clinical practice through education | |