NURS 8400: Evidenced-Based Practice I: 
Assessment and Design

Program Overview
The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program builds on the student’s knowledge and expertise to strengthen advanced nursing practice, augment healthcare delivery, and improve patient outcomes. The program’s coursework covers a range of topics, including healthcare policy and advocacy, quality improvement, evidence-based practice, information systems/technology, advanced nursing practice, and organizational and systems leadership.

Course Description
In this course, students focus on the competencies required of the healthcare professional in planning for the design, development, implementation, and evaluation of health promotion and disease prevention initiatives. They explore and discuss strategic approaches to planning, implementation, and evaluation, including cost-benefit analysis. Preparing for their DNP project, students select a faculty mentor and develop portfolio evidence through an integrative critical review of literature, which leads them to identify a clinical/practice question.

Credit & Practicum Hours
Quarter Credit Hours: 5 credits
- Didactic – 4 credits
- Practicum – 1 credit (72 practicum hours)
Practicum Hours: This course requires a minimum of 72 practicum hours.

Course Learning Outcomes
By the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:
- Design a program that is aligned to a specific problem and target population in relation to a health-promotion and disease-prevention issue of national significance
- Analyze the appropriateness of planning and evaluation theories and models for applications to a program design
- Develop an evaluation plan that is aligned to a program plan
- Propose strategies for involving stakeholders in developing a program’s goals and objectives
- Explain the significance between the selection an application of appropriate financial strategies and the quality of program outcomes
- Demonstrate the achievement of learning objectives related to the AACN Essentials for Doctoral Education and specialty competencies for the practicum experience

DNP Learning Outcomes
At the end of this program, students will be able to:
1. Translate research findings to direct evidence-based nursing practice.
2. Develop organizational system changes for quality improvement in healthcare delivery in response to local and/or global community needs.
3. Apply optimal utilization of healthcare information technology across healthcare settings.
4. Advocate for the advancement of nursing and healthcare policy through sharing of science-based knowledge with healthcare policy makers.
5. Demonstrate leadership to facilitate collaborative teams for improving patient and populations health outcomes.
6. Utilize advanced nursing practice knowledge to implement methodologies to improve population health outcomes.
7. Establish a foundation for lifelong learning for continual elevation of contributions to the field of nursing through active involvement in professional organizations and/or other professional bodies