

The Use of Pre-immersion Matriculation Modules in an Online DNP program:

What worked and what didn't



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LEARNING OUTCOME

- Explore the use of pre-immersion matriculation modules to improve online DNP student engagement and faculty satisfaction.



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THE EVIDENCE

- Innovative approach
- Course developed surrounding student/faculty needs
- Goal: decrease attrition rates



Salani, D., Albuja, L., & Azaiza, K. (2016). The keys to success in doctoral studies: A preimmersion course. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 32(5), pp. 358-363. [10.1016/j.profnurs.2016.01.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.profnurs.2016.01.005)

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PRE-IMMERSION COURSE

- Modules
 - Academic strategies
 - Library support
 - Mindfulness
 - Wellness
 - Statistics essentials
 - Writing express
 - DNP capstone
 - Netiquette
 - DNP mentorship



Salani, D., Albuja, L., & Azaiza, K. (2016). The keys to success in doctoral studies: A preimmersion course. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 32(5), pp. 358-363. [10.1016/j.profnurs.2016.01.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.profnurs.2016.01.005)

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FINDINGS

- Students succeeded in their coursework and graduated
- Positive feedback on pre-immersion course



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BACKGROUND

- Pre 2018 all students had a 2 day on-campus orientation that was mandatory.
- Pros:
 - Meet all students face-to-face
 - Ensured everyone heard the information
 - Exposure to online learning environment
 - Aid transition back to classroom
- Logistical problems presented:
 - Space
 - Timing
 - Cost (both for the student and the College of Nursing)
 - Retention of information



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STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

To which extent did the orientation help you as you transitioned to an on-line graduate student?

Greatly	7%
To some extent	39%
Just a little	54%
Not at all	0%
	(n=258)

Evaluation of the in-person new student orientation (2017 and 2018)



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PRE-IMMERSION MATRICULATION MODULES: IMPLEMENTATION – YEAR 1 FALL 2018 & SPRING 2019

- Modules included the necessary orientation topics:
 - college policies
 - curriculum
 - course progression
 - graduation requirements.
- Modules serve as an introduction to the online learning environment
- Modules provide students with baseline knowledge of expectations prior to the first face-to-face immersion.



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PRE-IMMERSION MATRICULATION MODULES: EVALUATION– YEAR 1 FALL 2018 & SPRING 2019

How was online pre-immersion learning beneficial?

- “Information **was in small chunks and allowed me to have a reference**”
- “Allowed me to focus – test what I needed”
- “**Writing out the questions** I could ask to the professor on day 1”
- “Learned and reviewed at my own pace”
- “**The time component** moves you through the process”
- “**Get the feedback** to see what I did wrong”
- “Helped to **gauge what I needed to know before I began**”
- “a **less stressful** way to understand the expectations”
- “**Consider adding topics** needed for class – i.e. searching the literature



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PRE-IMMERSION MATRICULATION MODULES: IMPLEMENTATION – YEAR 2 FALL 2020-SPRING 2021

- Academic integrity
- Plagiarism basics
- Literature search methods
- APA style
- Basic Microsoft Office skills
 - Word
 - Excel
 - PowerPoint
 - Outlook
 - OneNote



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MODULES

- Embedded in the UofSC classroom management system (CMS) – Blackboard.
- Adherent to Quality Matters guidelines for accessibility
- Development by faculty, staff, and program directors
- Overseen by Director of Distributed Learning
- Each module contains a short quiz to test knowledge and track completion by student



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PORTAL ENTRY

College of Nursing Graduate Orientation Portal

USC College of Nursing
Graduate Orientation Portal

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
College of Nursing
Distinction. Zealously. Equus.

Announcements

Welcome from Dean Anderson
Posted on Wednesday, December 3, 2019 12:04:11 PM EST
Please view the [Welcome message from Dean Anderson](#) - [https://blackboard.uofsc.edu/col/nursing/](#) Viewing time 0:08

College of Nursing Online Orientation
Posted on Wednesday, December 3, 2019 12:04:11 PM EST
Welcome new students! Please start by watching the [Orientation Overview Day](#) - [https://blackboard.uofsc.edu/col/nursing/](#) Viewing time 3:00

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ORIENTATION BY PROGRAM

New Student Information/Orientation

Welcome Message from Dean Andrews
 Attached File: Welcome from the Dean.pdf (35,040 KB)
 Welcome new students. Please start by clicking on the black title "Welcome Message from Dean Andrews" to watch the video. Viewing time 0:57.

College of Nursing Orientation Overview
 Attached File: Orientation Overview.PPT(200x) (1,483 KB)
 Please click on the black link above to watch the Orientation overview. Viewing time 1:08.

DNP APRN Orientation modules

DNP NEL Orientation modules



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LIVE MODULES

Instructions for accessing the modules
 Technology requirements for accessing multimedia presentations below - These modules are best viewed using Internet Explorer.
 Students should complete all of the modules below. Please open the files posted below and review the information.

- To open the file, please click on the blue link titled Program Overview - DNP APRN Module 1.
- Read through the information on the module.
- Once you have completed a module you should close that window then take a short quiz on the information presented.
- Once you have completed the quiz, close that window and you will be directed to the next module.
- After all modules and quizzes have been completed you will receive access to information about registering for classes.

Completion time is less than 15 minutes per module.

Program Overview - DNP APRN module 1
 Attached File: DNP APRN module 1 (Summer 2018) (277802KB) (1,442 KB)
 Please click on the black title of the presentation "Program Overview - DNP APRN Module 1" above to watch orientation module 1. Viewing time 1:13.

Program Overview - DNP APRN Module 1 Quiz

Academic Policies - DNP APRN Module 2
 Attached File: DNP APRN module 2 (Summer 2018) (200x) (1,141 KB)
 Please click on the black link above to watch orientation module 2. Viewing time 7:10.

Academic Policies - DNP APRN Module 2 Quiz

Clinical Requirements - DNP APRN Module 3
 Attached File: DNP APRN module 3 (Summer 2018) (200x) (1,223 KB)
 Please click on the black link above to watch orientation module 3. Viewing time 2:08.



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NEXT STEPS

- Continue to evaluate effectiveness of Pre-Immersion Modules
- Revise & create more of these exercises in response to student/faculty feedback
- Involve more faculty to assess the impact of these exercises on student performance
- Ensure a consistent approach to these exercises and consistent content for all students across academic programs
- Write/publish an article



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AACN DOCTORAL CONFERENCE

Questions?

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Comments?



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Volken, D. and Johnston, H. (2018). Unique issues of DNP students: A content analysis. *Nursing education perspectives*, 39(5), 280 – 284.

