

DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

Degree Offered

Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc)

Length of Program

The DMSc Program curriculum is fully online and can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis. Students are allowed up to five years to complete the program; however, it is possible to complete in only four semesters as a full-time student or seven semesters as a part-time student.

The 40-credit hour plan of study includes 24 credit hours of online didactic coursework and 16 credit hours of clinical experiences completed in the student's home community under the guidance of DMSc faculty and an onsite clinical preceptor. The clinical experience courses may be customized to permit the student to earn a portion of the required structured educational components for eligibility to apply for Certificates of Added Qualifications (CAQs) in the field.

Doctor of Medical Science Website (<https://www.unmc.edu/alliedhealth/academics/programs/pa/dmsc/>)

Admissions

Admission Requirements

Applicants must be pre-approved for enrollment in the Doctor of Medical Science program. Applications will be accepted annually to begin the program in the fall semester. The following admission requirements must be met prior to matriculation in the Program:

- Accredited PA Program graduate with a master's degree from an approved institution of higher learning
- Cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) at time of application submission
- Current certification by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants
- Current state PA license, where applicable (military or federal employees are exempt)
- Must be employed in at least a part-time role as a PA
- Must identify a preceptor that holds a Doctoral Degree, is currently employed in good standing and has supervisor/ educator experience

Applicants will be considered without regard to age, sex, race, color, national origin, religion, political beliefs, or disability.

Students need to possess computer operating system skills and have easy access to a computer with a high-speed Internet connection and up-to-date software. To review the full list of specifications, see Computer Requirements (<https://www.unmc.edu/alliedhealth/academics/computers.html>).

Curriculum Curriculum

First Year		Credit Hours
Fall		
MSCI 701	HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS THEORY AND PRACTICE FOR THE ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT	3
MSCI 704	APPLICATION OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICAL METHODS TO THE ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
MSCI 709	FIELD PLACEMENT I	4
Credit Hours		10
Spring		
MSCI 703	QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
MSCI 705	CAPSTONE PROJECT I	2
MSCI 710	FIELD PLACEMENT II	4
Credit Hours		9
Summer		
CAHP 750	INTERPROFESSIONAL GLOBAL HEALTH	3
MSCI 702	PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LEADERS & THEIR ORGANIZATIONS: NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES	3
MSCI 706	CAPSTONE PROJECT II	2
MSCI 711	FIELD PLACEMENT III	4
Credit Hours		12
Second Year		
Fall		
MSCI 707	CAPSTONE PROJECT III	2
MSCI 708	HEALTH SECURITY & MEDICAL OPERATIONS APPLIED TO ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
MSCI 712	FIELD PLACEMENT IV	4
Credit Hours		9
Total Credit Hours		40

Plans of Study Full-Time Plan of Study

First Year		Credit Hours
Fall		
MSCI 701	HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS THEORY AND PRACTICE FOR THE ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT	3
MSCI 704	APPLICATION OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICAL METHODS TO THE ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
MSCI 709	FIELD PLACEMENT I	4
Credit Hours		10

Spring		
MSCI 703	QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
MSCI 705	CAPSTONE PROJECT I	2
MSCI 710	FIELD PLACEMENT II	4
Credit Hours		9
Summer		
CAHP 750	INTERPROFESSIONAL GLOBAL HEALTH	3
MSCI 702	PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LEADERS & THEIR ORGANIZATIONS: NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES	3
MSCI 706	CAPSTONE PROJECT II	2
MSCI 711	FIELD PLACEMENT III	4
Credit Hours		12
Second Year		
Fall		
MSCI 707	CAPSTONE PROJECT III	2
MSCI 708	HEALTH SECURITY & MEDICAL OPERATIONS APPLIED TO ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
MSCI 712	FIELD PLACEMENT IV	4
Credit Hours		9
Total Credit Hours		40

Second Year		
Fall		
MSCI 708	HEALTH SECURITY & MEDICAL OPERATIONS APPLIED TO ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
MSCI 710	FIELD PLACEMENT II	4
Credit Hours		7
Spring		
MSCI 706	CAPSTONE PROJECT II	2
MSCI 711	FIELD PLACEMENT III	4
Credit Hours		6
Summer		
CAHP 750	INTERPROFESSIONAL GLOBAL HEALTH	3
Credit Hours		3
Third Year		
Fall		
MSCI 707	CAPSTONE PROJECT III	2
MSCI 712	FIELD PLACEMENT IV	4
Credit Hours		6
Total Credit Hours		40

Part-Time Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credit Hours
First Year		
Fall		
MSCI 701	HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS THEORY AND PRACTICE FOR THE ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT	3
MSCI 704	APPLICATION OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICAL METHODS TO THE ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
Credit Hours		6
Spring		
MSCI 703	QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN ADVANCED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PRACTICE	3
MSCI 705	CAPSTONE PROJECT I	2
Credit Hours		5
Summer		
MSCI 702	PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LEADERS & THEIR ORGANIZATIONS: NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES	3
MSCI 709	FIELD PLACEMENT I	4
Credit Hours		7