

Preparing Future Nursing Leaders Veronica Quattrini, DNP, FNP-BC; Carol O'Neil, PhD, RN, CNE; Debra Bingham, DrPH, RN, FAAN

Abstract

Background

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) graduates are considered essential leaders who will transform health care and population health. The University of Maryland School of Nursing's Advancing Implementation and Improvement Science Education (AdvISE) Steering Committee was formed in 2018. The vision of the AdvISE project is to ensure that DNP students graduate with the knowledge and practice experience to be skilled leaders and implementation scholars.

Approach/Methods

Two leadership courses were developed and revised to emphasize analysis, synthesis, and application of systems theory and practice leadership theory. The development, implementation, and evaluation of the three-credit theory course and the two-credit practice course will be described.

Results

The challenges include student diversity of leadership preparation skills, knowledge, and experience. Strategies were included that addressed the challenges, such as additional modules for students with beginning leadership knowledge and skills.

Conclusions

Changes were made based on student and faculty feedback, such as including quality improvement tools and methods in the content course and practice experience in the practicum course.