### Comparison of DNP and PhD

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| **Program Objective**    | - Prepare nurse scholars at the highest level of advanced nursing practice as leaders in direct and indirect care and as leaders in applying and translating research into practice.  
  - Based on AACN Essentials of the DNP Degree (AACN, 2004)  
  - Terminal degree in scholarly practice | - Prepare clinical nurse scholars as leaders in conducting a thematically based program of research that advances knowledge building for health care.  
  - Based on Indicators of Quality In Research-Focused Doctoral Programs in Nursing (AACN, 2010)  
  - Terminal degree in clinical science research |
| **Students**             | - Commitment to a scholarly practice career  
  - Oriented toward improving outcomes of care  
  - An intense scholarly practice immersion experience | - Commitment to a clinical science research career  
  - Oriented toward developing new knowledge  
  - An intense mentored research experience |
| **Program Outcomes**     | - Contributes to transforming the health care delivery system via practice, policy change, scholarship, system design, and/or cost analysis  
  - Advances health care delivery through translation of research into evidence-based practice in administrative & clinical practice  
  - Works on and leads interdisciplinary practice teams | - Contributes to health care improvements via the development of new knowledge  
  - Advances the nursing discipline through research, education, and health care policy  
  - Works on and leads interdisciplinary research teams |
| **Final Project**        | - A theory and evidence-based clinical/organizational application inquiry project | - Completion and defense of an original research  
  - Conduct and disseminate clinical research.  
  - Research directors in health care facilities and/or faculty in academic institutions |
| **Career Focus**         | - Leadership positions at all system levels in nursing and clinical services, clinical information technology, and faculty.  
  - Leadership in applying and translating research into practice | - Conduct and disseminate clinical research.  
  - Research directors in health care facilities and/or faculty in academic institutions |