Doctoral Evidence-Based Healthcare Capstone Project

What is a Capstone?

- The Capstone is an exciting final project developed in four consecutive courses with a focus on research methodology and evidence-based practice theory. These are delivered over the last four semesters in the program.
- Paired with a faculty advisor, students explore problems of practice identified through the application of research skills gained through these core classes.

Why a Capstone?

- The healthcare field is rapidly changing and evolving to meet challenges through innovative solutions. For example, addressing the recent challenges the pandemic presented required healthcare leaders with the ability and skills needed to evaluate, analyze situations facing their populations, and implement solutions to deliver care expediently.
- The purpose of the capstone project is to assist you in learning the skills required to thoughtfully question current practices in healthcare through critically searching, reviewing, and appraising research literature; understanding research methodology; promoting research utilization; and participating in the development and implementation of evidence-based outcomes in your area of practice.

What does this look like?

- The capstone curriculum has been designed to incorporate theory into practice throughout the process resulting in a final project. The journey includes guided advanced research, writing, evaluation skills along with the development of an implementation plan for your project and a plan for disseminating your findings or solutions.
- The outcome of the capstone project should have a positive impact on your professional career as it provides evidence of peer reviewed work and enhanced knowledge and critical thinking in analyzing evidence and promoting best practices

What can the focus of my project be?

- You may choose to perform a needs assessment; draft a policy manual; evaluate a program; write a research proposal, design; write a publishable manuscript; or deliver a workshop or professional presentation.