

School of Nursing

Degrees Offered

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Master of Science in Nursing Executive Focus/MBA
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Doctor of Nursing Practice
- Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

Introduction

The mission of the WVU School of Nursing is to lead in improving health in West Virginia and the broader society through excellence in student-centered educational programs, research and scholarship, the compassionate practice of nursing, and service to the public and the profession. This mission is responsive to changing healthcare needs and emerging national and state changes in technology and healthcare delivery and is enhanced by a supportive and open environment. The faculty's educational effort is directed at providing high quality, student-centered programs of instruction at all levels which prepare superb professional nurses to meet basic healthcare needs; advance practiced nurses to address complex health needs; and enable doctorally educated nurses to advance nursing knowledge through research, to assist in the formulation of policies to improve health care, and to serve as faculty in higher degree programs. Unique characteristics of the state mandates that the healthcare needs of rural populations and vulnerable groups be a major focus of education, research, and service, including faculty practice.

The School of Nursing offers undergraduate, graduate, and post graduate certificate programs of study. The baccalaureate program (BSN) is available for high school graduates who aspire to a career in nursing (basic students) and to registered nurses (RN) who are licensed graduates of associate degree or diploma nursing programs seeking to continue their career development. In addition, a BS/BA to BSN program is available for the college graduate seeking a BSN.

The WVU School of Nursing and the WVU College of Business & Economics offer a dual master's degree program to provide the skills and knowledge necessary to serve as a nurse leader. This blended degree program (totaling 67 credit hours) is done predominately online, and includes four 3-4 day residencies. Students take courses from both the MSN and MBA program concurrently. Graduates of the MSN (Executive Focus) and MBA program can work in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practice, nonprofit organizations and public sectors.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN-DNP) prepares baccalaureate prepared nurses for advanced practice roles in primary care. These roles include family nurse practitioner and pediatric nurse practitioner specialties. Students are awarded the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree and are eligible to sit for certification as an advanced practice nurse upon completing 48 hours of the program. At that time they may progress to the DNP or select to exit the program with the MSN degree.

Post-graduate nurse practitioner certificate programs for family nurse practitioner and pediatric nurse practitioner are available for those who already have an MSN.

The doctor of nursing practice (DNP) prepares advanced practice nurses who will practice at the highest level of professional nursing and will advance the application of nursing knowledge for the purpose of improving healthcare for diverse populations.

The doctor of philosophy in nursing (PhD) prepares nurse scholars/scientists for roles in research, teaching and service. The program prepares graduates who will contribute to the body of nursing knowledge, educate the next generation, and lead, ultimately impacting health policy, improving health, and reducing disparity.

Accreditation

Initial accreditation was received with graduation of the first class in 1964. The baccalaureate as well as advanced practice programs in nursing are fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, a national accrediting agency.

Fees, Expenses, Housing, Transportation, and Immunization

Students enrolling at the Morgantown campus pay fees which are detailed at <http://admissions.wvu.edu/pay>. Special fees and deposits are also required. Students enrolling at other sites pay the fees shown in the catalog for that site. Fees are subject to change without notice. Students' expenses vary according to the course of study and individual needs. Information concerning financial assistance, application forms, and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form may be obtained from the financial aid website at <http://financialaid.wvu.edu/home/hsc-office> or by contacting the HSC Financial Aid Office, PO Box 9810, Morgantown, WV 26506-9810; telephone (304) 293-3706 (toll free) or 1-800-344-WVU1.

The University Housing and Residence Life Office, telephone (304) 293-4491, provides information concerning university-owned housing. The Student Life Office in E. Moore Hall, telephone (304) 293-5611, provides information concerning privately owned, off-campus housing.

Students are expected to provide their own transportation, equipment, and instruments for the clinical courses. Some clinical experiences require travel in a multi-county area.

Proof of specific immunizations is required for all health sciences students. Students in the BSN, BA/BS to BSN, BSN-DNP, and Post graduate certificate master of science in nursing program must undergo a criminal background check prior to clinical courses. Felony convictions and serious misdemeanors may preclude participation in the clinical courses. This could, in turn, prevent the completion of course requirements and completion of the nursing program.

Scholarships

The School of Nursing offers several scholarships. These scholarships are administered by the Health Science Center Financial Aid Office and require completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form in order to be considered for financial aid. Most School of Nursing scholarships are available only to students already admitted to the School of Nursing and are awarded each April for the following academic year. However, there are a limited number of scholarships for which students may apply before admission. Further information is provided on the School of Nursing website: <http://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/academics/current-students/>.

Additional Information

Visit the School of Nursing website at <http://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/>. Call the WVU school of Nursing Office of Student Services at 1-866-WVUNURS or (304) 293-1386. Write to WVU School of Nursing at PO Box 9600, Morgantown, WV 26506-9600

ADMINISTRATION

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Professor

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- David Parker - PhD (University of South Carolina)
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DIRECTOR, MSN/DNP PROGRAMS

- Martha Summers - DNP (West Virginia University)
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DIRECTOR, PHD PROGRAMS

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Clinical Associate Professor
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FACULTY

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- K. Joy Buck - PhD (University of Virginia)
- Susan H. McCrone - PhD (University of Utah)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

- Pamela Deiriggi - PhD (University of Texas)
Coordinator PNP Track
- Laurie Theeke - PhD (West Virginia University)

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- Jennifer Mallow - PhD (West Virginia University)
- Catherine Nolan - EdD (West Virginia University)
- Aletha Rowlands - PhD (University of Virginia)
- Suzy Walter - PhD (West Virginia University)

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- Kara Terhune - MSN (Wilkes University)
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- Robin Spencer - MSN (Marshall University)

- Melinda Stoecklin - MSN (Marshall University)

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- Suzanne Gross - PhD (University of Texas)
- Dorothy Johnson - EdD (West Virginia University)
- Kathleen Marsland - MS (University of Colorado)

Degree Designation Learning Goals

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING EXECUTIVE FOCUS/MBA

Upon successful completion of the program, the graduate will:

- Synthesize theories, research findings, and broad-based perspectives for application in the advanced practice of nursing or nursing leadership:
 1. Integrate nursing and related sciences into the delivery of advanced nursing care to diverse populations.
 2. Synthesize evidence for practice to determine appropriate application of interventions across diverse populations.
 3. Utilize nursing and related science evidence to analyze, design, implement and evaluate nursing care delivery systems.
- Utilize systematic inquiry and refined analytical skills in the provision of health care services and leadership:
 1. Integrate organizational science and informatics to make changes in the care environment to improve health outcomes.
 2. Assume a leadership role in the management of human, fiscal, and physical healthcare resources.
 3. Critically appraise existing literature to identify best practices, apply knowledge to improve and facilitate systems of care in order to improve patient outcomes.
 4. Disseminate results through translational scholarship.

- Demonstrate safe, effective assessment, planning, implementation and evaluation skills in managing the care of individuals and groups while working in interprofessional collaborative relationships.
 1. Create a relationship with clients and healthcare organizations that builds and maintains a supportive and caring partnership.
 2. Analyze best practice evidence to implement effective quality improvement initiatives with measurable results.
 3. Advocates for patients, families, caregivers, communities and members of the healthcare team.
- Articulate viewpoints and positions in order to improve the quality of health care delivery and outcomes of successful care.
 1. Assume a leadership role in effectively implementing patient safety and quality improvement initiatives within the context of the interprofessional team using effective communication skills.
 2. Examine the effect of legal and regulatory processes on nursing practice, healthcare delivery, and outcomes.
 3. Use ethical decision making to promote the well-being of individuals, families, and health care professionals in local, national & international communities.
- Consults and collaborates in interdisciplinary and interagency endeavors to advance culturally sensitive health care to clients, families, groups, and communities:
 1. Synthesize broad ecological, global and social determinants of health; principles of genetics and genomics; and epidemiologic data to design and deliver evidence-based, culturally relevant clinical preventions interventions and strategies.
- Integrates prior and current learning as a basis for growth and accountability in enacting the role of advanced practice nurse or nurse leader:
 1. Advocate for patients, families, caregivers, communities, and members of the healthcare team.
 2. Use information and communication technologies to advance patient education, enhance accessibility of care, analyze practice patterns, and improve health care outcomes, including nurse sensitive outcomes.
 3. Value life-long learning and continued professional development.
- Assume a leadership role in advocacy, ethical issues, and health care policy development:
 1. Apply leadership skills and decision making in the provision of culturally responsive, high-quality nursing care, healthcare team coordination, and the oversight and accountability for care delivery and outcomes.
 2. Function as a leader and change agent in nursing and in health care delivery systems particularly to insure quality care for vulnerable and underserved populations.
 3. Demonstrates organizational and systems leadership that continually improves health outcomes and ensures patient safety.
- Integrates all the functional areas of business into management decisions in a global environment.
 1. Evaluate factors that influence the competitive behavior of the firm.
 2. Predict and anticipate company and market responses to external factors.
 3. Identify the risks and opportunities in global markets.
- Identify problems, collect appropriate data and analyze the data to make informed management decisions.
 1. Evaluate business reports to make meaningful decisions for the organization.
 2. Make data-driven, fact-based decisions using statistical techniques and principles.
 3. Take real world problems and express them in quantitative terms.
- Make management decisions in an ethically sensitive and socially responsible manner.
 1. Negotiate and control information ethically to meet organizational needs.
 2. Understand how to use and acquire information in an ethically sensitive manner.
 3. Synthesize various ethical theories and design a corporate code of ethics.
- Be effective team members in a virtual environment.
 1. Demonstrate the ability to work together in a supportive and effective manner.
- Be an effective leader who influences people towards the attainment of organizational goals.
 1. Recommend actions for leader effectiveness in a scenario case and apply a theory or framework to propose and defend their recommendations.
 2. Identify various leadership styles and their relative effectiveness, along with real-life examples.
 3. Evaluate, in a case setting, the processes through which goals are set and accomplished in organizations.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING TO DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (BSN-DNP) AND DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

At the completion of the program, the graduate will be able to:

- Use disciplined reasoning, science-based theories, and concepts from sciences and humanities to:
 1. Determine the nature and significance of health and health care delivery phenomena.
 2. Describe actions and advance strategies to improve healthcare delivery, to diverse populations.
 3. Develop, deliver, and evaluate theory-based health care.
 4. Analyze nursing history to expand thinking and provide a sense of professional heritage and identity
- Demonstrate organizational and systems leadership that:
 1. Emphasizes clinical practice.
 2. Continually improves health outcomes.
 3. Ensures patient safety.
- Use analytical methods, evidence, and nursing science to:
 1. Critically appraise existing literature to identify and evaluate best practices and practice guidelines.
 2. Facilitate the evaluation of systems of care in order to improve patient outcomes.
 3. Serve as a practice specialist/consultant in collaborative knowledge generating research.
 4. Disseminate results through translational scholarship.
- Demonstrate proficiency and provide leadership for the integration of information systems/technology to:
 1. Support, monitor, and improve patient care, healthcare systems, clinical decision-making, nurse-sensitive outcomes, and academic settings.
 2. Support quality improvement and patient safety.
- Assume a leadership role in advocacy and health care policy development.
- Establish, participate, and lead interprofessional collaborations for improving patient, population, and systems outcomes.
- Develop, implement, and evaluate practice and healthcare delivery models for the purpose of quality improvement and improved patient outcomes considering
 1. Safety and quality.
 2. Epidemiological, bio-statistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data.
 3. Culturally appropriate care.
 4. Values based professional practice and behaviors.
 5. Economies of care, business principles and health policy related to individual, aggregate, and population health.
- Ensure accountability for advanced practice based on refined assessment skills, advanced communication skills, biophysical, genetic, genomic, psychosocial, sociopolitical, economic, ethical, and cultural principles.
- Practice and provide services for populations with in the area of advanced nursing specialization.

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)

Upon successful completion of the PhD program, the PhD graduate will:

The purpose of the PhD program is to prepare nurse scholars/scientists for roles in research, teaching, and service. The program prepares graduates who will contribute to the body of nursing knowledge, educate the next generation, and assume collaborative leadership roles in shaping health policy, improving health, and reducing disparity.

The goals of the program are to prepare graduates who will:

1. Rigorously test, generate, and extend knowledge to inform nursing science, practice, and policy.
2. Contribute to the development of knowledge and interventions to address health disparity and promote or improve health.
3. Assume collaborative leadership roles in academia, health organizations, research teams, and scholarly networks.
4. Demonstrate expertise within an area of study that incorporates nursing and trans disciplinary perspectives.

School of Nursing Academic Progression Standards

BSN-DNP/DNP

1. An overall academic grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 in all work attempted in the DNP Program.

2. A student may earn only one C grade in a nursing course. A second C in a nursing course will result in dismissal from the program. A grade of D or F in any course results in dismissal from the program.
3. Maintain a 3.0 GPA. A student who falls below the 3.0 GPA on nine or more credit hours has one semester to bring up the GPA to the 3.0 requirement.
4. Only one nursing course may be repeated, and only one time.
5. All required courses must be taken for letter grades (A, B, C).

PHD

1. Nursing course are taken in the sequence specified in the School of Nursing PhD Progression Plan. All prerequisites from preceding semesters must be completed prior to registration for new courses.
2. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA to progress in the program and must achieve an overall academic GPA of 3.0 in all coursework applied to the PhD degree.
3. Students may carry forward one C grade in any course to be applied to the PhD degree. A second C will result in dismissal from the program.
4. Students with a grade of D or F in any course will be dismissed from the program.
5. The grade of "I" is given when the instructor believes that the coursework is unavoidably incomplete or that a supplementary examination is justifiable. Resolution of the grade of "I" will occur in the semester following its issuance and before any graduate degree can be awarded. If the "I" grade is not removed within the following semester, the grade of "I" is converted to an "F" (failure). When an "I" grade is replaced, the grade point average is recalculated on the basis of the new grade.