



SHENANDOAH
UNIVERSITY

Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing



ONLINE
PROGRAMS



School of Nursing 2024 Graduate Programs



MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Health care challenges are becoming increasingly more apparent in communities and in populations nationally as well as globally. Many of these challenges occur due to complexities within health care systems and insufficient numbers of health care providers, as well as the social determinants of health, education, economics and policy.

The world needs board-certified advanced practice nurses (nurse practitioners and nurse-midwives) to provide access to quality health care for diverse populations. Our current shortage of advanced health care providers is not going to resolve anytime soon, so the need for such providers is increasing at an alarming rate.

It is clearly evident, time and time again, that nurses are the true heroes, working the front lines, changing and improving the health of all they encounter. After more than 50 distinguished years, Shenandoah University's Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing continues its strong legacy of preparing and challenging students to reach not only for professional excellence, but also for personal excellence.

Our faculty all have clinical/advanced practice expertise that they are truly excited to share with you. Our faculty will present clinical cases from their own practices to prepare you for making critical decisions as well as to prepare you for the challenges of health care in the future. I am so very proud of all of our programs' graduates and cannot wait to meet you and assist you in achieving your goal of becoming an advanced practice nurse.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa M. Levinson".

Lisa Levinson, MSN, RN, Ph.D.
Interim Dean and Professor
Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing

Advancing Your Career

You're an experienced nurse seeking to advance your credentials. Shenandoah University's Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing offers top-rated graduate programs that are convenient, affordable and flexible. The School of Nursing offers all programs in a fully online format with synchronous class meetings.

Graduate Programs

ADVANCED PRACTICE PROGRAMS

- **Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)** with options in:
 - **Family Nurse Practitioner** online with potential in-person immersion experience during fall and spring semesters
 - **Nurse-Midwifery** online with a 5-day intensive on-site visit in the fall and spring semesters
 - **Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner** online with potential in-person immersion experience during fall and spring semesters

POST-GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

- **Family Nurse Practitioner** online with potential in-person immersion experience during fall and spring semesters
- **Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner**
- **Nurse-Midwifery** online asynchronous classes with a 5-day intensive on-site visit in the fall and spring semesters

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

- **Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)** with options in:
 - **Family Nurse Practitioner**
 - **Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner**
- **Post-Graduate DNP** (asynchronous classes)

Continuing Education

- **Faith Community/Parish Nursing**





Why Shenandoah?

Programs Designed for You

Our innovative, community-based curriculum is designed specifically to help you achieve your professional development goals.

The mission of the Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing is to educate lifelong learners who provide evidence-based, compassionate, holistic care and promote wellness to diverse populations inspired by global health ideals.

Faculty Mentors Make the Difference

You'll benefit from close relationships with faculty members who mentor you in and out of the classroom. This is a hallmark of a Shenandoah University nursing education. You will study with other working professionals under the guidance of highly skilled nurse faculty. Your learning experience will be collaborative and interactive, and you can expect to integrate your skills within interprofessional teams composed of other graduate health students and faculty members.

"I had the opportunity to complete my FNP through SU in 2017. As a new graduate, though I still had much to learn, I felt prepared to practice - a sentiment that is not always shared with those graduating from other NP programs. Because of my experience during my FNP education, I wanted to return to SU for my DNP studies in 2020. Though both programs were academically challenging, the professors were encouraging and always made me feel they were committed to my success."

– Tammy Martin '17, '22, DNP, NP-C, ACHPN
Palliative Supportive Care Nurse Practitioner



Shenandoah has...

Strong Partnerships

We have developed strong, collaborative relationships with many clinics (ambulatory, community, rural, and medically underserved populations), as well as regional hospitals, including Valley Health in the Northern Shenandoah Valley and the Inova Health System in Northern Virginia.

A Reputation for Nursing Excellence

We enjoy a strong reputation locally, statewide and nationally. Our nursing graduates are recognized within the health care community as knowledgeable, capable and able to excel in the workplace. Our programs are designed with the needs of the working nurse in mind, featuring not only flexible scheduling, but also a focus on creating the highly collaborative and evidence-based interprofessional health care teams of the future.

Exceptional Facilities

State-of-the-art laboratories and technology-rich classroom spaces abound at our Health & Life Sciences Building on main campus in Winchester, Virginia.

Our facilities include cutting-edge simulation suites configured to emulate a variety of health care spaces, house several health professions programs and encourage interprofessional collaboration, with an eye toward creating the highly collaborative and evidence-based health care teams of the future.

“I could learn online from my home, so it was really great for me because I’m a mom, I’m still working, and I was still able go to school and complete my degree and finish my dream.”

– Briana Powell '20 MSN, RN
Post-Master's Certificate in Nurse-Midwifery
Flandreau, South Dakota



Master of Science in Nursing

Family Nurse Practitioner

45 credits/600 clinical hours*

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN): Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program is designed to provide nurses with the necessary education, competencies and experiences to assume the role of a primary health care provider in a variety of clinical settings. Didactic and clinical course content focuses on the assessment and management of health promotion and health maintenance strategies, risk reduction and common acute and chronic alterations in health status for individuals and families across the lifespan. The program can be completed in seven semesters and cohorts are established annually in the fall.



Nurse-Midwifery

49 credits/720 clinical hours* + experiences

Nurse-midwives are advanced practice nurses who provide family-centered primary health care to women throughout their reproductive lives, including counseling and care during pre-conception, pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum and the neonatal period. Midwifery is one of the most rewarding advanced practice nursing occupations, providing you with the framework to promote physiologic birth and affirm the power and strength of individuals while addressing their general health care. Shenandoah's Master of Science in Nurse-Midwifery prepares you with the necessary education and competencies to lead the profession in the promotion of high-quality, evidence-based midwifery care. The program can be completed full time in two years and cohorts are established annually in the fall.

Master of Science in Nursing Continued

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

46 credits/600 clinical hours*

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN): Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) program is designed to provide you with the necessary education, competencies, and experiences to assume the role of a PMHNP in a variety of clinical settings. The program consists of didactic and clinical course content essential to provide psychotherapy to individuals, families and groups within hospitals and community settings. Differential diagnoses, health promotion and psychotropic medication management (prescriptive authority) for the psychiatric mental health patient are addressed in this curriculum. The program can be completed in seven semesters and cohorts are established annually in the fall.

Clinical Experiences

We work with you to find clinical placements. This collaborative process between the student and placement team asks students to submit at least three preceptor or site referrals.



Post-Graduate Certificates

Our post-graduate certificates are designed for registered nurses who already hold a Master of Science in Nursing.

Family Nurse Practitioner

23-28 credits/600 clinical hours*

The Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate provides you with the necessary education, competencies and experiences to assume the role of a primary health care provider in a variety of clinical settings through both didactic and clinical courses. This program can be completed in five semesters and cohorts are established annually in the summer (or fall for the non-nurse practitioner applicants).

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

24-29 credits/600 clinical hours*

The psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner serves as an educator, consultant, prescriber, therapist and researcher to enhance life quality for individuals with mental illness, and to prevent mental illness in high-risk populations such as children, the elderly and those with co-occurring medical illness and/or substance abuse. This program can be completed in five semesters and cohorts are established annually in the summer (or fall for the non-nurse practitioner track).

Nurse-Midwifery

26 credits/720 clinical hours* + experiences

Nurse-midwives are advanced practice nurses who provide family-centered primary health care to women throughout their reproductive lives, including counseling and care during pre-conception, pregnancy, childbirth, postpartum and the neonatal period. Midwifery is one of the most rewarding advanced practice nursing occupations, providing you with the framework to promote physiologic birth and affirm the power and strength of individuals while addressing their general health care. This program can be completed in three semesters and cohorts are established annually in the fall.

Clinical Experiences

We work with you to find clinical placements. This collaborative process between the student and placement team asks students to submit at least three preceptor or site referrals.



Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Shenandoah University's School of Nursing offers both BSN-to-DNP and Post-Master's DNP degrees.

Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

The Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with an FNP or PMHNP specialty is designed to provide individuals with the advanced knowledge, skills and experiences needed to perform at the highest level of clinical nursing practice.

- **Family Nurse Practitioner**

The program can be completed in nine consecutive semesters at full-time status.

- **Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner**

The program can be completed in nine consecutive semesters at full-time status.

Post-Graduate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

35 credits/500 clinical hours*

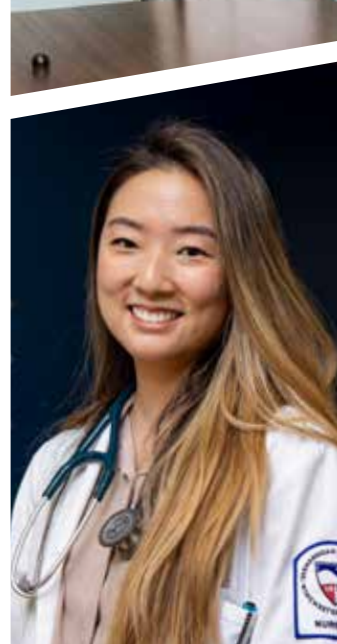
The Post-Graduate Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is designed to prepare individuals with the advanced knowledge, meanings and experiences to perform at the highest level of clinical nursing practice.

The Post-Graduate DNP program is open to all advanced practice registered nurses (nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, clinical nurse specialists and certified registered nurse anesthetists) who hold a master's degree and are nationally certified as an APRN (NP, CNS), CNM or CRNA. The program can be completed in six semesters and cohorts are established annually in the fall.

Clinical Experiences

We work with you to find clinical placements. This collaborative process between the student and placement team asks students to submit at least three preceptor or site referrals.

**Note: Due to changes in national standards, for students beginning clinicals in Fall 2024 or later, the clinical hours requirements will likely increase to at least 780 hours.*








Accreditation Information

The master's degrees in nursing, post-graduate APRN certificates, and Doctor of Nursing Practice at Shenandoah University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, D.C., 20001, 202-877-6791.

The master's degree in nurse-midwifery and post-graduate certificate in nurse-midwifery are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME), 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 1550, Silver Spring, MD, 20910, 240-485-1800.

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