

# Master of Science in Nursing: Nurse-Midwifery



SHENANDOAH<sup>®</sup>  
UNIVERSITY

Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing

A synchronous online, part-time, six semester professional degree program (46 credits)

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Nurse-Midwifery (NM) program provides the student with the necessary skills and knowledge to assume the role of a Certified Nurse-Midwife in a variety of clinical settings. Didactic and course content focuses on role development and the assessment and management of an individual's health (antepartal, intrapartal, postpartal, and neonatal periods, as well as primary care) throughout the lifespan. Graduates of this degree will be eligible to take the national certification examination given by the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB). Passing this examination allows the practitioner to use the professional title "Certified Nurse-Midwife."

## PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

- A bachelor's degree in nursing (BSN) from a CCNE, ACEN, or CNEA accredited institution. Recommended 3.0 cumulative GPA.
- Applicants must have completed or will complete the following prerequisite course requirements prior to enrolling at Shenandoah:
  - Undergraduate Health Assessment, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology courses. Recommended grade of "B" or better.
  - Undergraduate Statistics course with a grade of "C" or better.
  - Undergraduate Chemistry course with grade of "C" or better.

## ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduate Application with \$30 application fee.
- Unofficial transcripts from all institutions for initial admission
- Unencumbered RN license (*multi-state preferred*)
- Current resume/C.V.
- [Documentation of one year of direct patient care](#) prior to specialty courses (it is recommended for applicants to have experience in birth settings)
- Essay (250-500 words): Why are you choosing to pursue the Nurse-Midwifery role?
- Three letters of recommendation
  - One from previous faculty (if graduated in the last five years)
  - Two professional references to attest to clinical experience
- Language proficiency must be met. Submission of TOEFL, IELTS, PTE, or Duolingo English Test may be required. See our policy for full details: <https://www.su.edu/admissions/international-students>
- A recorded video introduction/interview will be required.

*If admitted, up-to-date immunization and health records, a criminal background check, a urine drug screen, and CPR from AHA only will be required.*

*For international students who require a visa, due to limited on-campus hours, F-1 visas are not issued for this program.*

## ADMISSION & APPLICATION

### Start Term

Fall (August)

### Admission Deadline

Priority: February 15

Final: April 15

*Applications are reviewed continuously starting in January until the cohort is full.*

### Format/Location

Synchronous online courses meet one day each week.

*Students attend one four-day on-campus immersion each fall and spring semester of the clinical year.*

### How to Apply

Begin the online application process by going to [www.su.edu/sonapp](http://www.su.edu/sonapp)

### Foreign Transcripts

International transcript evaluation by an accredited agency is an admission requirement. Approved services are listed at [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org) and <http://aice-eval.org/>.

### Transfer Credits

A maximum of two courses with a grade of "B" or better are transferable. Upon admission, courses may be submitted for review and approval by the Program Director.

### Contact Us

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Office of Financial Aid  
<https://www.su.edu/financial-aid/incoming-graduate-aid/>  
[finaid@su.edu](mailto:finaid@su.edu) | call: 540-665-4538



Dr. L. Amy Giles  
Assistant Professor  
Director, Nurse-Midwifery Program



Shenandoah University's Nurse-Midwifery program  
is accredited by:  
Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education  
2000 Duke Street, Suite 300  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703) 835-4565 / <http://www.theacme.org>  
[support@theacme.org](mailto:support@theacme.org)

## CURRICULUM

The degree requirement is 46 total credit hours. Clinical practicum is approximately 720 clock hours. Since the length and timing of birth is unpredictable, students may require additional hours to gain enough experiences to successfully meet the ACNM Core Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice 2020.

Courses	Credits
Advanced Practice Roles, Ethics & Policy	3
Advanced Concepts in Physiology & Pathophysiology	3
Advanced Pharmacology & Therapeutics	3
Introduction to Graduate Writing	1
Advanced Health Promotion & Assessment Across the Lifespan	4
Research & Evidence Based Practice	4
Data Interpretation & Informatics	2
Midwives as Primary Care Providers	2
Comprehensive Antepartum Care	2
Gynecologic Health Care	2
Midwifery Practicum I (180 Clinical Hours)	3
Comprehensive Perinatal and Newborn Care	3
Perinatal Complications	2
Midwifery Practicum II (240 Clinical Hours)	4
Advanced Nurse-Midwifery Role Development	2
Evidence Based Practice Project	1
Integrated Midwifery Internship (300 Clinical Hours)	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>

## ABOUT THE ELEANOR WADE CUSTER SCHOOL OF NURSING

Graduate programs in the [Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing](#) are challenging, but the rewards of completing your degree are many. We are committed to providing an outstanding education to nurses at all levels. Our programs are dynamic and responsive to the needs of our students and the health care industry.

The curricula for the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Graduate Certificates, and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs combine important knowledge and skills with a friendly and caring spirit. Students share diverse backgrounds and professional experiences with seasoned teaching faculty and clinical preceptors, who contribute to robust classroom discussions and enrich clinical interactions. Our goal is to prepare and challenge you for that next step in your professional career.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **How long will it take to complete the program?**  
MSN students typically graduate in two years (including summers).
- **How does Shenandoah help with clinical placements?**  
Students identify potential clinical site placements in their home communities and will be assisted by SU clinical site coordinators.
- **Do applicants need a Virginia RN license?**  
You will need a license in the state where you will practice your clinicals. A multi-state license is recommended if possible.