

# NURSING

The Department of Nursing believes that quality health care is a basic right. Health care needs can be met through the practice of the professional nurse who has completed a systematic program of courses in the social and natural sciences, humanities, and nursing.

As a nursing graduate, you are expected to have the following desired characteristics:

1. an awareness and sense of responsibility for contemporary social issues;
2. concern for improvement of health care within society;
3. competency in providing nursing care;
4. a willingness and ability to collaborate with, or coordinate the activities of, an interdisciplinary health team;
5. a commitment to learning as a life-long process;
6. the ability to apply the scientific method when making decisions about health care;
7. the skills to participate in the advancement of the practice of nursing through data gathering and studies that examine the profession in theory and practice.

## Career Opportunities

Career opportunities in nursing vary. Employment opportunities are available to you as a graduate with a bachelor's degree, including positions in hospitals, schools, community health centers, and in the industrial sector. You also have graduate study as an option.

Graduates have accepted positions at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Main Line Health System, Chester County Hospital, Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Jefferson University Hospitals, and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, among others.

Nursing graduates from West Chester University have entered a number of advanced degree programs, including those offered by

University of Delaware  
University of Maryland  
University of Pennsylvania  
Villanova University  
West Chester University  
Widener University

## Undergraduate Degree

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing.** As a student graduating with this degree, you should be able to function as a self-directing professional, have the knowledge and skills necessary to begin a career as a professional nurse, and have an educational foundation that will allow you to hold leadership positions in the health care community.

The department also offers a fast track for registered nurses who wish to complete the bachelor's degree.

In addition, the Department of Nursing offers an accelerated second degree track (Advance 2 B.S.N.) for students with an existing baccalaureate degree.

The Department of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

## Typical Courses

In addition to required core courses in biology, chemistry, English, mathematics, nursing, psychology, and sociology, you may take courses such as the following:

Care of the Inner Self  
Concepts in Caring  
Health Issues of Women  
Skills for Professional Success  
Transcultural Health: Principles and Practices

## Special Study Opportunities

The department offers nursing electives in the summer, providing you with the opportunity to enhance both theoretical and clinical skills. You also have the opportunity to participate in a credit-bearing summer international programs such as those to South Africa and England.

## Special Entrance Requirements

In addition to meeting West Chester University entrance requirements, you must have completed work equal to a standard high school curriculum, consisting of a minimum of 16 units. Specifically, you should have four units of English, three units of social studies, two units of mathematics (one of which must be algebra), and two units of science with a related laboratory or the equivalent. A combined score of at least 1100 is recommended on the SAT.

*Learn More*

# UNDERGRADUATE FACT SHEET

## Related Student Activities

Mary Kline Lecture Series  
Sigma Theta Tau, Xi Delta Chapter, International Nursing  
Honor Society  
Student Nurse Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP)

## Facilities

The Department of Nursing, housed in the Sturzebecker Health Science Center, includes classrooms, faculty offices, and the nursing simulation laboratory.

The nursing laboratory is available as a resource to help you in the learning process. The laboratory has three sections. One area, used for the teaching and learning of nursing skills, contains hospital beds, examination tables, and other equipment found in clinical care settings. The second area is a separate computer laboratory for students to study and review nursing theoretical and clinical skills, and to complete required computer software programs. The third area is designated for clinical simulation with various high-fidelity simulators.

## Advanced Degree

The master of science in nursing allows you to focus on your unique specialty area and apply that clinical practice to the community setting. You can specialize in nursing education or pursue a CNS in Adult/Gerontology.

## Faculty

You can obtain a complete listing of faculty and their academic qualifications for this program from the contact persons below.

## For More Information

Dr. Charlotte Mackey, Chairperson

OR

Ms. Linda Morrow, Department Secretary  
Sturzebecker Health Sciences Center  
South New Street, Room 222  
West Chester University  
West Chester, PA 19383  
610-436-2219

For information about the M.S.N. degree, contact  
Dr. Cheryl Schlamb

For information about the R.N.–B.S.N. fast track, contact  
Dr. Deborah Mandel

For information about the accelerated second degree program, contact Dr. Brent Thompson.

Web page: [www.wcupa.edu/\\_academics/HealthSciences/nursing/](http://www.wcupa.edu/_academics/HealthSciences/nursing/)  
Undergraduate Catalog: [http://www.wcupa.edu/\\_information/official.documents/undergrad.catalog/](http://www.wcupa.edu/_information/official.documents/undergrad.catalog/)

## About West Chester University

A comprehensive, public institution, West Chester University offers high-quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs in more than 100 subject areas, as well as certification and certificate programs. As one of the largest members of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, West Chester offers a full and rewarding educational experience as well as reasonable tuition.

With a rich heritage dating back to the 19th century, West Chester University was founded in 1871 as West Chester Normal School for the purpose of training teachers for the Commonwealth's newly established public schools. In 1960, West Chester State Teachers College expanded its programs to include liberal arts and graduate degrees and, as a result, dropped "Teachers" from its name. In 1983, West Chester State College became one of the 14 institutions in the State System of Higher Education. Along with its university status, the school acquired a new system of governance and the opportunity to expand its degree programs.

Today, more than 15,400 graduate and undergraduate students, along with 1,500 faculty and staff, study and work on the 406-acre campus. Situated in the Borough of West Chester, the campus is a picturesque mix of Gothic, Victorian, and modern architecture with pleasant, tree-shaded walks.

Strategically located at the center of the mid-Atlantic corridor between New York City and Washington, D.C., West Chester is just 25 miles west of Philadelphia and 17 miles north of Wilmington.

## Information on Admission

### Office of Admissions

Emil H. Messikomer Hall, 100 West Rosedale Ave.  
West Chester University, West Chester, PA 19383  
610-436-3411 • Toll-free: 1-877-315-2165  
E-mail: [ugadmiss@wcupa.edu](mailto:ugadmiss@wcupa.edu)  
WCU home page: [www.wcupa.edu](http://www.wcupa.edu)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/wcupa](http://www.facebook.com/wcupa)

