More than a nursing degree. A future that transforms lives.

Bachelor of Science in Nursing Undergraduate Program

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY
School of Nursing
A career that matters. A life with meaning.

At Duquesne University’s School of Nursing, you’ll prepare for the challenges of nursing today through an academic program that helps compassionate, motivated people like you become the best nurses they can be.

You’ll also be inspired by our distinguished faculty to develop the personal and ethical values that will help you reach your goals as a nurse and succeed as a health care leader.

You care about helping others, and you want to make that a defining part of your life.

Your Future Starts Here.

The Duquesne University School of Nursing is a widely recognized pioneer in nursing education. Today, our school is designated by the National League for Nursing as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education. Our degree programs are also consistently ranked among the nation’s best by U.S. News & World Report.
Many Duquesne nursing graduates go on to pursue advanced degrees at prestigious institutions such as:

- Carnegie Mellon University
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of Maryland
- University of Pennsylvania
- Yale University

And enter advanced-level careers including:
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Public Health
- Nursing Informatics
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Nursing Administration

Prior to your senior year, all BSN students will participate in a new 21-week clinical immersion experience at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC). See more on page 11.

In 2028:
- The number of employed registered nurses will grow by 12%.
- The number of employed nurse practitioners will grow by 26%.

- U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

“Throughout my clinical experience, I have had the opportunity to observe and participate in a wide range of clinical scenarios. I experienced all of the ICUs at Presbyterian Hospital, assisted in dressing different types of wounds, and I saw an emergency C-section with over 20 staff in the OR caring for the mother and baby. I am proud to be a Duquesne student, and I will be proud to call myself a Duquesne graduate in the near future.”

- Hadley Mueller, BSN 2021

Real Life Success
A Graduate Outcomes Report showed 94% of 2018-2019 nursing students secured a full-time position at health care facilities such as:

- Allegheny Health Network
- Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles
- Cleveland Clinic
- Duke University Hospital
- Johns Hopkins Hospital
- Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- New York Presbyterian-Columbia University Medical Center
- UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital
- UPMC Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic

Gain hands-on patient care in local hospitals and community facilities such as:

- Allegheny Health Network
- Hillman Cancer Center
- UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh
- UPMC Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic
- VA Medical Center

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There has never been a better time to be a Duquesne nurse.

Nurses are in demand everywhere, and the critical role that nurses play in health care is expanding rapidly.

The field of nursing is rich with opportunities for career placement and advancement. When you graduate with a nursing degree from Duquesne, you’ll be well prepared to enter and excel in this growing profession—and make a real difference in the lives of others.
Personalized attention from faculty at the top of their fields.

Earning your nursing degree at Duquesne University means that you will be challenged academically, professionally and personally. It also means you will receive the kind of personalized attention found at smaller schools but in a high-tech learning environment typical of larger institutions.

Our faculty are more than educators. They are renowned scholars with a wide range of clinical experience. Their commitment to learning helps ensure that you achieve your very best.

The Duquesne Nursing School faculty will also help you prepare to be successful on the National Council Licensure Examination—Registered Nurse exam (NCLEX-RN), which you are eligible to take upon completion of this program for licensure as a registered nurse (RN).

Duquesne has one of the highest first-time NCLEX-RN exam pass rates.

Our 2019 BSN graduates scored an impressive 94.38% first-time pass rate on the NCLEX-RN exam, which is well above the national average of 88.07%.

In addition to having access to a faculty mentor, tutors and a remediation expert, you’ll also find numerous campus resources to aid in your professional and personal growth.

STUDENT SUCCESS IS AT THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING WE DO.

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UNDERGRADUATE SUPPORT

Learn about Campus Life
School of Nursing
Nursing Accepted Student Day
Duquesne University
New Student Orientation and Retention Programs

Financial
School of Nursing
Nursing Scholarships and Financial Aid Programs
Duquesne University
Financial Aid Office

Professional/Personal
School of Nursing
Faculty Mentors, Tutors, Academic Advisors, Center for Research for Underserved and Vulnerable Populations, Student Nursing Organizations, Networking Opportunities
Duquesne University
Learning Skills Center, Center for Career Development, Computing and Technology Services, Writing Center, University Counseling and Wellbeing Center, Disability Services, Spiritan Campus Ministry, Office of Military and Veteran Students

Student Organizations
School of Nursing
Alpha Tau Delta, Chi Eta Phi, National Association of Hispanic Nurses, National Student Nurses Association, Nurses Christian Fellowship, Sigma Theta Tau International
Duquesne University
More than 250 student organizations on campus
Take a look inside our Learning and Simulation Center.

High-tech simulation training is an important part of your nursing education. You’ll have access to the latest learning technology to practice basic and advanced patient care skills within a safe, controlled environment.

**All the resources you need.**
The simulation lab features an infant resuscitator, phototherapy unit and incubator, medication and emergency carts, anatomical models, simulators, wall diagnostics and modern medical equipment to support your clinical learning needs.

**Diagnose and administer treatment.**
You’ll apply dressings to a mannequin’s wounds and perform catheterizations, injections and irrigations, as well as practice defibrillation. Students work with a variety of patient simulators, including neonatal and birthing mannequins, which show symptoms, communicate and respond to care.

**Gain confidence using real-life scenarios.**
Practice responding to emergency situations such as cardiac arrests, and develop your decision-making, teamwork, communication and leadership skills in our adjacent Weisbrod Fundamental Skills Lab. For maximum realism, audio recordings and special “short throw” video projectors are used to recreate the visual and auditory qualities of a hospital.

**Individual feedback and guidance.**
Video recording and sophisticated playback capabilities in the lab enable faculty to review student learning and provide performance-based, individualized feedback.

**State-of-the-art technology.**
Through an immersive, augmented reality simulation, students listen to heart sounds while viewing what is going on inside the body. Duquesne University is one of only three schools piloting this new augmented reality technology.

**A variety of environments.**
Health assessment suites are equipped with exam tables and diagnostic equipment. Specialized equipment to work more effectively with patients with disabilities, such as scales that weigh patients in their wheelchairs and exam tables that lower to wheelchair height have recently been added.

duq.edu/nursing  •  7
Study Abroad Opportunities

Costa Rica • Ghana • Italy • Nicaragua
Scotland • Tanzania

Learning without borders.

The School of Nursing has a rich tradition in global health. You can learn in places like Nicaragua, Italy, Scotland, Ghana, Costa Rica and Tanzania, and choose from study abroad programs that last for one week, a summer or an entire semester. You are also given the additional opportunity to travel and learn while serving vulnerable populations through a long-term partnership with a Nicaraguan nursing school. During those faculty-led trips, you will participate in direct patient care, and in health promotion and disease prevention projects.

“We spent two days providing education to children and two days conducting pop-up clinics while in Costa Rica. It was definitely outside of my comfort zone but I was able to take this challenge and learn how to adapt. I feel a lot more confident in myself from going on this trip.”

Julie Martin
Second Degree BSN, 2020 Graduate

INTERDISCIPLINARY GLOBAL HEALTH TRIPS

Through a new collaboration between the School of Nursing and Duquesne’s School of Pharmacy, nursing and pharmacy students can spend their Spring Break participating in a week-long medical service trip in San Jose, Costa Rica.

During the spring 2020 trip, students provided basic health and wellness education to elementary students. At community-based pop-up clinics, each student nurse was paired with a student pharmacist and together they conducted basic neurology, cardiovascular, respiratory, endocrine, and musculoskeletal screenings/assessments for adults and children. Together the pharmacy and nursing student pair collaborated with the clinic physician in determining health issues/risk of each person as well as provided appropriate interventions and education.

Through this international health care experience, a transformational change in students occurs, where their eyes and hearts become more open to the world around them. As a student, you will be able to apply Duquesne’s mission of service within your own profession, and see the changes you can make in the world.

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Abbey Whitewood, RN
BSN, 2019 Graduate

““The Rome Maymester is one of the most insightful experiences I’ve ever had. It opened my eyes to the world and helped me appreciate the importance of understanding other cultures—especially in a clinical setting.”

Abbey Whitewood, RN
BSN, 2019 Graduate
Undergraduate Program

As a Duquesne nursing student, you'll experience a learning environment where evidence-based nursing, critical thinking and intellectual curiosity go hand in hand with ethical practice, community service and a commitment to social justice.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (BSN)

This traditional four-year program provides you with the knowledge and skills that professional nurse generalists need, whether in nursing practice or as a preparation for graduate study. This major combines a strong foundation in the liberal arts with theory courses and clinical experiences in world-renowned hospitals and other health care settings.

We are committed to ensuring that you will be well-prepared for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX-RN), which is the test that qualifies you for licensure as a Registered Nurse (RN).

NEW CLINICAL IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

In addition to traditional clinical exposure, every four-year BSN student’s plan of study includes a 21-week clinical immersion experience at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC).

This unique initiative enables students to perform established nursing procedures for patients as a UPMC employee, work in controlled care settings and carry out patient care assignments. You will gain valuable hands-on nursing experience and a competitive edge, all while earning academic credit.

SECOND DEGREE BSN

Choosing to become a nurse, even after embarking on some other career path, can be one of the best decisions you will ever make. If you have earned a bachelor’s degree in another discipline, our accelerated Second Degree BSN program enables you to obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) in just 12 or 16 months.

By blending traditional classroom instruction with simulation labs and hands-on clinical experiences, you will enter the profession with a strong, broad-based clinical foundation for nursing practice. When you graduate, you will have logged hundreds of hours in hospitals and community facilities — institutions that are educational partners with the Duquesne University School of Nursing.

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING – BSN DUAL DEGREE

Be a pioneer in health care as a nurse engineer. This five-year program is the first of its kind and is innovative for integrating the clinical knowledge of nursing with the technological aspects of biomedical engineering.

Students gain both hands-on experience in biomedical engineering, thermodynamics and electronics as well as in patient care at local state-of-the-art health care facilities. You’ll partner with health care and technology industry leaders in a biomedical engineering capstone project to propose a solution to an unmet need in patient care. With a combined background in biomedical engineering and nursing, graduates will stand out in a competitive job market with a skillset to help develop technical solutions to health problems.

“Meeting up with Duquesne has been better than I ever could have imagined. My professors do everything they can to help me succeed and the administrators and advisors always have a student’s best interest at heart.

As a member of both the Biomedical Engineering and Nursing communities at Duquesne, I have loved the endless opportunities that both programs have offered and I cannot wait to begin to narrow down the many career choices that will be available upon graduation.”

Celia Gambacorta
BME/BSN 2022

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE.

Duquesne’s Nursing School has earned Victory Media’s prestigious Military Friendly® School Gold Level designation ranking for the third consecutive year.

Duquesne University participates in the Yellow Ribbon program and has many students using their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits. We are honored to include veterans as well as active duty personnel and members of the National Guard and Reserves among our students.
Duquesne’s history and the Spiritan tradition.

Who we are today has a lot to do with who we were yesterday. Founded in 1878 by the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, or the Spiritans, to serve Pittsburgh’s immigrant population, Duquesne University was built on a core set of values that guide us even now.

We believe in building community, in having a global vision, in promoting high academic standards and in a commitment to service.

And first and foremost, everyone at Duquesne is here to make sure you succeed, academically and throughout life.

Invest in your bright future.

A degree from Duquesne is more affordable than you might think. Independent sources agree that at Duquesne, you’ll get a great education at a great price.

Duquesne is regularly ranked as a top-tier university and research institution, and a great college value, by notable sources including U.S. News & World Report. The real value of a Duquesne education is in how well it prepares you for a lifetime of success.

When you apply for admission, you’ll be automatically considered for scholarships. Duquesne invests $79.5 million in our undergraduate students each year through University-based scholarships.

Learn more about available financial resources at duq.edu/financial-aid

SAVE BIG ON BOOKS.

Undergraduate nursing students save money through the nursing eBooks program, which eliminates the need to buy costly textbooks. eBooks are used in both the classroom and clinical learning experiences, and the cost of all nursing eBooks is fully covered in your technology fee.

Pittsburgh: a great place to study, live and work as a nurse.

Duquesne’s beautiful park-like campus is set apart on a hill—awe call it the Bluff—overlooking the downtown Pittsburgh skyline and the South Side’s eclectic hillside homes, shops and restaurants, alongside the Monongahela River.

A five-minute walk will take you to the middle of everything the city has to offer, including world-class museums, a thriving cultural district with live concerts and performances, scenic riverfront trails along all three rivers, and champion professional sports teams.

Pittsburgh also has an international reputation for leadership in medicine and technology. You’ll find many opportunities for clinical experiences, internships and professional positions within Pittsburgh’s robust health care industry. In fact, Duquesne’s campus is steps away from a major hospital and nationally ranked hospital systems with many community care facilities throughout the area.

Explore more of what the ‘burgh has to offer: duq.edu/pittsburgh
ACCREDITATION

The baccalaureate degree in nursing, master’s degree in nursing, Doctor of Nursing Practice program, and the post-graduate APRN certificate program at Duquesne University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, 1-202-887-6790).

The School of Nursing is fully approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing (P.O. Box 2649, Harrisburg, PA 17105, 1-717-783-7142, www.dos.state.pa.us/bpoa/nurbd/mainpage.htm).

Duquesne University is accredited by Middle States Commission on Higher Education (3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, 1-267-236-5000) and the State Board of Education of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17126, 1-717-783-6788).