

Our forensic nurses heal wounds no one else can see.



Master of Science in Nursing Forensic Specialty

Be connected to something bigger than yourself.

With a graduate degree in forensic nursing from Duquesne's renowned online program, you'll feel connected in so many ways. To your patients. To a dynamic team of law enforcement and other legal professionals. And to a strong university community of inspiring faculty and other students who share your passion for making a real impact in the world.

Duquesne University, with its long tradition of academic excellence and community service, is a widely recognized pioneer in online graduate nursing education. Our students and our faculty are passionate about advancing the nursing profession and serious about making a difference in the world.

That's why we designed a program that can help you create the future of forensic nursing.

Our master's in forensic nursing program teaches skills for healing wounds as well as skills for helping law enforcement and legal professionals do their jobs effectively. In addition, if you are interested in obtaining a doctorate in nursing, our PhD and DNP programs are among the few programs anywhere to offer a forensic focus.

Best of all, our graduate nursing programs let you study on your terms...on your time...online.



Program Overview

Our MSN and post-master's forensic nursing programs prepare you for an advanced practice forensic role. The forensic specialty focuses on addressing violence and its consequences in our communities, creating opportunities for the unique contributions of nurses.

This broad-based forensic curriculum allows students to apply advanced practice knowledge, in order to have an impact on care in a wide variety of settings. Our graduates function not only as practitioners in forensic nursing but also as leaders in this emerging specialty area. They are creating hospital-based programs, designing educational curricula and helping to enact new policy initiatives related to violence at the local, state and national levels.

The program is offered in collaboration with the **Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law** in the School of Law at Duquesne University.

Degree requirements may be completed on a full-time (six credits per semester) or part-time basis.

Connect with us at www.duq.edu/nursing

Duquesne University School of Nursing A leader in online graduate nursing education

The combined flexibility of online learning coupled with our reputation for academic rigor make the School of Nursing at Duquesne University the ideal choice for graduate nursing education.

Duquesne University, located in Pittsburgh, Pa., is a private coeducational university founded in 1878, with more than 10,000 students enrolled in ten schools of study. We are consistently ranked among the nation's top Catholic universities for our award-winning faculty and tradition of academic excellence.

The School of Nursing, founded in 1937, is an acknowledged leader in online nursing education. Our doctoral degree was the first online PhD in nursing offered in the nation. Our online graduate programs provide skills in high-demand specialties, and our graduates are making a difference as nurse scholars, practitioners and researchers all over the world.

Online Learning

What you need to know

Online learning allows you to take nursing courses regardless of your schedule or where you live. The Internet is a powerful tool, connecting students and faculty in a wide variety of geographic locations, including rural and underserved communities. Although the way we accomplish online learning has changed dramatically since we started offering it more than a decade ago, we retain our strong dedication to making distance education possible for motivated students who want to expand their knowledge in a challenging way.

Online students and faculty agree that online courses are rigorous. The classes are structured like those with a live classroom environment, and they start and finish according to the University's academic calendar. Online classes have readings, assignments and regular deadlines, and students receive ongoing feedback from faculty. Students work together online to achieve learning goals and solve problems, and the online format allows us to create—in collaboration with our students—a dynamic and engaging virtual community of scholars and clinicians.

Educational technology for online learning is changing every day, and the Duquesne University School of Nursing is a leader in this area. We are committed to using educational technology effectively in order to enrich student learning and enhance teaching.



Through state-of-the-art technology, students in the forensic nursing program are able to communicate with their peers and faculty in a variety of unique ways. Using virtual classroom and conferencing tools, they can see each other and speak to one another. The Web-based platform used at Duquesne is called Blackboard, through which we communicate with students, distribute information, and facilitate the exchange of ideas and resources.

To be successful in online coursework, you must have basic computer skills, including the ability to:

- send and receive e-mail;
- attach, send and open documents from e-mail or Internet sites;
- participate in online chats;
- research topics using Web resources;
- use Internet library databases.

In addition, the forensic nursing program demands good communication skills, so we offer online writing tutorial modules that will help you gain the skills you need to succeed professionally.

Student Support

Pursuing a graduate degree can be both rewarding and challenging. At Duquesne University, service to our students is an honored tradition. That's why the School of Nursing faculty prides itself on a commitment to helping graduate students achieve their goals.

Along with faculty support, here are a few of the resources available to graduate nursing students at Duquesne:

- new student orientation program
- graduate academic advisor
- nursing faculty mentor
- research assistance from the Center for Nursing Research
- technical support for Blackboard from Computing and Technology Services
- online writing support from The Writing Center
- extensive health care resources and assistance at Gumberg Library
- distance continuing education and conference opportunities
- professional networking

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Curriculum

Master of Science in Nursing Forensic Specialty

MSN CORE COURSES

19 credits

Theory in Nursing GPNG 502	3
Population-Based Health Promotion GPNG 503	3
Nursing Education & Administrative Processes GPNG 504	3
Methods of Nursing Research GPNG 505	3
Practicum in Nursing Research GPNG 506	2
Bioethical Decision-Making in Nursing and Health Care GPNG 507.....	2
AND Choose ONE of the following courses:	
Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice Nursing GPNG 508	3

OR

Physical Assessment for Advanced Practice Nursing GPNG 509*.....	3
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Note: This course requires that students spend one week on campus in November in order to complete approximately 40 hours of course work.

FORENSIC SPECIALTY COURSES

18 credits

Introduction to Forensic Nursing and Health GNFO 500	3
Advanced Practice Forensic Nursing GNFO 501	3
Theories of Violence GNFO 511	3
Forensic Science, the Legal System, and Civil Law GNFO 512	3
Trial Preparation and Criminal Law GNFO 513	3
Forensic Clinical GNFO 514	2
Research and Writing in Forensic Nursing GNFO 515	1

TOTAL 37 credits

The Synergy Model A cutting edge conceptual framework

The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Synergy Model for patient care strengthens the competencies nurses need to provide safe passage for patients and their families through the health care environment. The Duquesne University School of Nursing is one of the first to integrate this conceptual framework into undergraduate and graduate course work.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

1. Current license as a Registered Nurse
2. A baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited nursing program
3. A BSN QPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale
4. An interview with faculty may be required (in person, online or by phone)

PREREQUISITES

- Undergraduate statistics course

APPLICATION PROCESS

The admissions process for nursing graduate studies is handled exclusively by the School of Nursing. Duquesne University has developed a common online application for all graduate programs. Applicants to the School of Nursing must complete the online University Application **FIRST AND THEN** complete the School of Nursing Graduate application.



Tuition Discount Program

We offer a 30 percent tuition discount program for eligible nurses. To be eligible, you must:

- Be a registered nurse
- Be a full-time or part-time employee at one of our partnering organizations. Visit our Web site to see a current list.
- Enroll as a full-time or part-time Duquesne University School of Nursing student in a graduate degree or certificate program

For more information, contact
Susan Hardner, 412-396-4945
or nursing@duq.edu

Connect with us at www.duq.edu/nursing



 **DUQUESNE
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