NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS AT DREXEL UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE STUDIES

In recent years, the healthcare professions have seen constant innovation in diagnosis and treatment through new technologies, drug therapies, and approaches to therapy. These, combined with personnel shortages in a number of healthcare fields, an increasingly diverse and aging U.S. population, and rising rates of chronic illness, continue to drive the need for practitioners who can provide safe, effective, and culturally competent care. Even as the field continues to advance, the demand for skilled health-care professionals has increased, and will for the foreseeable future.

Drexel University's College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP) prepares graduate students for leadership roles in this ever-changing environment by providing them with the most current health education and clinical training available.

The baccalaureate and master's programs at Drexel University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, 202-887-6791.

Our Mission

We believe that the healthcare needs of today and tomorrow can best be met by professionals who have expertise in their own fields and a concurrent understanding of other health disciplines. In addition to formal experiential learning, we promote collaboration across departments and among our health science schools. Our dedicated and knowledgeable faculty work closely with students to provide a supportive and creative learning environment and to prepare them to work as part of a healthcare team.

The diversity of our student body, in age and culture, reflects Drexel's commitment to providing quality students with educational opportunities. We welcome nontraditional applicants and encourage members of underrepresented groups and those interested in practicing in underserved areas to apply. Finally, we are sensitive to the time constraints on today's students, many of whom work full-time. A number of our programs offer flexible scheduling, allowing for part-time, online, night, or weekend study.

Our Departments

Each department in the college offers a number of programs, specialties, and formats.

- Couple and Family Therapy
- Creative Arts Therapies
- Nursing
- Nutrition Sciences
- Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences
- Physician Assistant Studies

For More Information

In order to stay ahead of trends in the healthcare fields, we continuously review and update the content of programs offered. Prospective students are encouraged to visit these websites for the most current information:

College of Nursing and Health Professions:
www.drexel.edu/cnhp

Admissions:
www.drexel.edu/grad/cnhp

Graduate Catalog:
www.catalog.drexel.edu/graduate

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Our History

CNHP was founded in 1969 as the College of Allied Health Professions with three degree programs and a faculty of five. In 2002, Drexel University merged with MCP Hahnemann University and assumed operation of its three schools — Medicine, Public Health, and CNHP. Today CNHP serves nearly 3,000 students and is fully accredited and widely renowned for its approach to education.

Faculty

CNHP faculty are affiliated with some of the finest hospitals and clinics in the country. They are innovators in interdisciplinary education, research, and practice in the service of communities, and they are dedicated to improving access to quality care as they educate the next generation of health professionals. CNHP supports faculty research that focuses on clinical practice and its outcomes. The range of faculty research reflects the diversity of their specific interests and the missions of our programs.

Couple and Family Therapy (MFT, PhD, PMC)

Our Master's in Family Therapy (MFT) and post-master's certificate in Couple and Family Therapy (PMC) programs prepare clinicians to meet the academic standards for independent practice and expose students to an array of classical and postmodern theories in family therapy by integrating person of the therapist, diversity, and social justice approaches. Both programs are accredited by the Commission of Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE).

Our doctoral program in Couple and Family Therapy (PhD) prepares students for careers in academia, research, and behavioral healthcare. The education and training are comprised of theory, policy, clinical and supervisory skills, self of the therapist/professional development, and cultural awareness and sensitivity with an emphasis on social justice.

Our online certificate in Medical Family Therapy is designed to introduce a variety of currently practicing healthcare professionals to the ways acute and chronic medical illnesses and conditions influence and are influenced by psychosocial, relational, and family conditions and environments. Additionally, couple and family therapists and other professionals trained in the subspecialty of medical family therapy (or collaborative healthcare) will learn to work cooperatively to bridge gaps in the healthcare system and provide comprehensive and culturally congruent family-focused services.

Creative Arts Therapies (MA, PhD, PMC)

The Department of Creative Arts Therapies brings those who have an interest in the healing potential of the arts into the healthcare network by providing specialized clinical education and professional preparation in art therapy, dance/movement therapy (approved by the American Dance Therapy Association), and music therapy (approved by the American Music Therapy Association). The curriculum includes course content in the mental health sciences, theory of human development and behavior, multiculturalism, theory of the creative arts therapies, research, ethics, and specialized courses for students in each discipline. Students participate in supervised practica and internships in a variety of medical, mental health, educational, and community settings with children and adults. These programs lead to eligibility for board certification exams and/or registration in the specialty. They also provide the academic and clinical requirements for licensure in professional counseling in many states. Part-time study is available.

Human Nutrition (MS)

The Master of Science in Human Nutrition program, offered by the Nutrition Sciences Department, accommodates students who have a bachelor's degree and wish to become a registered dietitian (RD). Students can opt to pursue the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) track or the Nutritional Sciences (NS) track. Study is offered on both a full-time and part-time basis with courses in the evening. DPD-track students will complete the degree as non-thesis students, while NS-track students have the option of thesis or no thesis. The DPD program is currently granted accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education of the American Dietetic Association.

Nursing (DrNP)

Drexel's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DrNP) degree is a hybrid professional doctorate, the only one of its kind in the U.S. With emphases on both advanced clinical practice and practical clinical research, this program offers practitioner, clinical executive, educator, and clinical scientist tracks. The degree can be completed in three years of part-time study, with the third year devoted to completion of a clinical dissertation. Classes are held Wednesday afternoons with two one-week summer residencies. The program also builds in a two-week study abroad experience in the second year.

Nursing (MSN, PBC, PMC)

The Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs prepare leaders in advanced practice roles. The baccalaureate and master's programs at Drexel are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Nurses in advanced practice are professionals committed to delivering and improving high-quality service while shaping the healthcare system of the future. Courses from nursing and other disciplines provide advanced theoretical knowledge, assessment skills, role and leadership development, advanced practice in a selected specialization, and the opportunity to critique and apply nursing theory and research as a scientific basis for nursing practice. The department offers the MSN in the following specialties (many are also available as post-baccalaureate and/or post-master's certificate programs):

- Advanced Role Tracks (online)
  - Clinical Trials Research
  - Clinical Nurse Leader
  - Innovation and Intra/Entrepreneurship in Advanced Nursing Practice
  - Leadership in Health Systems Management
  - Nursing Education and Faculty Roles
- Nurse Anesthesia
- Nurse Practitioner (online)
  - Adult-Gerontology Acute Care
  - Family
  - Pediatric Primary Care
  - Psychiatric Mental Health
  - Women's Health
- RN-MSN Bridge Program (online)

Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences (DPT, MHS, PBC, PhD)

Drexel's nationally ranked Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation programs, accredited by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), provide a rich environment for students to develop skills in evidence-based practice, teaching, medical informatics, research, and leadership. The department offers six programs: Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT), Post-Professional DPT, Certificate in Advanced Practice in Hand and Upper Quarter Rehabilitation, Certificate in Advanced Practice in Pediatric Rehabilitation, Master of Health Science (MHS), and PhD programs in Rehabilitation Sciences with PhD concentrations in pediatrics, movement science, and orthopedics. Technology is infused throughout the curriculum and students have the opportunity to work with nationally and internationally recognized faculty members who have developed many local, national, and international clinical teaching and research collaborations.

Physician Assistant (MHS)

The Physician Assistant department offers Master of Health Science (MHS) degrees in Physician Assistant Studies and through the Physician Assistant Post-Professional Master's program, both accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, Inc. (ARC-PA). The programs prepare students to provide patient education and counseling, preventive intervention, complete or directed history taking and physical examination, diagnostic test evaluation, and presentation of cases in a problem-oriented fashion to a supervising physician; and to perform technical skills including electrocardiograms, venipuncture, suturing, casting, and injections. The programs aim to educate qualified primary care physician assistants, promote the physician assistant profession, and improve healthcare delivery in medically underserved urban and rural areas.

Facilities

The College of Nursing and Health Professions is located at Drexel University's Center City Campus, adjacent to Hahnemann University Hospital. Proximity to this major medical center provides a first-rate environment for study. The Clinical Learning Resource Center provides students with state-of-the-art educational resources to enable them to develop the skills they will need in their careers. Through the 11th Street Corridor Partnership for Community Based Care, the College of Nursing and Health Professions maintains a comprehensive, community-based health center, 11th Street Family Health Services Center of Drexel University, where students have unique opportunities to observe and be part of healthcare delivery.

Libraries

The Hahnemann Library, located on the Center City Campus, supports the curricula of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, College of Medicine, and the School of Public Health, including materials in clinical medicine and basic sciences, particularly physiology and pharmacology.

Audiovisual materials are available for viewing and listening at home, in fully equipped study carrels, and in group viewing rooms. Scanning; printing; and word processing, spreadsheet, presentation, and other software programs are available in the Computer Center. A large study area and various library computers, printers, and photocopiers are available 24 hours a day for use by University students, faculty, staff, and residents.

Drexel University has three other libraries: Hagerty Library and the College of Law Library, located on the University City Campus, and the Queen Lane Library, located on the Queen Lane Campus. Drexel graduate students also have access to the library resources of the University of Pennsylvania, the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, and the Restaurant School at Walnut Hill College.

About Drexel

Drexel University is a private, nonsectarian coeducational university, founded in 1891 by financier and philanthropist Anthony J. Drexel. Today it is a top-tier, comprehensive research university, enrolling nearly 16,000 undergraduates and more than 9,000 graduate, professional, and certificate students on four separate campuses. The University's colleges and schools offer over 80 undergraduate majors, and more than 70 master's and 30 doctoral programs. Drexel is fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, with additional programs accredited by their respective top professional accreditation bodies. Students come from all 50 U.S. states and 133 foreign countries.

Philadelphia

Philadelphia is the nation's fifth largest city, with a metropolitan population of nearly six million. It is renowned for its historical sites and the diversity of its neighborhoods, and as a hub of the pharmaceutical, electronics, and finance industries.

The city offers countless arts, entertainment, and recreational attractions including museums, theaters, major league sports franchises, and one of the nation's largest urban park systems, as well as first-class shopping, dining, and nightlife.

Drexel's University City Campus, located in Philadelphia's University City neighborhood, is also home to the University of Pennsylvania, the University of the Sciences, and the Restaurant School at Walnut Hill College. Most CNHP classes are held at the Center City Campus, situated in the heart of the city and in close proximity to a number of major teaching and research hospitals.

Admission

Acceptance for graduate study at Drexel University requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in the United States or an equivalent international institution. Although admission requirements vary by program, regular acceptance typically requires a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 for the last two years of undergraduate work. The GPA for any graduate work must be at least 3.0. Applicants for post-master's status must show potential for further study by having maintained at least a 3.0 GPA in their master's-level studies. (Individual departmental requirements may exceed this minimum.)

The admissions committee evaluates all credentials submitted by applicants to determine a student's ability and potential to succeed in graduate study. In addition, the committee is interested in the applicant's ability to contribute to his/her program of study and to the University community as a whole.

Applicants may only apply to one program at a time. Drexel will waive the application fee if you apply online or submit your application during a campus visit. For more information, see **www.drexel.edu/grad/apply**.

Financing

Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to receive federal, state, or institutional aid. Students must complete this form annually to determine eligibility. File online at **www.fafsa.ed.gov**. Drexel's school code is 003256. To learn more, visit **www.drexel.edu/drexelcentral/finaid**.

Merit-based aid in the form of teaching, research, and graduate assistantships is awarded by the graduate departments based on need and availability of funds. Questions should be directed to the graduate advisor.

Contact Us

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Apply online at **www.drexel.edu/grad/apply**.