JOIN A SELECT GROUP OF NURSE PROFESSIONALS.

Become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.

- Small class size and low student-to-faculty ratio ensure individualized attention
- Diverse clinical experiences including ultrasound guided nerve blockade and central line insertion; no competition from other anesthesia learners
- New state-of-the-art, high-fidelity simulation and clinical skills lab; receive advanced training with CAE/METI Human Patient Simulators, video laryngoscopy (Glidescope), jet ventilation, ultrasound machine with color doppler imaging
- All full-time faculty are doctorally prepared, or completing a doctorate, maintain a clinical practice, and lecture nationally and internationally
- 100% overall pass rate for national certification exam since program inception
- Established publication record for faculty and students (graduate projects, research, chapters, handbooks and textbooks)
- Fully accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs and recognition by IFNA.
- Competitive tuition costs

WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES

The College of Health and Human Sciences is committed to providing high quality educational programs for talented and motivated students. Our graduates are prepared in a dynamic learning environment that promotes inter-professional collaboration, evidence-based practice, scholarship and community engagement. Our expert faculty are passionate about their professions and facilitating a student-centered focus in the classroom. Great faculty, state-of-the-art resources and a beautiful mountain setting combine to provide an exceptional educational experience. We look forward to meeting you to talk about your future at Western Carolina University!

For more information about the Nurse Anesthesia Program contact Jessica Shirley at 828-227-7398 or jshirley@wcu.edu or visit the Program’s website at nursing.wcu.edu

For more information about the College of Health and Human Sciences visit our website at: chhs.wcu.edu

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NURSE ANESTHESIA

The Master’s of Science in Nursing, Nurse Anesthesia program is a 28-month program and requires a minimum of 66 course credits. Classes are held at the Biltmore Park campus in Asheville and clinical rotations are at various sites in Western North Carolina with one specialty rotation in Louisville, KY.

CORE ADVANCED NURSING COURSES

You will focus on current topics in nursing education.
- NSG 501 Roles and Issues
- NSG 510 Theory for Advanced Practice Nursing
- NSG 511 Research for Advanced Practice Nursing
- NSG 516 Economics of Healthcare in Organizations

NURSE ANESTHESIA SPECIALTY COURSES

These courses will prepare you for specific competencies required of a nurse anesthetist.
- NSG 602 Advanced Physical Assessment
- NSG 618 Survey of Pharmacotherapeutics
- NSG 629 Foundational Science for Nurse Anesthesia
- NSG 630 Advanced Physiology for Nurse Anesthetists
- NSG 631 Advanced Pathophysiology for Nurse Anesthetists I
- NSG 632 Advanced Pathophysiology for Nurse Anesthetists II
- NSG 640-643 Basic and Advanced Principles of Anesthesia
- NSG 661 Advanced Anesthesia Pharmacology I
- NSG 662 Advanced Anesthesia Pharmacology II
- NSG 672 Nurse Anesthesia Review

NURSE ANESTHESIA PRACTICUM

Practicum in simulation laboratory, hospital, or outpatient surgical sites with graduated, guided instruction in the clinical management of patients receiving various types of anesthesia. Each practicum builds on previously developed skills progressing from basic operating room orientation to the administration of anesthesia for patients exhibiting complicated pathophysiology.
- NSG 688 Clinical Anesthesia Practicum I-IV
- NSG 689 Clinical Anesthesia Practicum V-VII

ADVANCED NURSING PROJECT OR THESIS

Your scholarly project will examine a significant problem in nursing anesthesia. You may choose to do either an advanced nursing project or a traditional master’s thesis.
- NSG 679 or NSG 699

CULMINATING EXPERIENCES

- An oral presentation and an oral defense of your thesis is required. You will be required to submit your project or thesis for publication.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Apply online at grad.wcu.edu. You will be asked to submit your transcripts, GRE scores, three letters of recommendation, resume, personal statement and an application fee.
2. Applicants under consideration will be contacted for an interview by the Nurse Anesthesia Program’s Admissions Committee. Highly qualified applicants may be interviewed and offered admission prior to the application deadline.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Registered Nurse: All applicants must hold an unencumbered license to practice as an RN and have a minimum of one year of current critical care experience, two years preferred.
2. Educational Background: Bachelor of Science in Nursing awarded by a school of nursing accredited by the National League for Nursing (NLN) or by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).
3. Overall Grade Point Average (GPA): of 3.0 GPA on the last 60 hours of undergraduate coursework.
4. Completion of Prerequisite Coursework:
   General chemistry, Introductory-level statistics course and a Nursing Research Course with an earned grade of C or better.
5. Satisfactory Performance on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE): A combined GRE score of 300 is the recommended minimum.
6. Recommendations (3) that document potential for academic success.
7. Personal interview and complete Graduate School application.

Admission and program requirements are subject to change at any time. Visit nursing.wcu.edu for the most current requirements.