



# GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAMS

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

It is my pleasure to welcome you with an introduction to the nursing programs at Florida Southern College. The nursing programs at Florida Southern College are committed to educational excellence, providing opportunities that integrate cultural competence and ethics into nursing practice, and fostering personal and professional growth for the baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral level nursing student. Faculty pride themselves on creating a transformative and supportive learning environment, one that emphasizes engaged learning, student-faculty collaboration and academically-based service to the community.

Students are prepared in an atmosphere of compassionate caring to uphold professional standards and ethics, and to reflect Judeo-Christian values and ideals. We consider it essential that every nurse understands the impact of a changing health care delivery system upon patient health and the profession of nursing. Toward this end, nursing students at Florida Southern College are prepared to communicate effectively as part of an interprofessional team and to provide compassionate, evidence-based, patient-centered care.

Students complete coursework that combines theory and clinical practice for a hands-on experience, honing their skills through distinguished practicum internships. We offer a 4-year direct-entry BSN program that prepares students for licensure and entry into professional nursing practice. We also offer a master's degree program with four tracks that prepare students for advanced nursing practice: Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Nursing Administrative Leadership, and Nurse Educator. A post-baccalaureate certificate in nursing administrative leadership and post-masters certificates in family nurse practitioner and adult gerontology primary care nurse practitioner are also offered.

Those nurses interested in the highest level of practice-focused education can pursue a Doctor of Nursing Practice at Florida Southern College. This program of study prepares graduates for a leadership trajectory at various levels in clinical and administrative healthcare environments through advanced competencies in leadership, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, informatics, health care analytics, health policy, and clinical practice. Our faculty has designed a convenient hybrid format specifically tailored to meet the needs of working health care professionals and to provide the flexibility and engaged learning that the community has come to expect from FSC.

I hope you consider applying to one of our extraordinary nursing programs and becoming part of our FSC nursing community. You will have the opportunity to work with our innovative and talented faculty to prepare for many diverse roles in a rapidly changing health care environment.

**Make a difference. Become a Florida Southern nurse.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda S. Comer".

Linda S. Comer, PhD, RN, CNE  
Dean School of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Professor of Nursing



## FLORIDA SOUTHERN TAKES CARING TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

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At FSC, you will receive the experience and education you need to take your nursing career to the next level. And you'll have a degree from a program known for producing leaders in the profession.

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### **Florida Southern College offers the following advanced nursing options:**

#### **Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)**

- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Nursing Administrative Leadership
- Nurse Educator

#### **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)**

#### **Post-Baccalaureate Certificate**

- Nursing Administrative Leadership

#### **Post-Master's Certificates**

- Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Educator

### **CCNE Accredited**

The master's degree program in nursing at Florida Southern College is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.cceneaccreditation.org>).

The post-graduate APRN certificate program at Florida Southern College is pursuing initial accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.cceneaccreditation.org>). Applying for accreditation does not guarantee that accreditation will be granted.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice program at Florida Southern College is pursuing initial accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (<http://www.cceneaccreditation.org>). Applying for accreditation does not guarantee that accreditation will be granted.



*JOSH GENRICH, RN, BSN, MSN '16*

My MSN experience at Florida Southern College has far exceeded my expectations. My professors were knowledgeable as well as encouraging and supportive. I could not have asked for a better program.





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## **FACULTY**

Florida Southern's nursing faculty members are mentors, role models, and expert resources. They're dedicated to helping you master new skills, critically evaluate situations, and integrate your knowledge with practical experience. With their constant support, you'll develop a nursing practice that utilizes innovative approaches and effectively delivers care within diverse settings.



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## **FACILITIES**

With a state-of-the-art nursing skills lab and treatment-simulation laboratory, the Joe K. and Alberta Blanton Nursing Building gives you access to the latest technology.



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*MELISSA HODGES, MSN '19*

After being a nurse for 17 years, I was ready to take the next step in my career to become a family nurse practitioner. My advice? Stay focused. Balance is everything! Schedule time for studying and time for yourself. My classes contributed to my success in the clinical setting and will continue to prepare me as a provider.

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# MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (MSN)

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At Florida Southern, our Master of Science in Nursing program lets you build on the foundations of your BSN and focus on a specific area of advanced nursing. Along with cutting-edge technology and personalized attention from accessible and impressively credentialed full-time faculty, our program features four distinct curriculum tracks, each addressing a vital area in health care.

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## MSN Tracks:

- **Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner**

Gain the ability to practice autonomously and diagnose and treat patients 13 years and older in primary care settings.

- **Family Nurse Practitioner**

Be prepared to provide and direct care to families including adults and children in primary care settings.

- **Nursing Administrative Leadership**

This track is designed to provide nurse managers and clinical nurse leaders with the skills and knowledge necessary to guide daily operations in a variety of healthcare settings.

- **Nurse Educator**

This track prepares you to teach in an academic or healthcare setting by giving you expertise in teaching strategies and learning principles.

## Delivery

Nurse Practitioner students meet once per week on campus for their classroom courses. Nursing Administrative Leadership students complete their coursework online and attend a one-day immersion experience each semester on campus. The Nurse Educator program is delivered fully online. Along with cutting-edge technology and personalized attention from accessible and impressively credentialed full-time faculty, our program features four distinct curriculum tracks, each addressing a vital area in health care.



## Program Strengths

Here at FSC, we offer the hands-on, engaged learning experience you would expect in the field of nursing. Small class sizes allow for faculty dedication to students, as well as close camaraderie with your cohort. Additionally, our program provides assistance with clinical placement from our full-time clinical coordinator. We are proud to offer a program that holds CCNE accreditation, the gold standard of nursing accreditation.

**For the most updated curriculum, tuition cost and admission requirements, please visit [www.flsouthern.edu/msn](http://www.flsouthern.edu/msn)**

# DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE (DNP)

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The demands of the rapidly changing and complex health care environment require the highest levels of scientific knowledge and practice expertise.

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## Overview

The DNP program prepares graduates to design and lead system-level improvements to achieve excellent patient care and practice outcomes. This program is a leadership focused post-master's program of study designed to prepare graduates in health care policy and advocacy, finance, information systems, project management and organizational leadership. Emphasis is on the application of evidence for the improvement and enhancement of patient care and health care delivery systems.

## Delivery

Florida Southern offers an on-campus learning immersion once a semester, typically scheduled the first weekend (Friday/Saturday) of the term. This provides an opportunity to meet and collaborate with both faculty and fellow students. The remaining coursework is completed online.

## Program Strengths

Our DNP program faculty have the teaching and practical experience required to prepare students for the highest level of independent nursing practice. The development of personal relationships with faculty and classmates is fostered by small class sizes and personalized instruction. Our highly credentialed faculty include advanced practice leaders and experts with a wide range of clinical, policy, administrative, and academic expertise. FSC has established excellent partnerships with local health care and community-based organizations to support practice-immersion and experiential learning.

## WHY EARN A DNP?

**Because a DNP puts you in demand. Here's how:**

- Employers are recognizing the value of DNP-prepared nurses and exploring the many ways these nursing professionals can make a difference in the field, emphasizing evidence-based practice, informatics, and quality improvement. Those with Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees stand out in their profession, facilitating health care at both the practice and policy levels.
- For many nurses, a DNP lays the foundation for new opportunities for innovation and collaboration in nursing practice that would allow them to effect change and transform healthcare for the better.

**For the most updated curriculum, tuition cost and admission requirements, please visit [www.flsouthern.edu/dnp](http://www.flsouthern.edu/dnp)**





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I chose Florida Southern because of their great reputation. I love the idea of being able to attend a hybrid program and the flexibility has allowed me to work at my own pace. The completion of the DNP is just a starting point for my success. I plan to open my own assisted living facility and to teach aspiring ARNPs; this program is preparing me to meet these goals.”

*STEPHANIE FRANCO, CURRENT DNP STUDENT*

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Our DNP program provides the flexibility and engaged academic experiences our community has come to expect from Florida Southern. The collaborative and supportive relationship that exists between our DNP faculty and students is what sets us apart. As a Florida Southern DNP prepared nurse, graduates are uniquely positioned for employment opportunities in all facets of health care from the bedside to the boardroom.

*MELANIE MICHAEL, DNP, FNP-C, CPHQ, FNAP  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
DIRECTOR, GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAMS*

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Our Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Nursing Administrative Leadership provides current and aspiring nurse managers and clinical leaders the knowledge and skills necessary to lead successful healthcare teams in a variety of settings. Through rigorous academics and engaged learning opportunities, our graduates are prepared to navigate and make a significant impact in the constantly changing healthcare environment.

*JEANNE JENKINS, Ph.D., MSN, MBA, RN  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF NURSING  
MSN PROGRAM DIRECTOR*

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# CERTIFICATES

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At no time in history has there been more of a demand for professionals to possess additional knowledge and credentials in the rapidly changing world of healthcare.

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## Post-Baccalaureate Certificate

### Program Overview

Our Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Nursing Administrative Leadership allows nurses who desire additional credentials to build upon the foundation of their BSN degree. Designed for current and aspiring nurse managers and clinical leaders, this program will prepare students who wish to grow in their role and increase their knowledge in a variety of healthcare settings.

### Delivery

In this certificate program, students will complete coursework online and attend an onsite one-day immersion experience at the beginning of each semester.

### Program Strengths

The courses will prepare the student to work in the fields of nursing leadership or be qualified for a promotion in their current workplace. The certificate can be completed in only 2 semesters (15 credit hours). Courses completed for the certificate are viewed as non-degree credits. Should a student decide to pursue the full Master of Science in Nursing in this track, credit from the certificate program will apply towards the MSN degree. Courses must be successfully completed with a minimum grade of B in the certificate program and would accelerate completion allowing students to earn their degree in as few as three semesters plus the clinical hour requirement.

**For the most updated curriculum, tuition cost and admission requirements, please visit [www.flsouthern.edu/postbacc](http://www.flsouthern.edu/postbacc)**

## Post-Master's Certificate

### Program Overview & Design

Our Post-Master's Certificate program allows you to build upon the foundation of your MSN degree. Along with cutting-edge technology and personalized attention from highly qualified faculty, these programs are designed to meet the needs of Master's prepared nurses seeking to expand their career opportunities to address areas of vital need in healthcare. The nurse educator certificate enables you to combine your professional expertise with a passion for teaching.

The nurse practitioner certificate programs provide two pathways depending on current licensure and certification status:

1. Master's-prepared nurse practitioners who are already certified and licensed can complete the program and become eligible for certification in a second population focused area of practice.
2. Master's-prepared nurses who have earned an MSN generalist degree or an MSN degree in another area of practice specialization can complete the requirements for initial certification as a nurse practitioner.

### Post-Master's Certificate Tracks

- **Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner**
- **Family Nurse Practitioner**
- **Nurse Educator**

### Delivery

Our nurse practitioner students meet once per week on campus for their classroom courses and our Nurse Educator program is fully online.

**For the most updated curriculum, tuition cost and admission requirements, please visit [www.flsouthern.edu/postmsn](http://www.flsouthern.edu/postmsn)**



**Office of Adult and Graduate Admission**

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[www.flsouthern.edu](http://www.flsouthern.edu)