



Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

Lead From the Heart

Master of Arts in
Clinical Mental Health Counseling

KEY FACTS

2-3 years to complete | 60 credit hours | \$800 per credit hour

Program Overview

Sacred Heart University's online Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling program is designed to prepare students to make a difference. With careful attention to the comprehensive standards set forth by CACREP, SHU's Clinical Mental Health Counseling program is designed in a way that focuses on integrity, respect, and the ethical care of our students and those they choose to serve. The Clinical Mental Health Counseling program embodies the mission, vision, and values of SHU. In the spirit of whole person wellness, the philosophical tenants of counseling align well with the University's deep commitment to the dignity and worth of all people and welcomes people from all faiths and culture. The program strongly supports SHU's goal of preparing educational leaders to "personally and professionally make a difference in the global community." Specifically, the program is committed to excellence, actively pursuing truth and knowledge through teaching and scholarship of its faculty and students, and finding the common good of society by addressing significant (and growing) societal issues. It explicitly recognizes the dignity and worth of every human being by focusing on prevention, resilience, and holistic well-being.

For a list of Program Outcomes, please visit <http://onlineprograms.sacredheart.edu>.

Career Outlook

The professional field of mental health is growing steadily at a pace of 22% each year. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that this growth rate will create more than 68,000 new positions for mental health counselors by 2028.

Job Growth for Mental Health Counselors Between 2018 and 2028: 21%¹

Job Growth for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors Between 2018 and 2028: 24%¹

Sources

¹ "Substance Abuse, Behavior Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors." Occupational Outlook Handbook. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, April 10, 2020.
<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/community-and-social-service/substance-abuse-behavioral-disorder-and-mental-health-counselors.htm>.

Sacred Heart University is accredited by the The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).



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Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Course List

Counseling Core Courses		Credits
COU 500	Introduction to the Counseling Profession & Introduction to Ethics	3
COU 510	Human Development	3
COU 520	Skills in Helping Relationships - Residency I	3
COU 530	Counseling Theories	3
COU 540	Social & Cultural Foundations	3
COU 550	Assessment & Assessment Techniques	3
COU 560	Psychopathology, Diagnostic Systems, & Advanced Assessments	3
COU 570	Career Counseling	3
COU 580	Research Methods & Program Evaluation	3
COU 590	Substance Use Disorders & Process Addictions	3
COU 600	Crisis & Trauma Assessment & Treatment	3
COU 610	Group Counseling	3
COU 620	Advanced Helping Skills - Residency II	3

Clinical Mental Health Counseling Core Courses		Credits
CMH 630	Professional Issues, Laws & Advanced Ethics in Clinical Mental Health	3
CMH 640	Treatment Planning & Integrative Models of Care	3
CMH 650	Practicum in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
CMH 660	Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
CMH 670	Advanced Internship in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3

Elective Courses

Specific electives are determined by the Intended State of Licensure. Choose 2 electives from the following list:

Specific electives are determined by the intended State of Licensure. Choose 2 electives from the following list:

		Credits
CMH 680	Advanced Internship II in Clinical Mental Health Counseling	3
COU 565	Counseling Couples, Families & Children	3
COU 575	Human Sexuality	3
COU 585	Counseling Special Populations	3
COU 665	Psychopharmacology & Advanced Psychopathology	3
COU 675	Consultation & Organizational Administration in Counseling	3

Faculty Bios

Franc Hudspeth

PhD, NCC, LPC-S (MS & AR), ACS, RPT-S, RPh, CPC

Program Director and Associate Professor



Dr. Franc Hudspeth received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology & French, Master of Education in Community Counseling, and Doctorate in Counselor Education & Supervision all from The University of Mississippi. He is currently an Associate Professor and Program Coordinator of Counseling at Sacred Heart University. Dr. Hudspeth has been a counselor educator for almost 11 years, has nearly 20 years of experience working in the mental health field, and over 30 years of experience as a pharmacist. He has spent much of his counselor education career designing and leading online counseling programs. His research specializations

include play therapy, neuroethics, neuroscience influences on counseling, trauma's impact on brain development, and psychopharmacology. Dr. Hudspeth is Editor of the International Journal of Play Therapy and Journal of Counselor Preparation and Supervision. He serves as Chair of the Foundation Board of Directors for the Association for Play Therapy, President-Elect of the Association for Creativity in Counseling, and Treasurer of the Military and Government Counseling Association.

Rebekah Byrd

PhD, LPC, (TN), LCMHC (NC), NCC, RPT-S, ACS

Coordinator of Clinical Experiences and Associate Professor



Dr. Rebekah Byrd received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Asheville. Both her master's and her PhD in Counselor Education from Old Dominion University and is currently an Associate Professor of Counseling and the Clinical Experiences Coordinator at Sacred Heart University. Dr. Byrd has been a counselor educator for almost 10 years and has almost 20 years of experience working in the mental health field in varying capacities and settings. Her research specialization falls primarily in issues pertaining to children and adolescent, play therapy, school counseling, social justice/multicultural concerns, self-injury, women's

wellness and Adlerian theory. She has edited a book on common encounters in school counseling and written many refereed journal articles and multiple book chapters. Dr. Byrd is a Licensed Professional Counselor (TN), a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (NC), a Licensed School Counselor (NC), an Approved Clinical Supervisor, a Nationally Certified Counselor, and a Registered Play Therapy Supervisor.



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Online SCPR – Master's Degree in Strategic Communications and Public Relations

Study Digital PR 100% Online

The need for communicators with skills to navigate today's complex media landscape is on the rise. Creating meaningful messages and strategic campaigns that resonate with diverse audiences is as important as ever in the digital world.

The Master of Arts in Strategic Communication and Public Relations will help you gain the experience, knowledge and portfolio you need to launch your career or advance your current skill set. You'll learn from a faculty of award-winning scholars and media professionals and gain valuable real-world experience through internships and projects.

In the SCPR program, students:

- Learn to use the latest multimedia tools and social media platforms
- Gain practical experience and build professional networks
- Leave with a portfolio that makes them stand out to potential employers

Career Outlook

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment opportunities for roles such as public relations specialists, event planners, and advertising, promotions and marketing managers will grow between 9 and 11 percent by 2026. The SCPR program opens doors to these roles in industries such as media relations, marketing, advertising and public relations.

Public Relations Specialists¹
(Median annual salary)

\$135,290

Marketing Managers²
(Median annual salary)

\$117,690

Advertising and Promotions Managers²
(Median annual salary)

\$108,060

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Online Master's Degree in Strategic Communications and Public Relations Curriculum

To ensure you acquire the advanced, professional skills necessary to communicate effectively across a variety of media platforms, the SCPR program emphasizes an applied learning model. All courses are online. This is a part-time program, requiring no GRE or GMAT, that gives students the flexibility to complete courses at their own pace, with an average completion time of two years.

SCPR Core Courses Credit Hours		Credit Hours
CM502	Strategic Communication in the Digital Age	3
CM646	Advertising, PR and Consumer Culture	3
CM597	The PR Agency in the Digital Age	3
CM503	Media Ethics in a Professional Context	3
CM660	Crisis Communication	3
CM599	Special Topics or	3
CM698	Mentorship/Portfolio I	3
CM519	Multi-Media Communications I	3
CM520	Multi-Media Communications II	3
CM549	Strategic Communication for Diverse Populations	3
CM640	Social Media and Strategic Communication	3
CM661	Corporate Communication	3
CM626	Capstone in Strategic Communication	3

About Sacred Heart University

- The University is regionally accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).
- U.S. News & World Report ranked Sacred Heart one of the top universities in the North from 2015 to 2019, and among the Best Colleges for Veterans (North region) from 2014 to 2019.
- Ranked among Best Online Programs by U.S. News & World Report in 2015 and 2016.
- The Princeton Review includes Sacred Heart in the latest edition of The Best 384 Colleges in 2019.

¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics (2017 May). Occupational Outlook Handbook: Public Relations Specialists. Accessed April 2, 2019, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/media-and-communication/public-relations-specialists.htm>.

² Bureau of Labor Statistics (2017 May). Occupational Outlook Handbook: Advertising, Promotions, and Marketing Managers. Accessed April 2, 2019, at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/management/advertising-promotions-and-marketing-managers.htm>.



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Lead From the Heart | Online Master of Social Work

Licensing and Leadership

Your CSWE-accredited MSW degree qualifies you to take the licensing exams that certify you to practice in the field. Immediately after graduation, you can sit for the Licensed Master of Social Work in Connecticut* and start to earn hours toward your clinical practice license (LCSW). You'll be well prepared to step into roles with responsibilities beyond your current level of practice and help clients overcome their personal challenges, cope with situational circumstances, and achieve a healthy state of mind.

Be a Force of Positive Change.

Deepen your level of practice with vulnerable populations and prepare to take on advanced practice roles in social work with the Master of Social Work (MSW) degree at Sacred Heart University (SHU). The program offers concentrations in Direct Clinical Practice or Direct Community Practice, but integrates components of both in each. This allows you to expand your practice in social service with advanced, comprehensive knowledge and practical skills.

Sacred Heart Online MSW Benefits

- **Best Colleges in the North**
— U.S. News & World Report, 2015, 2016, 2017
- **Best Online Graduate Nursing Programs**
— U.S. News & World Report, 2016, 2017
- **Institutions with the Best Online Programs**
— U.S. News & World Report, 2015, 2016
- **The Best 380 Colleges in 2016 and 2017**
— The Princeton Review
- **Three-time College of Distinction (2015-2017)**
— Among approximately 200 colleges and universities in the country recognized for outstanding student engagement, great teaching, vibrant communities, and successful student outcomes.

*Students are responsible for understanding the licensing requirements in the state in which they plan to practice.



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Online MSW Curriculum

The program consists of 60 credit hours and offers a concentration in Direct Community Practice or Direct Clinical Practice, integrating components of both in each. Students will be required to complete 1,100 hours of field work in order to graduate — after which they may sit for their Licensed Master of Social Work exam*.

MSW Core Courses

First Semester Credits

SW565	Social Welfare as a Social Institution	3
SW566	Human Behavior & The Social Environment I	3
SW524	Human Diversity and Social Justice	3
SW575	Social Work Generalist Practice I	3
SW578	Generalist Field Practicum I	
SW579	Generalist Field Practicum Seminar I	

Second Semester Credits

SW566	Social Welfare Policy & Services	3
SW568	Human Behavior & The Social Environment II	3
SW575	Inter-professional Education	3
SW576	Social Work Generalist Practice II	3
SW580	Generalist Field Practicum II	3
SW581	Generalist Field Practicum Seminar II	

Specialized Practice Courses

First Semester Credits

SW585	Assessment of Client Systems	3
SW586	Clinical Assessment & Diagnosis	3
SW590	Methods of Social Work Research	3
SW591	Research Practicum	3
SW675	Social Work Specialized Practice I	3
SW676	Social Work Specialized Practice II	3
SW678	Specialized Field Practicum I	3
SW680	Specialized Field Practicum II	3
SW679	Specialized Field Practicum Seminar I	
SW681	Specialized Field Practicum Seminar II	

Elective Courses Credits

SW500	Substance Abuse	3
SW550	Loss and Life Transition	3
SW555	Children & Families	3
SW560	Spirituality	3
SW565	Aging and Gerontology	3

Accreditation

The Sacred Heart University Master of Social Work program is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Additionally, Sacred Heart University is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), one of six associations in the United States that accredit schools and colleges.

About Sacred Heart University

Founded in 1963 in Fairfield, Connecticut, Sacred Heart University is dedicated to providing an affordable, quality education to the local and international community. The second-largest Catholic university in New England, SHU celebrates learning, discovery and the lifelong search for true meaning. Our programs are built on a foundation of the importance of critical thinking skills, the thoughtful consideration and analysis of situations, and the development of coherent conclusions. The University was built on the tradition of Judeo-Christian ethical values and our beliefs prepare students to make meaningful contributions to the world. We constantly strive to maintain a diverse community in an effort to support our students' educational and spiritual journeys.

*Licensure regulations vary by state. Students who plan to practice clinical social work in another state are encouraged to become familiar with that state's licensing regulations.



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Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

DR. SUSAN L. DAVIS, R.N.,
& RICHARD J. HENLEY
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Lead From the Heart

Online MSN

Specializations Available for In-Demand **NURSING ROLES**

THERE ARE MORE ROADS to LEADERSHIP with Sacred Heart University's online MSN. This graduate program takes your career to an influential level with one of our specializations — each one aligning to the employment trends in nursing. You'll readily manage the many challenges of health care today using new technologies and complex organizational structures.

Clinical Nurse Leader

Use a comprehensive view of patient care to lead an integrated team of health care professionals. This program prepares you to sit for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing CNL Certificate Exam.

Nursing Management & Executive Leadership

Use your clinical knowledge to improve administrative tasks and processes and ensure efficient and effective nursing care. Learn how to practice positive management with techniques and strategies tailored to the health care context.

Nursing Education

Coursework on teaching and learning strategies, curriculum design, and evaluation theory prepare you pass on your experience and teach the next generation of nurses and nurse leaders. This program prepares students to sit for the National League of Nursing (NLN) Nurse Educator Certification Exam.

Family Nurse Practitioner*

Learn to provide family-focused primary care, including diagnoses and prescriptions, to patients of all ages. This specialization prepares students to pass national certification examinations from the American Nurses Association (ANA) and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner*

Transform the lives of those with behavioral health conditions by developing advanced knowledge and skill in psychotherapy, psychopharmacology, substance use disorders, and more. Complete your MSN Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner degree in as few as 2.5 years as you prepare for licensure as an APRN in Psychiatric Mental Health.

Post-MSN Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certificate*

Designed for nurses with an MSN, this program can be completed in 15 months as you prepare for licensure as an APRN in Psychiatric Mental Health.

Post-MSN Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate

Become a Family Nurse Practitioner and fill a critical need for primary care providers with expertise in caring for clients throughout the lifespan in a myriad range of settings. Upon graduation, alumni are prepared for certification exams through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) and to take the next step in their nursing careers.



Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

* While all specializations are open to MSN students, the FNP and Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specialization involves a specialized set of courses not reflected on this program brochure, and has different admission requirements. Students interested in the FNP or Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specializations can request detailed information by calling (877) 791-7181 or visiting onlineprograms.sacredheart.edu/.



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Online MSN Curriculum

The program consists of 36 to 39 graduate semester credit hours combining core and specialization courses.

Core Courses Credits

NU 501	Health Care Policy & Ethics for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 530	Theory and Professional Roles for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 601	Principles of Health Care Research for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 602	Evidence-based Practice for Quality Care	3

Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Specialization Courses Credits

NU 550	Family and Community Context for Health Care	3
NU 553	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NU 554	Application of Comprehensive Health Assessment Methods	3
NU 575	Health Care Information Systems	3
NU 605	Pharmacology for the Nurse Leader	3
NU 611	Care Management and Resources Across the Continuum	3
NU 612	Disease Management and Outcomes Assessment	3
NU 680	CNL Role Immersion Practicum	3
NU 681	CNL Capstone	3

Nursing Management & Executive Leadership Specialization Courses Credits

NU 617	Health Care Delivery Systems	3
NU 511	Role Development for Nursing Management and Executive Leadership	3
NU 576	Management of Financial Resources	3
NU 575	Health Care Information Systems	3
NU 521	Creating a Professional Work Environment	3
NU 665	Quality and Safety in Practice	3
NU 672	Nursing Management and Executive Leadership Practicum	3
NU 673	Nursing Management and Executive Leadership Capstone	3

Nursing Education Specialization Courses Credits

NU 553	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NU 554	Application of Comprehensive Health Assessment Methods	3
NU 575	Health Care Information Systems	3
NU 588	Theoretical Basis for Teaching and Learning in Nursing Education	3
NU 589	Curriculum Development and Evaluation in Nursing Education	3
NU 605	Pharmacology for the Nurse Leader	3
NU 619	Principles of Patient and Staff Education	3
NU 690	Nursing Education Role Practicum	3
NU 691	Nursing Education Role Capstone	3

“Thanks to the hard work and dedication of my instructors at Sacred Heart, I feel prepared and confident in my ability to function as a CNL.”

—Jennifer S., MSN

More Features of SHU'S Online MSN

- SHU is ranked among the top 40 master's-level colleges and universities in the North — *U.S. News & World Report*.
- Award-winning faculty members share extensive clinical experience, scholarly credentials, and cutting-edge knowledge.

References

¹ Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 887-6791.



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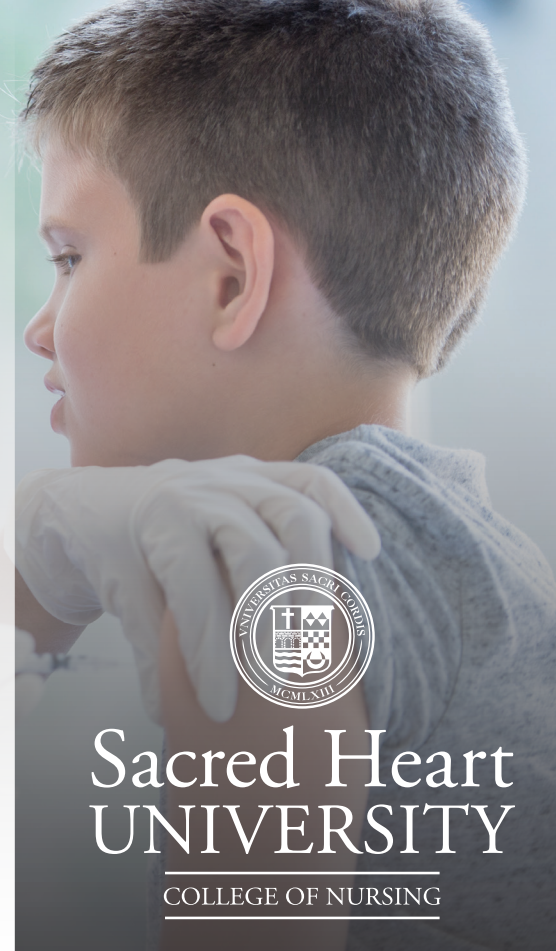
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Lead from the Heart.

Online MSN - Family Nurse Practitioner



Become a Primary Care Provider

More nurse practitioners are taking on primary care roles as autonomous providers or in collaboration with other health care professionals. Develop the advanced leadership skills and gain the clinical knowledge required to provide quality care to families and individuals with the **Family Nurse Practitioner** program, a specialization of the online **Master of Science in Nursing**.



Accredited by the Commission on
Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

Prepares you for the Family Nurse Practitioner certification exams offered by the American Nurses Association and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners

In the **Family Nurse Practitioner** program, students learn to:

- Perform advanced level patient assessments
- Develop diagnoses and order diagnostic testing
- Treat common illnesses

Career Outlook

Demand is growing for nurse practitioners, including FNP's: employment is expected to increase 34 percent between 2014 and 2024, driven in part by a renewed focus on prevention and an aging population.

Mean annual wage for nurse practitioners: **\$101,260¹**

FNP's work in many health care settings including physicians' offices, hospitals and outpatient clinics. The areas with the highest mean wages are²:

Personal care services (such as home health care)	\$135,290
Specialty hospitals (except psychiatric and substance abuse centers)	\$117,690
Business, professional, labor, political and similar organizations	\$108,060

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Family Nurse Practitioner Curriculum

To prepare you to serve as a primary care provider for families, the FNP curriculum emphasizes topics in primary care for individuals across the lifespan, as well as advanced studies for the nurse practitioner role. This is complemented by core Master of Science in Nursing coursework in health care policy and ethics, research and evidence-based practice.

Coursework is online except for an on-site orientation and two on-site competency/evaluation visits.

FNP Core Courses		Credit Hours
NU 501	Health Care Policy & Ethics for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 530	Theory and Professional Roles for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 603	Principles of Health Care Research for Evidence-Based Nursing Practice	3
FNP Specialization Courses		Credit Hours
NU 550	Family and Community Context for Healthcare	3
NU 551	Advanced Pharmacology for the Nurse Practitioner	3
NU 552	Advanced Health Assessment for the Nurse Practitioner	3
NU 561	Primary Care I: Comprehensive Primary Care of the Adult	6
NU 566	Advanced Pathophysiology for the Nurse Practitioner	3
NU 621	Primary Care II: Advanced Primary Care of Families in Complex Systems	7
NU 631	Primary Care III: Advanced Primary Care of Families in Complex Systems	8

About Sacred Heart University

With an expanded understanding of patient needs, a practical approach to learning and an award-winning faculty, Sacred Heart University (SHU) provides an engaging, values-driven nursing education that advances your career and empowers you to provide high-quality patient care

- The University is regionally accredited by The New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE).
- US News & World Report ranked Sacred Heart one of the top universities in the North in the 2018 edition of America's Best Colleges and is also ranked among the Best Colleges for Veterans (North region).
- The Princeton Review includes Sacred Heart in the latest edition of The Best 384 Colleges in 2018.

¹Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2016-17 Edition, <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/nurse-anesthetists-nurse-midwives-and-nurse-practitioners.htm> (visited 11/17/2016).

²Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Employment Statistics, Nurse Practitioners, <http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291171.htm>, (visited 11/17/16).



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Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF NURSING



Lead from the Heart

Online Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice

Prove Excellence With The Highest Nursing Credential

Earning your online Post-Master's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree from Sacred Heart University powers your progression into the most advanced leadership, teaching, clinical, and research roles the nursing profession has to offer. In the program, you'll build on the foundation of your master's-level training with the highest level of nursing knowledge and skills so you can set new standards in nursing practice to teach, lead, and heal.

Choose Your Leadership Path

The program is designed for master's prepared nurses: nurse practitioners, clinical nurse leaders, midwives, nurse anesthetists, nurse executives, and nurse educators. You'll focus on excellence in nursing and improving patient and population health outcomes as the basis to any future role you serve.

Post-Master's DNP Features

This program is ideal for academically-talented nurses who prefer a doctorate with a connection to clinical practice.

- **Talented Faculty**

You will enjoy small class sizes and receive practical, personal instruction from clinically-active, doctoral-level faculty who have received state and national recognition for expertise in their specific fields.

- **Flexible Scheduling**

24/7 online study and weekend residencies designed specifically for working-nurse professionals allow you to learn and grow in a more convenient manner.

- **Highly Ranked**

Sacred Heart University is ranked among The Princeton Review's "Best 380 Colleges" and as a U.S. News & World Report Top University in the North for 2015.



Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).

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Post-Master's DNP Curriculum

In addition to these online courses, students will also be required to complete 3 to 4 day residencies during their first and second years of study, with the option for an additional residency during the third.

DNP Core Courses		Credit Hours
NU 700	Theoretical Components of Nursing Science	3
NU 710	Health Care Policy, Advocacy and Ethics	3
NU 720	Leading Quality Initiative and Information Systems in Health Care	3
NU 735	Clinical Scholarship & Analytical Methods for Evidence Based Practice I	3
NU 740	Epidemiology and Population Health	3
NU 755	Clinical Scholarship & Analytical Methods for Evidence-Based Practice II	3
NU 760	Strategic Leadership and Collaboration in Health Care	3
NU 770	Advanced Care of Special Populations	3
NU 780	Leadership in Chronic Disease Management and Aging Population	3

Post-Master's DNP Project Courses Credits		Credit Hours
NU 721	DNP Project Topic Development	1
NU 722	DNP Project Methodology Development	1
NU 723	DNP Project Proposal Review	1
NU 724	DNP Project: Responsible Conduct of Research	1
NU 725	DNP Project Implementation and Data Analysis	1
NU 726	Final DNP Project Presentation, Dissemination and Evaluation	1
NU 810	DNP Scholarship and Advanced Practice I	3
NU 820	DNP Scholarship and Advanced Practice II	3

Elective Courses		Credit Hours
NU 781	Palliative Care	3
NU 782	Executive Leadership	3

Over the course of the three-year program, all Post-Master's DNP students will also select, develop, and present a doctoral project.



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Lead From the Heart

Online RN-BSN

Grow the Heart of a Healer

Welcome to the nursing degree that focuses on the Human Journey. Sacred Heart University's online RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program provides you, of course, with the knowledge you need to succeed in today's demanding health care environment. But what sets us apart is our ability to further develop your understanding and skill in how you can deliver the personal touch in care that's at the heart of the profession, even when you've already proven excellence in this realm.

We offer you our signature core curriculum, The Human Journey, which dives into what it means to be human through literature, philosophy, sociology and more. You'll gain an innate understanding of the needs of your patients and their families to intuitively and effortlessly provide an optimum care experience.

When we combine our signature core curriculum with leading-edge coursework in nursing practice, small classes, and interactive, personal attention from an experienced, award-winning faculty, you'll find you're able to lead with your heart.

Online RN-BSN Highlights

Discover the Human Journey at the heart of our RN-BSN program. Sacred Heart has provided comprehensive and innovative nursing degree programs grounded in healing and humanity since 1980.

- **Experience and Vision**

Our faculty has years of experience in the field and is well-grounded in developments in both health care and state-of-the-art educational methods.

- **Flexibility and Convenience**

The innovative online format makes it easier to arrange your course load around your schedule.

- **Personal Attention**

Class sizes are kept small to ensure you receive the personalized attention you learn to deliver.



Sacred Heart University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. (NEASC) through its Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.



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Online RN-BSN Curriculum

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree requires 120 semester credit hours: 14 semester credit hours of prerequisite courses, 49 semester credit hours of other liberal arts and sciences requirements, and 57 credit hours in the Nursing major.

Prerequisite Courses to Nursing Sequence

Credits

	Social and Behavioral Science	3
BI 126	Anatomy & Physiology I	3
BI 127	Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1
BI 128	Anatomy & Physiology II	3
BI 129	Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1
MA 131	Statistics for Decision Making	3

Foundational Core – University and Nursing Requirements

Credits

FS 103	Freshman Seminar (Academic Writing)	3
FLO 125	The Art of Thinking	3
	Natural Science	3
ENG 260	Literature of Illness and Healing	3
HI 100	History	3
PH 221	Historical Survey of Philosophy	3
TRS 265	Intro to World Religions	3
	Art/Media Studies	3
	Social Science	3
MA 101	Modern College Mathematics I	3

Catholic Intellectual Tradition Seminars

Credits

CIT 201	Catholic Intellectual Tradition Seminar	3
CIT 202	Catholic Intellectual Tradition Seminar	3

Thematic Liberal Arts Core

Credits

	Humanities: Ethics	3
	Social Science	3
	Natural Science	4

Elective

Credits

	Elective	3
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Nursing Major Requirements Validation Of Prior Learning

Credits

NU 290	Validation of Prior Learning	30
NU 305	Transition to Professional Practice	3
NU 315	The Human Journey in Nursing	3
NU 325	Health Assessment for RNs	3
NU 335	Information Technology for Nursing Practice	3
NU 345	Evidence Based Practice	3
NU 355	Leadership in Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 376	Care Management: Individuals and Families	4
NU 387	Populations and Global Health	5

Transferring Credits

As of 1986, the State of Connecticut's RN to BSN Articulation program allows students to transfer 30 credits for lower division undergraduate nursing coursework. Students who graduated before 1986 may also be awarded 30 credits for an associate's degree in nursing (ADN). Students may transfer up to 90 credits toward the RN-BSN degree.

Transfer credit for these courses may be applied on review of a student's transcripts and is at the discretion of the Sacred Heart University College of Nursing. Prerequisite courses are not offered at SHU.

About Sacred Heart University

Founded in 1963 in Fairfield, Connecticut, Sacred Heart University is dedicated to providing an affordable, quality education to the local and international community. The second-largest Catholic university in New England, SHU celebrates learning, discovery and the lifelong search for true meaning. Our programs are built on a foundation of the importance of critical-thinking skills, the thoughtful consideration and analysis of situations, and the development of coherent conclusions. The University was built on the tradition of Judeo-Christian ethical values and our beliefs prepare students to make meaningful contributions to the world. We constantly strive to maintain a diverse community in an effort to support our students' educational and spiritual journeys.



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Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

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Lead From the Heart

Online RN-BSN-MSN

Earn Two Degrees in One Program

Accelerate your path towards nursing leadership, create meaningful connections with your patients and obtain your BSN and MSN in one continuous course of study. If you have a diploma or associate's degree in nursing, this accredited program provides you with a faster route to a Master of Science in Nursing and more career opportunities. You will save money and time, as this program allows you to take graduate-level courses at the undergraduate level and tuition rate.

Specializations

This graduate program takes your career to an influential level with one of three specializations — each one aligning to the employment trends in nursing. You'll readily manage the many challenges of health care today using new technologies and complex organizational structures.

1. Clinical Nurse Leader

Use a comprehensive view of patient care to lead an integrated team of health care professionals. This program prepares you to sit for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing CNL Certificate Exam.

2. Nursing Management & Executive Leadership

Use your clinical knowledge to improve administrative tasks and processes and ensure efficient and effective nursing care. Learn how to practice positive management with techniques and strategies tailored to the health care context.

3. Nursing Education

Coursework on teaching and learning strategies, curriculum design, and evaluation theory prepare you to pass on your experience and teach the next generation of nurses and nurse leaders. This program prepares students to sit for the National League of Nursing (NLN) Nurse Educator Certification Exam.

Program Highlights

Sacred Heart has provided comprehensive and innovative nursing degree programs grounded in healing and humanity since 1980. Small classes, rigorous coursework, and interactive attention from our award-winning faculty prepares you to stand out in today's complex healthcare industry.

• Experience and Vision

Our faculty has years of experience in the field and stays current in the developments of health care and state-of-the-art educational methods.

• Flexibility and Convenience

The innovative online format makes it easier to arrange your course load around your schedule.

• Personal Attention

Class sizes are kept small to ensure you receive the personalized attention you learn to deliver.



All of Sacred Heart's nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), and Sacred Heart University is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).



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Online RN-BSN-MSN Curriculum

The RN-BSN-MSN program at Sacred Heart University allows you to earn your BSN degree on the way to your master's. You may transfer up to 90 credits toward the RN-BSN portion of the degree, and you'll take four fewer classes in completing the MSN degree, all of which allows you to graduate faster.

Foundational Core – University & Nursing Requirements

Credits

FS 103	Freshman Seminar (Academic Writing)	3
FLO 125	The Art of Thinking	3
	Natural Science	3
ENG 260	Literature of Illness and Healing	3
HI 100	History	3
PH 221	Historical Survey of Philosophy	3
TRS 265	Intro to World Religions	3
	Art/Media Studies	3
	Social Science	3
MA 101	Modern College Mathematics I	3

Catholic Intellectual Tradition Seminars

Credits

CIT 201	Catholic Intellectual Tradition Seminar	3
CIT 202	Catholic Intellectual Tradition Seminar	3

Prerequisite Courses to Nursing Sequence

Credits

	Social and Behavioral Science	3
BI 126	Anatomy & Physiology I	3
BI 127	Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1
BI 128	Anatomy & Physiology II	3
BI 129	Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1
MA 131	Statistics for Decision Making	3

Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Specialization Courses

Credits

NU 550	Family and Community Context for Health Care	3
NU 553	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NU 554	Application of Comprehensive Health Assessment Methods	3
NU 575	Health Care Information Systems	3
NU 605	Pharmacology for the Clinical Nurse Leader	3
NU 611	Care Management and Resources Across the Continuum	3
NU 612	Disease Management and Outcomes Assessment	3
NU 680	CNL Role Immersion Practicum	3
NU 681	CNL Capstone	3

Thematic Liberal Arts Core

Credits

	Humanities: Ethics	3
	Social Science	3
	Natural Science	4

Electives

Credits

	Elective	3
	Elective	3

Nursing Major Requirements Validation of Prior Learning

Credits

NU 290	Validation of Prior Learning	30
NU 325	Health Assessment for RNs	3
NU 376	Care Management: Individuals and Families	4
NU 387	Populations and Global Health	5
NU 401	Health Care Policy and Ethics for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 430	Principles of Health Care Research for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 431	Evidence Based Practice for Quality Care	3
NU 433	Theory and Professional Roles for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3

Nursing Management & Executive Leadership Specialization Courses

Credits

NU 617	Health Care Delivery Systems	3
NU 511	Role Development for Nursing Management and Executive Leadership	3
NU 576	Management of Financial Resources	3
NU 575	Health Care Information Systems	3
NU 521	Creating a Professional Work Environment	3
NU 665	Quality and Safety in Practice	3
NU 672	Nursing Management and Executive Leadership Practicum	3
NU 673	Nursing Management and Executive Leadership Capstone	3

Nursing Education Specialization Courses

Credits

NU 553	Advanced Pathophysiology	3
NU 554	Application of Comprehensive Health Assessment Methods	3
NU 555	Pharmacology for the Nurse Educator	3
NU 575	Health Care Information Systems	3
NU 588	Theoretical Basis for Teaching and Learning in Nursing Education	3
NU 589	Curriculum Development and Evaluation in Nursing Education	3
NU 619	Principles of Patient and Staff Education	3
NU 690	Nursing Education Role Practicum	3
NU 691	Nursing Education Role Capstone	3



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Sacred Heart UNIVERSITY

Build Your Expertise with Specialized Nursing Skills

Online Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Programs

The online MSN in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (MSN–PMHNP) degree at Sacred Heart University prepares you with the advanced skills and knowledge to transform the health of patients with behavioral health conditions. Our talented faculty will guide you throughout the program as you learn to apply advanced assessment, diagnosis and treatment plans to patients' unique needs through psychotherapy, psychopharmacologic management, and other modalities to address mental health and substance use disorders. Your abilities will span the lifespan and mental health setting, including inpatient, outpatient, and emergency care of pediatric, adult, geriatric clients and families.

Sacred Heart also holds opportunities for nurses who have already earned a non-psychiatric MSN degree. Our online post-MSN PMHNP Certificate is a 21-credit, four-semester program that gives you space to expand your master's level knowledge with a mental health nursing focus. Upon graduation, you will be capable of providing care in the fashion of a true Sacred Heart nurse—in mind, body and spirit.

Immerse Yourself in Experiential Education

Sacred Heart University's MSN–Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and Post-Master's Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner programs provide the flexibility of online courses and allow you to apply your learning hands-on. With valuable in-person residencies and 540 hours of clinical immersion, you will graduate with the conceptual and practical mastery needed to take the next step in your nursing career.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program Features

- **Licensure Preparation**
Prepare for licensure as an APRN in Psychiatric Mental Health.
- **Advanced Credentials**
Complete your MSN PMHNP in 2.5 years and complete your Post-MSN PMHNP in 15 months.
- **Highly Ranked**
Sacred Heart University is ranked in the top 100 online MSN programs by *U.S. News & World Report*¹.



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Online Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Curriculum

Students in the MSN Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program will complete 11 courses (7 core and 4 concentration courses) for a total of 42 credit hours. Students in the Post-MSN Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program will complete 4 concentration courses for a total of 21 credit hours.

CORE COURSES

Credits

NU 501	Healthcare Policy and Ethics for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 530	Theory & Professional Roles for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 603	Theory & Professional Roles for Contemporary Nursing Practice	3
NU 566	Advanced Pathophysiology for the Nurse Practitioner	3
NU 551	Advanced Pharmacology for the Nurse Practitioner	3
NU 552	Advanced Health Assessment for the Nurse Practitioner	3
NU 550	Family & Community Context for Health Care	3

Students in the Post-MSN Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program will complete 4 concentration courses for a total of 21 credit hours.

Concentration Courses

Credits

NU 509	Advanced Psychopharmacology for the PMHNP	3
NU 571 PMHNP I	Role Development of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner	6
NU 572 PMHNP II	The Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner's Role with Children and Their Families	6
NU 573 PMHNP III	Advanced Role Development of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner in Complex Systems	6



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¹Best Online Programs. *U.S. News & World Report*. Retrieved Apr. 21, 2023 from <https://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/sacred-heart-university-ONUR0289/nursing>.

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