COLLEGE OF NURSING

Administrative Officers
Interim Dean - Regina Bentley, Ed.D., M.S.N., R.N., C.N.E.
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs - Debra Matthews, Ph.D., R.N.
Associate Dean for Student Affairs - Kathryn McCallum, M.S.N., R.N.
Associate Dean for Finance and Administration - Shirley Davidson, M.B.A.
Assistant Dean for Academic Studies – Brian Holland, Ph.D., R.N.

General Statement
Registered nurses have been called the backbone of our health care system. Working on the front lines of health care, they treat patients, monitor and record their condition, help establish a plan of care, educate patients or the public about a health condition, and provide advice and emotional support to patients' family members. Registered nurses are highly observant and detail-oriented and are often the first to catch important and changing signs and symptoms. They are increasingly being recognized as leaders in transforming the health care system to meet the burgeoning demand for prevention, wellness and primary care services with a focus on improving quality and managing costs. In addition to their clinical expertise, nurses are being sought out to serve in a variety of leadership posts on bodies developing policy recommendations related to a wide-range of health care policy issues.

Individuals who earn a nursing degree must first complete a national licensing examination in order to obtain a nursing license for practice. Further training or education can qualify nurses to work in specialty areas, such as emergency care, pediatrics, labor and delivery, mental health, oncology, surgery or public health. Graduate education can increase advancement opportunities for nurses including administrative positions in health care, academic faculty positions, and health care delivery as advanced practice nurses.

The College of Nursing is committed to addressing the critical nursing shortage across Texas through exceptional educational programs and advanced technologies in nursing. Our students are educated with cutting-edge classroom technologies and simulated experiences, which include standardized patients and virtual clinical learning activities. As leaders, our graduates are taught to question traditional methods and continually seek the best practices based on relevant clinical research. Through community service and leadership opportunities, the College of Nursing fosters a sense of social responsibility and global citizenship.

History
Texas A&M College of Nursing received approval from the Texas Board of Nursing on July 17, 2008, and admitted its first class on July 21, 2008. The inaugural class on the Bryan Campus included 22 Traditional and 22 Second-Degree Bachelor of Science in nursing (BSN) students.

In spring of 2018, the college had grown to approximately 450 nursing students enrolled at two campuses and locations: Bryan and Round Rock. The college also has a resident recruiting presence in Lufkin and McAllen serving residents in East and South Texas, for both undergraduate and graduate nursing students.

The college's undergraduate nursing students are enrolled in one of three tracks: Traditional BSN, Second-Degree BSN or RN-to-BSN. Graduate students in the College of Nursing are pursuing master-of-science (MSN) degree programs in Nursing Education, Forensic Nursing or Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP). A Graduate Certificate in Forensic Health Care is offered for master’s-prepared health care workers, protective service investigators/case workers, social workers, law enforcement, prosecutors and other professions who wish to assist victims of violence and trauma.

Texas A&M College of Nursing graduates are among the best-prepared baccalaureate and masters nurses in the nation, and they are highly sought after by prospective employers. The first-time National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses® (NCLEX-RN) pass rates for BSN graduates have ranked 10 percentage points higher than both the Texas and national average for the past ten years. And, the percent of BSN graduates employed within the first month following graduation is consistently high compared to state and national averages. Additionally, the first-time passing rates on certification board exams for graduates of the FNP degree program are significantly above the national average.

In recognition of this standard of excellence, the college received the National League of Nursing’s prestigious designation as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education for the years 2016-2020, and in 2017 was ranked the #1 nursing program in Texas by RegisteredNursing.org (https://www.registerednursing.org).

College of Nursing Programs
Program: Baccalaureate degree in nursing
Length: 12 to 23 months
General Admissions Requirements: Prerequisite coursework varies by program
Application Deadline: Varies depending on program of study
Start Term: Varies depending on program of study
Specialization, Program of Study: BSN Traditional Track, BSN Second Degree Track, RN to BSN Track
Degree: BSN.

Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing
The College of Nursing offers three tracks that lead to a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. Upon obtaining the BSN degree, the prelicensure graduates will apply to take the registered nurse (RN) licensure examination. In order to be licensed as a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas, the Texas Board of Nursing requires all applicants to have their eligibility for licensure determined before entering a nursing degree program. All new students must undergo fingerprinting to determine if there is prior criminal history. Depending on the severity of the offense(s), individuals may be ineligible for issuance of a license. Please refer to the Notification for Students Pursuing an Occupational License (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/appendices/occupational-licensing) in our catalog for additional information.

Accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is an autonomous accrediting agency, contributing to the improvement of the public’s health. A specialized/professional accrediting agency, CCNE ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs and of post-baccalaureate nurse residency programs. The baccalaureate and master’s degree programs in nursing at Texas A&M University College of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.
Good Academic Standing
Good academic standing is defined as having a minimum grade point average of a 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale), maintaining a minimum grade of C in all courses, and non-probationary status. Students must be in good academic standing in order to progress in the program. Grades of D, F, or U are not acceptable in nursing courses. Students who receive a grade of D, F or U in any course in any given semester will be automatically placed on probation and notified in writing of probation status. The student will remain on probation until the course is repeated with a C or better. The course can only be taken through the Texas A&M College of Nursing. A second attempt in a course cannot be “Q” dropped. The grade earned on the second attempt will stand. Students who earn a grade of D or F upon repetition of a nursing course or have two nursing course failures are ineligible to continue enrollment in the College.

Students must complete the program to which they enrolled in three (3) consecutive years or six (6) long semesters. Exceptions for extenuating circumstances (i.e. serious illness, pregnancy, etc.) will be considered. In addition to obtaining grades of C or above in all nursing courses, students must demonstrate their ability to deliver safe care to patients at all times. Failure to provide safe patient care may result in immediate withdrawal from the course and, potentially, dismissal from the College of Nursing.

Academic Dismissal
Students will not be permitted to continue in the nursing program or apply for readmission if they:
1. receive a grade of D or F in more than one course,
2. receive any combination of grades of D or F on two attempts of the same course, or
3. receive notice of dismissal from the program by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or the Associate Dean for Student Affairs for failure to adhere to College of Nursing policy.

Nursing Professional Code of Ethics
Students in nursing and other health professions curricula are held to standards of conduct that both differ from and exceed those usually expected of university students. Each student enrolled in the College of Nursing is expected to uphold the professional code of ethics established for and by the nursing profession. The nurse recognizes that his/her first obligation is to the patient’s welfare.

Any situation that threatens patient safety, exhibits a lack of moral character, demonstrates a lack of professionalism or good judgment, and/or proves harmful to the hospital or college environment is a violation of College/Hospital policy and may result in immediate termination from the program.

Compliance Requirements for Clinical Courses
Students must provide documentation confirming completion of compliance requirements prior to participating in clinical nursing courses. Information on requirements is provided upon admission and during New Student Orientation.

Locations
The Bryan/College Station campus serves as the headquarters of the Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Nursing. The 200-acre campus is located along State Highway 47 approximately three miles west of the main campus of Texas A&M University. The College of Nursing campus in Round Rock, Texas, provides a state-of-the-art 134,000 -square-foot structure with classrooms, a simulation center, library, study lounge, student services and faculty offices. Additionally, the College of Nursing has two advising locations: Lufkin and McAllen, Texas.

Bryan/College Station Campus
8447 State Highway 47
Bryan, TX 77807-3260
(979) 436-0110
nursing.tamhsc.edu

Round Rock Campus
3950 North A. W. Grimes Blvd.
Round Rock, TX 78665
(512) 341-4200
McAllen Advising Location
2101 South McColl Road
McAllen, TX 78503
(956) 668-6328

Lufkin Advising Location
Angelina College, Health Careers Building
3500 South 1st Street, Room #H110
Lufkin, TX 75904
936-633-3293

Faculty
Authement, Renae S, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, Loyola University, 2015

Bentley, Regina L, Clinical Associate Professor
College of Nursing
EDD, Auburn University, 2004

Berger, Valerie L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MSN, Drexel University, 2008

Bonner, Rickie, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, Regis University, 2012

Bosenbark, Margaret J, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Nursing, 2016

Bruce, Richard C, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MS, University of Phoenix, 2012

Burns, Rebecca J, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, Loyola University New Orleans, 2015
Cehand, Kayla R, Lecturer
College of Nursing
BSN, University of Texas Arlington, 2014

Charles, Laurie A, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
CERT, Office of the Attorney General of Texas, 2016

Contreras, Nicola E, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MSN, Grand Canyon University, 2015

Deavers, Wren A, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, 2014

Decker, Willa A, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MA, University of Houston - Clear Lake, 1989

Dormire, Sharon L, Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, University of Florida, 1992

Downing, Nancy, Associate Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, The University of Iowa, 2010

Ehlert, Patricia L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MS, University of Phoenix, 2004

Gary, Jodie C, Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, University of Texas at Tyler, 2012

Gruben, Darla A, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, The University of Texas Health Science Center, 1999

Hare, Martha L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, Texas Tech University Health Science Center, 2010

Hazel, Michael, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, Texas Tech University Health Science Center, 2010

Hepfer, Katie L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, The University of Iowa, 2016

Hoffman, Matt F, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, The University of Iowa, 2016

Holcomb, Jill L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, 2010

Hutton, Michael W, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MSN, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, 1990

Johnson, Carrie A, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 2009

Jones-Schubart, Kara, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, George Washington University, 2011

Kosarek, Jane G, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MBA, University of Dallas, 1997

Landman, Whitney E, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, Western Governor’s University, 2016

Malecha, Ann T, Clinical Associate Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, Texas Woman's University, 1999

Matthews, Debra, Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, Washington University, 2014

McKee, Susan J, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MSN, University of Texas at Tyler, 2012

Mitchell, Stacey A, Clinical Associate Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, University of Tennessee Health Science Center, 2006

Montalvo-Liendo, Nora, Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 2009

Muellerhinze, Maxine L, Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, The University of Texas - Austin, 1988

Mufich, Martin W, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, The University of Texas at Austin, 2015

Mulcahy, Angela M, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, University of North Dakota, 2012

OBriant, Deborah L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MSN, Texas Tech University Health Science Center, 2007

Page, Robin L, Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PHD, University of Texas at Austin, 2006

Parrott, Thena E, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PhD, Texas A&M University, 1993
Pickett, Laura A, Lecturer
College of Nursing
MSN, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, 2017

Pittman, Alison F, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
PhD, University of Texas at Tyler, 2017

Pullium, Cheryl L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, Texas Christian University, 2006

Roblyer, Kathleen A, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2015

Rosen, Chelsey L, Lecturer
College of Nursing
BSN, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 2014

Scott, Lindsey L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MSN, Grand Canyon University, 2014

Seaback, Wanda F, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, Texas Women’s University, 2005

Sheridan, Daniel J, Professor
College of Nursing
PhD, Oregon Health Sciences University, 1998

Simon, Ashley N, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, Texas A&M Health Science Center, 2016

Turnbow, Sonia L, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, The University of Texas at El Paso, 1995

Utterback, Virginia A, Associate Professor
College of Nursing
PhD, Texas Tech University, 2010

Van, Suzanne M, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, University of Texas at El Paso, 2014

Watkins, Katherine, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, The University of Texas-Austin, 2004

Wells-Beede, Elizabeth R, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MS, University of Phoenix, 2010

Weston, Cynthia G, Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
DNP, University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio, 2014

White-Corey, Shelley J, Clinical Assistant Professor
College of Nursing
MNU, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 2011

Wilkerson, Sharon A, Senior Professor
College of Nursing
PhD, Wayne State University, 1982

**Majors**

**College of Nursing**

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing, RN to BSN Track (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/nursing/rn-bsn)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Second Degree BSN Track (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/nursing/second-degree-bsn)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Traditional BSN (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/nursing/bsn)

**Masters**

**College of Nursing**

- Master of Science in Nursing in Family Nurse Practitioner (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn-family-practitioner)
- Master of Science in Nursing in Forensic Nursing (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn-forensic-nursing)
- Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing Education (http://catalog.tamu.edu/graduate/colleges-schools-interdisciplinary/nursing/msn)