Learn more about our faculty
www.nursing.ucdenver.edu/faculty

Top 5 Reasons to Attend the CU College of Nursing

1. Nationally recognized in PhD nursing education since 1978
2. Distinguished faculty researchers/scholars to mentor you
3. Distance-accessible learning format
4. Resources of state-of-the-art Anschutz Medical Campus, including the Colorado Clinical & Translational Sciences Institute (CCTSI) and opportunities for interprofessional collaboration
5. NEXus collaborative of universities who share online graduate courses

Contact Us
We are happy to answer questions about the PhD program. Call 303-724-8503 or e-mail nursing.admissions@ucdenver.edu.

University of Colorado
College of Nursing

areas of focus

Biobehavioral Science Focus

If you are interested in health and illness and the interrelationships among their psychosocial, behavioral and biological processes, consider the biobehavioral science focus. As a nurse scientist in this area, you will research the prevention, progression or management of a disease, symptom or other health state across the lifespan.

You will study with faculty experts in your specific clinical area of interest – children and families, women’s health, maternal/newborn, or adult and senior health.

As a student in either focus area, you will study many methods of scientific inquiry and you will have the opportunity to specialize in either quantitative or qualitative research methods.

Health Care Systems Focus

If you are interested in health care delivery systems in a variety of care settings, organizations, populations, communities, and outcomes, consider the health care systems focus. You will examine the interrelationships among context, care delivery and information systems with the goal of improving population health, safety and quality systems.

Students in this area will study with faculty experts in health services research, population based quality of life, informatics and healthcare outcomes.
Distinguished Faculty

As a student, you will study with renowned researchers and scholars in your area of focus. Faculty include:

- Nationally funded researchers
- Editors of major nursing journals
- Fellows of the American Academy of Nursing and other prestigious academic organizations
- Endowed professors and faculty chairs
- Scholars with joint academic-clinical appointments
- Faculty recognized for excellence in teaching and mentorship

Learning Formats to Match Your Needs

- Distance-accessible online learning.
- One-two week intensive time on campus each semester to work with faculty and fellow students, which provides opportunities to use a variety of campus resources.
- Opportunities for a broad array of online doctoral courses through the Nursing Education Exchange (NEXus) collaborative of universities (www.winexus.org). These distance-accessible courses offer exciting electives to support your dissertation.

Frequently Asked Questions

If I want to teach nursing, should I get a PhD in education instead of nursing?

Just as a history professor is expected to be prepared in history, a nursing professor is best prepared with a PhD in nursing. Our areas of research specialty are health care systems and biobehavioral science. Courses in nursing education are available from CU and NEXus as electives.

How long will it take to complete my PhD?

The coursework is designed to be completed in two to three years. The dissertation research typically takes another 12 to 24 months.

How focused must my research topic be before I apply?

Your research interest should be as focused as possible because it will dictate whether you choose to study health care systems or biobehavioral science. Our faculty is available to discuss your research ideas with you before you apply.

www.nursing.ucdenver.edu/phd