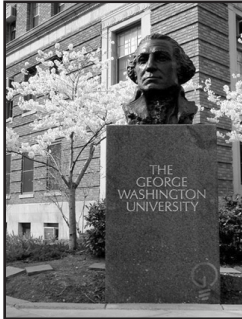


END-OF-LIFE CARE

THE OVERVIEW

Caring for a chronically ill or dying person and dealing with grief or bereavement takes more than a willing and compassionate spirit. These issues touch all our lives and sadly, many of us, including professional and lay care providers, are ill equipped to know what to do, what to say or how to respond to the needs of our patients, congregants, or loved ones as they embark on these life-altering journeys. Our effectiveness in addressing these complex responsibilities can be enhanced by the knowledge and insights gained through the End-of-Life Care Program.

With a growing demand for academically trained nurses who specialize in end-of-life care, the master's program at GW has developed a reputation for utilizing students' professional and personal experiences with grief and loss to prepare graduates to meet the needs of the dying, their families, and the community.



The GW Department of Nursing Education was formed in 2004.

The End-of-Life Care Program course work is delivered using a distance-education format, as well as selected on-campus experiences. Topics include the business of dying; spiritual care; caring for caregivers; children and loss; and palliative care for nurses. An optional summer institute that highlights current issues in end-of-life care and draws speakers from around the country allows students the opportunity to expand their scope of knowledge alongside some of the top palliative experts in the country.

Master of Science in Nursing Programs at The George Washington University were created to develop nursing leaders who will be actively engaged in health promotion, patient advocacy and health care innovation at local, national and global levels. Through rigorous scholarship and collaboration with faculty and student colleagues, these academic programs will enable the nursing student to achieve a high level of expertise and leadership skills.

THE METHOD

Emphasis throughout the course of study is on interdisciplinary teamwork and effective communication across health settings and systems of care. The faculty believe that optimal learning occurs when education is student centered and adult learners are recognized for their professional knowledge, life experience, and self-reflection that serve as a resource for their patients, colleagues and the healthcare system.

The primary mode of educational delivery is through Web-based distance education, as well as selected on-campus experiences that range from three to five days. This combination of distance-based learning and on-campus activities will help the working professional nurse achieve the goal of advanced education in nursing.

Students also have access to all campus services, and the Department of Nursing Education's staff and faculty members are available to assist students in negotiating all aspects of the university system.

THE FINANCING

Department of Nursing Education tuition rates are calculated on a per-credit basis, which offers students many options on financing their education. Among them are:

- **Financial aid:** Students may be eligible for financial aid through student loan programs. To learn more, visit <http://cfs.gwu.edu/sfa/>.
- **Scholarships:** Some states offer scholarships and fellowships for students pursuing a post-baccalaureate degree.
- **Tuition reimbursement:** Many business and government organizations will help pay for your tuition.

THE FORMAT

Our distance-education programs are similar to an on-campus experience: Students follow regular semester schedules and are required to buy textbooks, work on group assignments, and complete final exams or projects. However, there are several benefits to online studying:

- It provides an opportunity to pursue a formal, academic degree or certificate from the convenience of your own home or office site.
- Classes are conducted in flexible, convenient, and interactive formats to allow easy access to course materials, faculty, health care and research experts, as well as other students' expertise.
- Courses may use videotapes, audiotapes, Internet research, printed study guides, textbooks and/or CD-ROMs, conference calls, I-Chats, and synchronous discussions.
- Distance education offers options for busy adult learners with competing professional, personal, and financial commitments.
- Selected on-campus experiences give students the opportunity to visit campus and utilize their skills during course seminars. Students also get to meet their classmates and instructors, all while in the nation's capital.



Located in GW University Hospital, the Department of Nursing Education is at the heart of the D.C. medical community.

THE PROGRAM

Graduates of the End-of-Life Care Program must successfully complete 36 semester hours of course work. Students may enter the program as a full- or part-time student. The program admits for fall and spring semesters.

The End-of-Life Care Summer Institute is held every summer in mid-July. The three-day event provides students with an opportunity to participate in a unique on-campus experience and draws nationally recognized experts in the palliative care field. Students are highly encouraged to attend. More information about the institute is available at www.eolcsummerinstitute.com.

* NOTE: Classes designated with an asterisk have an on-campus component. These experiences are held during the summer, and students are generally given notice at least six months in advance. Additional on-campus activities may be required during the course of the program.

Students begin their program with 12 credits of professional core classes and 6 credits of research classes:

Nurs 201	Theoretical Foundations of Nursing	[3]
Nurs 202	Concepts in Population Health	[3]
Nurs 203	*Nursing Leadership	[3]
Hsci 241	Healthcare Enterprise	[3]
Hsci 270	Research Methods for Health Professionals I	[3]
Hsci 271	Research Methods for Health Professionals II	[3]

Students must complete 15 credits of required field courses:

ELC 201	Grief and Bereavement	[3]
ELC 202	Spiritual Care	[3]
ELC 203	The Business of Dying	[3]
Nurs 256	Introduction to Palliative Care	[3]
Nurs 275	Leadership and Change in Nursing	[3]

Students choose one 3-credit elective as part of their program.

ELC 204	Living and Dying: Midlife to Older Adulthood	[3]
ELC 205	Children and Loss	[3]
ELC 206	Caring for Caregivers	[3]

For more information about the EOL Program, please contact:

Department of Nursing Education: 900 23rd St. NW, Suite 6167, Washington, DC 20037
T: 202-994-7901 • F: 202-994-2777 • E: nursing@gwumc.edu • W: www.gwumc.edu/healthsci/

Here's one way to earn a Master of Science in Nursing degree in just six semesters in the Department of Nursing Education.

NOTE: This program is based on fall entry and taking two courses per semester. Course semester offerings are subject to change.

Year 1 Fall Semester

Nurs 202
Concepts in Population Health
ELC 201
Grief and Bereavement

Spring Semester

Nurs 201
Foundations in Nursing
Hsci 241
Healthcare Enterprise

Summer Semester

*Nurs 203
Nursing Leadership
ELC 202
Spiritual Care

Year 2 Fall Semester

Nurs 256
Palliative Care
Hsci 270
Research Methods I

Spring Semester

ELC 203
The Business of Dying
Hsci 271
Research Methods II

Summer Semester

ELC Elective
Nurs 275
Leadership and Change