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UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
SCHOOL of NURSING
& HEALTH STUDIES



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At A Glance

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

SCHOOL of NURSING & HEALTH STUDIES



OUR MISSION

At the School of Nursing and Health Studies, we transform lives and health care through education, research, innovation, and service across the hemisphere.

A Novel, Optimistic, World-Changing Place

Established in 1948 as the region's first collegiate nursing program, the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies (SONHS) offers a dynamic, versatile environment where bachelor's, master's, and doctoral students engage with diverse populations from the classroom to the community.

Here learners at all levels are empowered to blaze novel, optimistic, world-changing paths toward professional achievement with a focus on culturally competent, compassionate care and educational excellence in a global context.

Students graduate with proven clinical, research, and leadership experience, bolstered by top-notch simulation-based education.

The rigorous preparation is evident in NCLEX-RN and nurse practitioner certification first-time pass rates at SONHS, which are well above national averages.

Our graduate programs consistently place in the top-tier of U.S. nursing programs.

The school also ranks in the upper echelons of NIH funding to nursing schools.

Accreditations include the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs, the Council on Education for Public Health, and the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (Teaching/Education).

Identified three Pillars of Excellence as part of its 2018-2025 Strategic Plan:

Education for Life

SONHS is shaping health care education through community-rich programs designed for students, alumni, and professionals pursuing health care, public health, advanced practice nursing, and nursing research and education careers. Recognized nationally for outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion, SONHS received an INSIGHT Into Diversity Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award and was named a Hispanic Serving Health Professions School. Understanding that every ethnic community has unique health beliefs and practices, SONHS faculty prepare health professionals capable of adapting care to the needs of an increasingly diverse and rapidly changing global society. Curricula are continually updated for currency, emphasizing cultural competency and evidence-based practice. Faculty are leading scholars and experts in their fields, renowned for clinical excellence, scholarly and scientific rigor, and pedagogy. They hold advanced degrees in nursing, public health, pharmacology, psychology, medicine, and nutrition. In addition to educational excellence in existing undergraduate and graduate programs, SONHS is developing new offerings to address the evolving continuum of health provision. Innovative approaches drive student success through engaged learning, with updates in stackable credentialing and career enhancement expected to offer nurses and other health care professionals lifelong learning opportunities.

Mission-Driven Research

Faculty and students engage in interdisciplinary, evidence-based science that advances nursing and public health knowledge, improves patient safety and care, and impacts health systems and policy across five key areas of inquiry: Vulnerable Populations, Family Caregiving, Disaster Preparedness, Global Health, and Patient Safety and Outcomes. These pursuits have led to interventions and innovations for health disparities and minority health, people with HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, chronically and critically ill patients, and other critical health challenges. With an emphasis on multicultural populations based in South Florida, the Caribbean, Latin America, and beyond, SONHS offers graduate and undergraduate students robust opportunities in health care research under the guidance of active faculty scientists and scholars.

Hemispheric Leadership

Capitalizing on its unique location at the “gateway to the Americas,” SONHS has emerged as a leader in promoting international dialogue and exchange of health care knowledge with its hemispheric and global neighbors. It is one of just eight nursing-related Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) Collaborating Centres in the United States. SONHS has been designated a PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Human Resources Development and Patient Safety since 2008 continuing recognition of the school’s impact on nursing education, capacity building, and patient safety in the Americas. Hemispheric and global initiatives include the Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Training program; health services to the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Guatemala; and school-specific study abroad and bidirectional exchanges with Spain, Chile, Australia, Jamaica, India, and more. Ongoing nurse education efforts are also underway in Guyana. The school’s involvement in the University of Miami’s Hemispheric Innovation Hub and Hemispheric University Platform will help expand and deepen its recognized role as a hemispheric force for health care service, and collaboration.

“We empower our students to shape the future of health care beyond horizons envisioned today.”

Cindy L. Munro
Dean, School of Nursing
and Health Studies



Committed to Community Service

SONHS faculty and students lead initiatives to improve the health and well-being of vulnerable populations everywhere from the University of Miami campus community to the global stage.

Suicide, homelessness, human trafficking, HIV awareness, intimate partner violence, and disaster preparedness are just some of the issues their community efforts have focused on. In keeping with the charge to build a health care workforce capable of meeting global needs, all SONHS baccalaureate nursing students have the opportunity to complete Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) training modules and become certified by graduation to deploy with the Miami-Dade County Medical Reserve Corps in the event of a crisis.

Nursing students design and implement free health fairs that give them hands-on primary care experience while delivering valuable health services and education to participants in the region. Public health students conduct community needs assessments, applying their new knowledge and skills to real-world public health issues in a wide range of local and international settings. At the advanced-degree level, Doctor of Nursing Practice students design scholarly projects that help area hospitals identify and address systems-level patient outcome issues.

Decades of Alumni Excellence

Over 8,000 SONHS alumni have taken their place as scientists, nurse executives, bedside nurses, public health experts, and other health professionals. They comprise an active global network of health care leaders, practitioners, researchers, and educators working on the front lines in top health care facilities. These graduates' accomplishments raise the prominence and visibility of our school's programs—out in the community, in the classroom, at the bedside, in the boardroom, and at the critical intersection of research, practice, and policy.



Real-World Impact: SONHS at the Forefront of Simulation

Simulation-based education has become a gold standard component of all clinical nursing courses at SONHS. S.H.A.R.E.™ - Simulation Hospital for Advancing Research and Education, continues to advance new and emerging applications of next-generation learning systems designed to improve clinical education and patient outcomes.

Opened in September 2017, the five-story, 41,000-square-foot S.H.A.R.E.™ facility has solidified SONHS as a global destination for simulation-based education, research, innovation, and service. The state-of-the-art building, designed expressly for nursing and health studies education, replicates the flow of activity in a clinical practice and hospital, from emergency

department and operating rooms to clinical offices and home health setting. Students can transition seamlessly from learning anatomy and physiology to engaging in hands-on skills for health provision in a safe, supervised environment without causing harm to patients. Inter-professional health teams also collaborate here to master new skills and complex systems,

addressing everything from routine to rare medical cases. S.H.A.R.E.™ has created a hub of innovation for a quickly evolving health care environment, helping to test cutting-edge equipment and develop “best practice” models for emerging simulation technologies.

For more information, visit share.miami.edu.



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