A UNIVERSITY WITH VISION
A COLLEGE WITH PURPOSE
Drexel University's College of Nursing and Health Professions (CNHP) is a vibrant and values-driven educational community located in the heart of Philadelphia. Students arrive with intellect, passion and ambition, and they graduate with the practical knowledge and experience they need to deliver high-quality care and service to solve the complex problems we face now and in the future.

Enriched by the College’s world-class faculty, dynamic curriculum and signature cooperative education program, CNHP is home to diverse undergraduate and graduate programs. Both in person and online, the College offers advanced and innovative lifelong learning opportunities for students, from undergraduates to returning students seeking new skills or embarking on new careers. As the first Age-Friendly University in the city of Philadelphia, Drexel is committed to meeting the educational aspirations of all people.

At CNHP, we are united and driven by a set of core values that informs our work. With a shared sense of purpose, we are dedicated to health equity, care, service, diversity and inclusion. Throughout my career as a scientist and educator, I have been committed to exploring connections between the health and life space of vulnerable individuals and designing programs and strategies in collaboration with nurses, health professionals and communities that can make life better. Your decision to join the next generation of leaders will positively shape health outcomes for our diverse communities. We hope you will consider joining our energetic, committed and passionate CNHP community.

LAURA N. GITLIN, PHD — DEAN AND DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR
At CNHP, our students aren’t content to accept the world as it is. They are people of purpose who embrace the role of change agent, enlisting in the necessary work of finding innovative, evidence-based solutions to systemic problems such as health disparities. And they understand that solving the problems we face in our nation and world today require bringing together people from across different disciplines, with different experiences, expertise and perspectives. It will take a team-based, collaborative approach — one of the hallmarks of a CNHP education.

Whether in the city of Philadelphia, throughout the country or around the globe, CNHP graduates are recognized as determined, confident and compassionate and ready to lead.

CNHP students seeking a global perspective on complex health issues have numerous opportunities to travel, study and acquire hands-on experience. In addition to Study Abroad and Service Trips Abroad, the College offers Intensive Courses Abroad (ICAs). For example, in 2019, ICAs opened students’ eyes to innovative approaches on Global Aging in Chile and Psychiatric Rehabilitation in Singapore.

“We saw first-hand the effects of health care policy in Chile,” says Alicia Munech, a Health Sciences major. The trip included visiting clinics specifically devoted to dementia rehabilitation.

As a student in both Health Administration and Business Administration, Jeremiah Ham was prepared to lead when he graduated in 2020. Honing his leadership skills as a member of the ROTC and in the prestigious Macy Undergraduate Leadership Fellows Program, Jeremiah was paired with a faculty mentor, Professor Merritt Brockman, DHA, who is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force and previously served as a health care administrator.

“The mentoring aspect of the Macy program was very important to me,” Jeremiah says.

Interested in pursuing a career that would foster system-wide improvements in health care, Jeremiah decided that Health Administration was the right academic path for him. “Someone has to run the organization to make sure that it’s continuously stable and that it expands in the way that meets all the needs of people in all of the communities it serves,” Jeremiah says.
Diversity and inclusion are fundamental to all of CNHP’s endeavors, enriching our educational, research and practice experiences. We are committed to reducing inequities in our education, research, practice, policy and civic engagement initiatives — advocating for intersectional social justice, promoting greater inclusivity and eliminating health disparities.

Some examples of classes that address health disparities and health inequities span disciplines, from an Art Therapy and Counseling course that explores the impacts and implications of culture, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender and other relevant identities within the context of mental health treatment to a Health Services Administration course that looks at the meaning of health through the eyes of various distinct vulnerable populations.

A TEAM-ORIENTED AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

The first time Sharon Akoto set foot in Philadelphia was for her interview day with CNHP’s Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program. She had flown cross country from the Seattle area, and by the end of the day, it felt like home. “I decided that Drexel would, if I got in, be a place where I could definitely see myself,” Sharon says. “It just seemed like a very team-oriented and very comfortable environment to be in.”

“I took a big leap of faith, honestly, moving across the country to a place I barely knew much about. And it was totally worth it,” Sharon says.

OVERCOMING HEALTH CARE LANGUAGE BARRIERS

During her six-month, critical care co-op in the surgical intensive care unit at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Genesis Sanchez, BSN ’20, saw firsthand the importance of patient education in nursing.

Genesis, who was born in the Dominican Republic and went to high school in Philadelphia, found that was especially true with Spanish-speaking patients. “It’s really educating a person to truly understand their diagnosis and how to live with it with a good quality of life,” says Genesis, who also minored in education. “Health care literacy is lacking. Our health care system’s very complicated as it is. To have a language barrier makes it even more difficult.”

MINDFUL ART-MAKING AND SELF-CARE

While Emily Wexler works toward a master’s degree in Art Therapy and Counseling, she identified, through her internship in pediatric medicine, a need for practitioners and patients to take time to practice mindfulness to reduce stress. With inspiration from Professor Michele Rattigan, MA, Emily developed a mindful art-making experience for CNHP’s physician assistant students that transformed into a virtual experience for frontline healthcare professionals. “I started to notice the different ways that people could be affected when we don’t take that break,” Emily noted. The experience includes a mindfulness meditation and creating art inspired by personal mantras. It also includes an explanation of self-compassion, where she reminds participants why it’s important to extend the same compassion given to others to ourselves.

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Drexel University’s cooperative education program, also known as co-op, is one of the most distinctive features of a Drexel education. Co-ops represent the chance to gain invaluable real-world work experience in some of the nation’s best healthcare institutions and other industry leaders. After their first year, depending on the program they choose, CNHP students can alternate six-month periods of full-time study with full-time employment at Drexel-approved employers.

Complementing co-op, there is also a rich array of on-campus experiential learning opportunities, including those in the state-of-the-art Center for Interprofessional Clinical Simulation and Practice. This comprehensive, hands-on learning model provides the optimal environment for students to develop skills, learn from mistakes and become adept and competent caregivers for patients.

For CNHP undergraduate nursing students, the Disaster Simulation Lab, which simulates the worst-case, yet realistic scenarios, provides an experiential learning opportunity nurses might come across in their careers. From preparing for pandemics to natural disasters, simulations help students in nursing and other health-related fields develop skills in interprofessional teamwork, multiple patient management and crisis resource management, as well as communication, collaboration and leadership. Run through the Center for Interprofessional Clinical Simulation and Practice, expert faculty support and engage students in this distinctive and critical training experience.

Attending CNHP was a focused decision for Aviva Mandel. With a direct curricular path into nursing and the opportunity to gain 18 months of work experience prior to graduation, these distinctive academic hallmarks have propelled Aviva toward her goal of being a nurse. She chose the five-year program, including three unique co-op opportunities. After her first two co-op placements in a postanesthesia care unit (PACU) and a transplant unit, Aviva’s last co-op placement was at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), where she spent time in general rehabilitation with children who had been impacted by stroke, traumatic brain injury and other life altering events. This placement allowed Aviva to establish meaningful relationships, helping younger patients to achieve the best health outcomes possible.

How does a student in the food science/culinary arts program get the opportunity to help develop a healthier hoagie roll, one that single-handedly cut more than 1,200 pounds of salt from the diets of Philadelphia schoolchildren? Through a partnership between the Drexel Food Lab and the Philadelphia Department of Public Health.

“Everything in the Drexel Food Lab has some aspect of sustainability, health promotion or food access as a part of it,” says Lauren Miller, who has been working at the lab on a grant to reduce the amount of sodium consumed in local Philadelphia communities since spring of her first year. The new, lower-sodium hoagie roll developed by students, under the direction of lab director Jonathan Deutsch, PhD, comes in well under the city’s nutrition standards’ limit for sodium—a key factor in high blood pressure. This small innovation has big health implications. The School District of Philadelphia alone purchases 1.68 million hoagie rolls annually.
HEALTH PROFESSIONS

COUNSELING AND FAMILY THERAPY
- Behavioral Health Counseling (BS)**
- Family Therapy (MFT)
- Addictions Counseling (MS)**
- Couple and Family Therapy (DCFT)
- Couple and Family Therapy (PhD)
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment (PBC)**

CREATIVE ARTS THERAPIES
- Art Therapy and Counseling (MA)
- Dance/Movement Therapy and Counseling (MA)
- Music Therapy and Counseling (MA)
- Creative Arts Therapies (PhD)

FOOD AND HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT
- Culinary Arts and Science (BSCAS)
- Hospitality Management (BSHM)
- Food Science (MS)

HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
- Health Services Administration (BS)**
- Health Services Administration/Public Health (BS/MPH)
- Health Administration (MHA)**
- Medical Billing and Coding (CERT)**

HEALTH SCIENCES
- Health Sciences (BS)
- Health Sciences/Physical Therapy Bridge Program (BS/DPT)
- Health Sciences/Physician Assistant Bridge Program (BS/MHS)
- Drexel-Salus Occupational Therapy Option (BS/MOT)
- Drexel-University of the Sciences Pharmacology Option (BS/PharmD)
- Drexel-Thomas Jefferson University Athletic Training Option (BS/MS)
- Doctor of Health Science (DHSc)

NUTRITION SCIENCES
- Nutrition and Foods (BS)
- Nutrition and Foods/Nutrition and Dietetics Bridge Program (BS/MS)
- Human Nutrition (MS)
- Nutrition and Dietetics (MS)
- Nutrition Sciences (PhD)
- Human Lactation (CERT)

PHYSICAL THERAPY AND REHABILITATION SCIENCES
- Health Sciences/Physical Therapy Bridge Program (BS/DPT)
- Physical Therapy (DPT)
- Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (PhD)
- Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Residency Program

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
- Health Sciences/Physician Assistant Bridge Program (BS/MHS)
- Physician Assistant (MHS)

NURSING

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
- Basic Life Support (BLS)
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- Basic Life Support (BLS) Instructor
- Heartstart
  - First Aid
  - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
  - Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
  - Family and Friends CPR
  - Heartsafe Skills (BLS, ACLS, PALS)
- Advanced Trauma Care Nurses (ATCN)
- Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)
- Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Emergency Medical Service Instructor
- Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)
- Pediatric Advanced Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization (PEARS)
- Specialized Narcan Opioid Overdose Response Training (SNORT)

NURSING
- Nursing (BSN)
- Nursing – ACE (BSN)
- Nursing – RN to BSN Completion Program (BSN)**
- Accelerated RN/BSN/MSN (BSN/MSN)
- Advanced Role (MSN)**
  - Clinical Nurse Leader
  - Nursing Education
  - Nursing Leadership and Health Systems Management
  - Public Health Nursing
  - Quality, Safety and Risk Management in Healthcare (MS or MSN)**
  - RN to MSN-Bridge Program
  - Undeclared
- Complementary and Integrative Health (MS)**
- Nurse Anesthesia (MSN)
- Nurse Practitioner (MSN)**
- Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Family Nurse Practitioner (Individual Across the Lifespan)
- Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Primary Care/Pediatric Acute Care Dual Option Nurse Practitioner
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Women’s Health/Gender-Related Nurse Practitioner
- Nursing Practice (CPNP)**
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificates (PBC)**
  - Complementary and Integrative Therapies
  - Nursing Education
  - Nursing Leadership and Health Systems Management
  - Post-Master’s Certificates (PMC)**
  - Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
  - Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
  - Clinical Nurse Leader
  - Emergency Nurse Practitioner
  - Family Nurse Practitioner (Individual Across the Lifespan)
  - Nurse Anesthesia
  - Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
  - Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
  - Pediatric Primary Care/Pediatric Acute Care Dual Option Nurse Practitioner
  - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
  - Women’s Health/Gender Related Nurse Practitioner

PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS
- Undergraduate Programs: 9
- Graduate Programs: 35+

FOR MORE PROGRAM INFORMATION
VISIT: DREXEL.EDU/CNHP
Drexel University’s Stephen and Sandra Sheller 11th Street Family Health Services is a nationally recognized, nurse-led model of innovative care for the underserved. The center delivers primary care, behavioral health, dental services and health and wellness programs to more than 6,000 patients annually.

11th Street is one of eight organizations nationwide chosen to participate in a multisite demonstration promoting new approaches to integrating care for adults and children with complex health and social needs and improving health outcomes.

“Our motivation for engaging in promoting racial justice is central to 11th Street’s strategic goals,” says Roberta Waite, EdD, the center’s executive director. “We desire to create change that is not merely academic; this change will become rooted in the DNA of our organization.”

Opportunities to engage and practice abound in CNHP’s innovative health and wellness facilities. In addition to the Stephen and Sandra Sheller 11th Street Family Health Services, the Community Wellness HUB offers free health and wellness programming and disease prevention education, including screening, counseling and referral services for residents of nearby Mantua and Powelton Village.

Several CNHP practices offer real-world experience including:
- **Physical Therapy Services**, providing outpatient care for members of the community.
- **Individual, Couple and Family Therapy Services**, which offers counseling in two Philadelphia locations.
- **The Academic Bistro**, a student-run restaurant that serves as a lab for our students, who also produce, prepare and serve organic food from the Bistro Garden.

CNHP also works with community partners on exciting research opportunities like Eat Right Philly, a grant-funded program in the Department of Nutrition Sciences that serves thousands of students, families and staff in more than 70 schools in the School District of Philadelphia.

Nyree Dardarian, MS ’06, RD, and her team at Drexel’s Center for Nutrition and Performance originally developed Dragon Gels to help Drexel’s soccer team replenish carbohydrates to improve performance. While the carbohydrate-rich, 1.5-ounce gummy squares are still made by Professor Dardarian’s colleagues and student interns in Drexel’s metabolic lab kitchen, they now help players on the Philadelphia Flyers hockey team, the Philadelphia Union soccer squad and the U.S. Squash and Field Hockey teams refuel. The Center is a collaboration of Drexel Athletics and CNHP’s Department of Nutrition Sciences.

Nyree Dardarian

Elizabeth Sinclair puts her Drexel Emergency Medical Services training to the test working as an emergency medical technician for National Event Services at Phillies games, concerts and other large-scale events in Philadelphia and while volunteering for Drexel EMS.

“‘I’ve definitely benefited from being an EMT. It’s made me think quicker on my feet,” said Elizabeth, who is also in the Health Sciences/Physician Assistant Bridge program that will allow her to earn her undergraduate and master’s degrees in just five years. “It’s taught me not only teamwork, but how to step up and become a leader.’”

Elizabeth Sinclair

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DREXEL FOR LIFE

Student life at CNHP and within the larger Drexel University community includes a diverse range of opportunities to engage, connect and thrive. A sense of belonging to something bigger than yourself, of a shared, common purpose that transcends disciplines and departments, extends not only through commencement, but beyond. As the largest College at Drexel, CNHP offers an inclusive alumni network that helps graduates of all ages stay connected to the College, to the University and to each other. Friendships forged at CNHP can last a lifetime. And years after commencement, meeting a fellow Dragon can spark new friendships and professional collaborations.

#FOREVERDRAGONS

ONLINE NURSING STUDENT PROVIDES COMPASSIONATE CARE TO NEONATAL UNIT

Inspired by her mother and grandmother, who both spent their careers as bedside nurses, Julia Lopez decided to pursue a career in nursing. As a graduate of Drexel’s BSN and online MSN in Nursing Education, Julia is leading in care through her work in a neonatal intensive care unit. “Every day I leave work, I feel happy knowing that I provided someone care, education or compassion. It’s just a good feeling knowing that I was able to help somebody. The nurse’s role in society has to do with advocacy, health promotion and health education. And I want to be able to create the next generation of great, safe, compassionate nurses.”

JULIA LOPEZ

A WELL-CONNECTED COMMUNITY

As a third-year student in Drexel’s Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, Chris Recinto has many meaningful connections across campus. He initially connected with a group of friends during their new student orientation week. They now live in a shared learning community, part of their residential experience on Drexel’s campus. Whether making Oreo truffles, visiting the Franklin Institute, walking around Philadelphia or ice skating in the city, the friendships they have built are an important part of their Drexel experience and a source of joy and support. On campus, Chris participates in the Dragon Run Club, the Drexel Student Nurses’ Association and is a member of the Beta Chi Theta fraternity. As a leader on campus, Chris wants to welcome all new students to Drexel and looks forward to connecting with the future Dragons.

CHRIS RECINTO

#FOREVERDRAGONS

ON THE ROAD TO VICTORY

A Philadelphia native and lifelong Philadelphia Eagles fan, alumna Leslee Sholomskas had a unique internship opportunity while she was a student at Drexel. As the first-ever sports performance nutrition intern with the Eagles, her role coincided with the 2018 Super Bowl victory. Leslee, a registered dietitian and licensed dietitian with a master’s degree in nutrition science from CNHP, now serves as assistant director of sports nutrition at the University of Minnesota Athletic Department, where she teaches athletes how to balance their nutritional needs to perform at the highest level.

LESLEE SHOLOMSKAS

The Drexel Alumni Network is more than 150,000-strong, with members around the globe. CNHP alumni have access to their own networking, professional development and social events. In addition, they enjoy all that the Drexel Alumni Association offers, including community activities, campus events, continuing education courses and lifelong learning opportunities.
After 18 years in the business world, Natt Fiumara knew he wanted to lean in toward a significant shift, one that would allow him to help people with addictions. Having managed a substance use disorder, Natt was able to see first-hand the immediate need for counselors who were specialists in addictions — competent and empathetic. He decided to pursue an online Master of Science in Addictions Counseling at Drexel. During the program, Natt, motivated by the evidence-based curriculum, focused on actionable treatment, innovative approaches and the meaningful connections he had with his classmates.

There is great need for addictions counselors, in fact Natt’s last day of class coincided with his first day of work in his new role as a counselor at a methadone clinic in Baltimore. In a city hit hard by the opioid epidemic, Natt devotes extraordinary time and energy to connect with his patients, help them unpack their trauma and build trust with each person.

When former Class of 1990 alumni Ken Korber and Paul Possenti returned for the 45th anniversary celebration of CNHP’s Physician Assistant program in 2017, they not only renewed their friendship—they embarked on a collaborative, creative project with the potential to save lives. Paul, a volunteer fireman and director of Trauma Services and Emergency Management at Yale New Haven Health’s Bridgeport Hospital in Connecticut, and Ken, a physician assistant and surgical PA who became a successful book author, decided to collaborate on a children’s book titled, Grace and Friends: A Burn Prevention/Fire Safety Activity Book, published in 2019.

“This book is a new way of getting the message about fire prevention and burn prevention out there, not only nationally but internationally,” Paul says. Ken views the books as another form of patient education. “I’ve been able ... to extend the patient-provider encounter time from ten minutes to bedtime reading.”

Jasmine Jones, BSN ’20, sees a need for more health care leaders working for social justice and health equity, and she is determined to fill that void. “What’s important to me is helping the underserved,” she says. Jasmine credits her participation in the Macy Undergraduate Leadership Fellows Program with preparing her to be an effective and socially responsible change agent. The for-credit certificate program focuses on developing leadership skills, ranging from mobilizing and leading teams to understanding your personal strengths and weaknesses.

“In Macy, we learned that as long as you believe in yourself, you can do anything,” Jasmine says. “In the first term, we learned about ourselves, and in the second, we learned about conflict management. A lot of times people stay away from conflict, and you don’t really want to do that, because that’s where change occurs.”

A go-to resource for lifelong success, Steinbright helps students develop the professional skills they need to stand out in the highly competitive job market. Through the co-op program, Steinbright connects students to an extensive base of employer partners that includes industry leaders in Philadelphia and around the globe. It also offers a full range of workshops, seminars, career counseling and online resources to help alumni reach their professional goals and manage their careers.
Drexel University’s Office of Research invests in the future, enabling advances, innovations and progress that sustain our reputation as a preeminent research university globally, nationally and locally.

In 2019, Drexel received acknowledgment from the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education of its R1 research status, noting the highest research activity — one that is held by just 37 private universities.

**RESEARCH, DISCOVERY AND INNOVATION**

**OUR AREAS OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE**

The College of Nursing and Health Professions is a major contributor to research activity at Drexel.

**CNHP BY THE NUMBERS**

- 100% of Physical Therapy graduates passed the Physical Therapy National Certifying Exam in 2019
- 99% of undergraduate on-campus students are employed or in graduate school one year after graduation for graduating years 2016, 2017, 2018.
- 97% of Physician Assistant graduates passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam in 2019
- 96.84% of Physician Assistant graduates passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam in 2019
- 97% NCLEX pass rate for first-time test takers from October 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

**NUMBER OF ALL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

WINTER TERM • JANUARY – MARCH, 2020

1,999

**NUMBER OF ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS**

WINTER TERM • JANUARY – MARCH, 2020

2,023

*Information in this publication is current as of June 2020.*