A UNIVERSITY WITH VISION
A COLLEGE WITH PURPOSE
COMMITTED TO CARING, SERVICE AND CHANGE

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 Muench, 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.

CNHP is moving from Center City to University City!

• The new state-of-the-art academic home of the College of Nursing and Health Professions is scheduled to open in 2022.
• CNHP students will be within easy walking distance of the University’s libraries, fitness center, theaters, athletic fields, student organizations, dining facilities and more.
• The 450,000-square-foot building at 36th and Filbert streets will bring together many of Drexel’s health-related programs under one roof, enhancing collaboration, research and practice opportunities.

ONLINE NURSING PROGRAMS: AT THE TOP OF THE LIST
CNHP placed in the top 25 percent of “Online Master’s in Nursing Programs” in the 2020 U.S. News & World Report rankings. Five CNHP specialty programs ranked in the top six in their respective categories:

- Online Nursing Education Programs
  - Ranked 2nd
- Online Nursing Administration Programs
  - Ranked 3rd
- Online Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Programs
  - Ranked 4th
- Online Family Nurse Practitioner Programs
  - Ranked 5th
- Online Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Programs
  - Ranked 6th

EXPLORING INNOVATIVE APPROACHES AROUND THE WORLD

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JEREMIAH HAM

DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH LEADERSHIP

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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, 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.”

BOARD MEMBERS ADVANCE DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

A diverse and dedicated group of undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff serves on the Board of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. They focus on creating a cultural climate in which all members of the CNHP community feel welcomed, respected, valued and included.
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.
CNHP DEGREE PROGRAMS AND CERTIFICATES

PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS

17
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

30+
GRADUATE PROGRAMS

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

• Accelerated RN/BSN/MSN (BSN/MSN)
• Culinary Arts and Science (BSCAS)
• Drexel-Salus Occupational Therapy Option (BS/MSOT)
• Drexel-Thomas Jefferson University Athletic Training Option (BS/MS)
• Drexel-University of the Sciences Pharmacology Option (BS/PharmD)
• Health Sciences (BS)
• Health Sciences/Physical Therapy Bridge Program (BS/DPT)
• Health Sciences/Physician Assistant Bridge Program (BS/MHS)
• Health Services Administration (BS) **
• Health Services Administration/Public Health (BS/MPH)
• Hospitality Management (BSHM)
• Nursing – Concurrent Enrollment Program (ADN/BSN)*
• Nursing – ACE (BSN)
• Nursing – RN to BSN Completion Program (BSN)*
• Nursing (BSN)
• Nutrition and Foods (BS)
• Nutrition and Foods/Nutrition and Dietetics Bridge Program (BS/MS)

CERTIFICATES

• Medical Billing and Coding*

POST-BACCALAUREATE CERTIFICATES

• Complementary and Integrative Therapies*
• Nursing Education*
• Nursing Leadership and Health Systems Management*
• Substance Use Disorder Treatment*

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

• Addictions Counseling (MS)*
• Advanced Role (MSN)*
• Clinical Nurse Leader
• Complementary and Integrative Health/Integrative Health or Wellness Coaching Pathway Program with the Andrew Weil Center for Integrative Medicine at the University of Arizona (MS)
• Healthcare Simulation (MS/MS)
• 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
• Art Therapy and Counseling (MA)
• Complementary and Integrative Health (MS) *
• Dance/Movement Therapy and Counseling (MA)
• Family Therapy (MFT)
• Food Science (MS)
• Health Administration (MHA)*
• Human Nutrition (MS)
• Music Therapy and Counseling (MA)
• 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 Leadership in Health Systems Management
• MSN/Business Administration MBA (MSN/MBA)*
• Nutrition and Dietetics (MS)
• Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Residency Program
• Physician Assistant (MHS)

DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

• Couple and Family Therapy (DCFT)
• Couple and Family Therapy (PhD)
• Creative Arts Therapies (PhD)
• Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
• Doctor of Nursing Practice – Nurse Anesthesia (DNP)
• Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (PhD)
• Nutrition Sciences (PhD)
• Physical Therapy (DPT)

POST-MASTER’S CERTIFICATES

• Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner*
• Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner*
• Clinical Nurse Leader*
• 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*

FOR MORE PROGRAM INFORMATION VISIT: → DREXEL.EDU/CNHP

* ONLINE ONLY | ** IN-PERSON AND ONLINE
PRACTICE AND ENGAGE IN PHILADELPHIA

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.

FUELING PHILLY ATHLETES

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.

BEFORE SHE EVEN GRADUATES, ELIZABETH SINCLAIR WILL ALREADY HAVE AN IMPRESSIVE RESUME

She completed five-week clinical rotations in emergency medicine, internal medicine, women’s health and surgery at a variety of facilities in the area. In addition, she was a clinical coordinator during her six-month undergrad co-op at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and volunteered as an emergency medical technician on-campus with Drexel EMS. Her experience “taught me not only teamwork, but how to step up and become a leader,” she said.

Sinclair is in the health sciences/physician assistant bridge program that will allow her to earn her undergraduate and master’s degrees in just five years.

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.”
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

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.

#FOREVERDRAGONS

A Well-Connected Community

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.

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.

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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.”

##FOREVERDRAGONS

DREXEL FOR LIFE

Photography by Collin Wolchock

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CHRIS RECINTO

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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.

CNHP graduates lifelong learners—innovative practitioners, scientists and leaders in their chosen professions, all helping to create the future of health, care and service. In a highly competitive job market and ever-changing environments, students have unique employment advantages and use their knowledge to create the best outcomes possible for all the people they serve.


“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.

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 stray 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.

NATT FIUMARA

JASMINE JONES

KEN KORBER AND PAUL POSSENTI

STEINBRIGHT CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

ONLINE ADDICTIONS COUNSELING PROGRAM LEADS TO A MEANINGFUL OPPORTUNITY

FORMER CLASSMATES TEAM UP TO PROMOTE BURN PREVENTION

ADVOCATING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND HEALTH EQUITY
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**

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

**OUR AREAS OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE**

- Addiction
- Aging
- Education
- Implementation Science
- Innovative Technology
- Intervention Science
- Pediatrics
- Pain
- Women’s Health

**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% NCLEX pass rate for first-time test takers from October 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019.

**NUMBER OF ALL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

- 1,999 WINTER TERM • JANUARY – MARCH, 2020

**NUMBER OF ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS**

- 2,023 WINTER TERM • JANUARY – MARCH, 2020

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