



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
School of Nursing & Health Studies
Department of Nursing

Nurse Anesthesia Program (NAP)

The Nurse Anesthesia Program, founded by Donna Jasinski, PhD, CRNA, received approval from the School of Nursing Executive Faculty and the Graduate School in 1994. That fall, the first class of 16 students was admitted. The students were from the Navy Nurse Corps and attended under the term of an affiliation agreement between Georgetown and the US Navy. In 1995, the program obtained accreditation by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs and seven civilian students were admitted along with an additional 16 Navy students. The educational agreement with the Navy ended in 2009 due to base realignment activities. Currently the program matriculates 40-42 civilian students each August.

The NAP is a two-phase front loaded program with Phase I primarily didactic (40 credits) and Phase II primarily clinical (5 credits). The program has had since its inception a strong emphasis on basic science and has an interdisciplinary teaching agreement with the School of Medicine. It is one of the very few programs that have weekly cadaver lab experiences in the curriculum for two courses. Many changes have been implemented to continually improve the curriculum. One of them was the purchase of an anesthesia simulator in 1997. A second unique initiative was the development of *The Student Journal of Nurse Anesthesia* in 2001. Our program was twice awarded the AANA Crystal Apple Award for teaching innovations. The students' clinical experiences have surpassed required standards set by the Council on Certification and current NBCRNA since the start of the program. The initial primary clinical site was Georgetown University Hospital. Beginning in 2002, additional primary and enrichment sites were added to meet the needs brought about by the program expansion.

Since 1997, with the exception of three years, the program has had a 100% pass rate on the National Certification Exam. For the three years below 100%, one student each year passed on the second attempt. *U.S. News & World Report* has consistently ranked the program among the top 20 Nurse Anesthesia Programs for the last decade.

INSTITUTION, SCHOOL, DEPARTMENT, AND PROGRAM MISSIONS

The mission of the NAP reflects that of the Department of Nursing (DON), the School of Nursing & Health Studies (NHS), and the parent institution, Georgetown University (GU). It is congruent with relevant professional standards and guidelines for the preparation of nursing professionals. As illustrated in Table 1, the mission statements of the DON, NHS, and the university share the values of respect for diversity, moral reflection, and commitment to social justice, and belief in the well-being of all people.

Table 1. Comparison of Missions

Mission of GU	Mission of NHS & DON	Mission of NAP
<p>Georgetown is a Catholic and Jesuit, student-centered research university.</p> <p>Established in 1789 in the spirit of the new republic, the University was founded on the principle that serious and sustained discourse among people of different faiths, cultures, and beliefs promotes intellectual, ethical, and spiritual understanding.</p> <p>We embody this principle in the diversity of our students, faculty, and staff, our commitment to justice and the common good, our intellectual openness, and our international character. An academic community dedicated to creating and communicating knowledge, Georgetown provides excellent undergraduate, graduate, and professional education in the Jesuit tradition - for the glory of God and the well-being of humankind.</p> <p>Georgetown educates women and men to be reflective lifelong learners, to be responsible and active participants in civic life, and to live generously in service to others.</p>	<p>The School of Nursing & Health Studies' mission is to provide student-centered, excellent undergraduate and graduate professional education in the Jesuit and Catholic tradition. NHS continues its long tradition of preparing morally reflective health care leaders and scholars who strive to improve the health and well-being of all people with sensitivity to cultural differences and issues of justice.</p> <p>The DON goal is to prepare future leaders to respond the growing complexity of the health care delivery system, and an emphasis on preparing morally reflective healthcare leaders and scholars. The foundation of the Department's programs are built on the recognition of the dignity of human beings, the growth-affirming role of society, health as a dynamic entity, the complex, caring nature of nursing and the individualized and life-long process of education. The vision of the DON is to prepare women and men who are committed to promote human flourishing through culturally sensitive, evidence-based nursing practice.</p>	<p>The Nurse Anesthesia Program' s mission is consistent with that of the University and NHS's mission to provide a quality, student-centered, excellent graduate professional education in the Jesuit tradition.</p> <p>The program faculty are dedicated to communicating knowledge to educate nurses to independently provide safe, multidiscipline, evidence based professional anesthetic care in any setting and to improve the health and well-being of all people with sensitivity to cultural differences and issues of justice.</p>

Nurse Anesthesia Program Philosophy

The faculty of the Nurse Anesthesia Program share with the University its Jesuit view of humankind. In addition, the faculty of the Nurse Anesthesia Program are committed to providing advanced nursing education of the highest quality; students and graduates will provide quality care in diverse settings to all segments of society. The Nurse Anesthesia Program emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to providing a strong scientific educational commitment and the educational standards needed toward the development of a competent functionally independent nurse anesthetist. The Program faculty believe that a sound academic education, strong in theory, basic sciences and research methodology and coupled with clinical experiences that build on this foundation, will prepare the student toward the goals of proficiency in all aspects of anesthesia care, and maximum independence in decision making appropriate to the graduate's level of education. We believe a self-directed approach to learning which allows for critical thinking, analytical problem solving, and building on previously acquired abilities, furthers individual professional development.

Table 2. Comparison of Philosophies

Philosophy of Georgetown University	Philosophy of DON	Philosophy of NAP
<p>Georgetown’s Jesuit tradition promotes the university’s commitment to spiritual inquiry, civic engagement, and religious and cultural pluralism.</p> <p>Drawing from this tradition, Georgetown fosters an environment where students can develop their unique gifts and insights through reflection, service and intellectual inquiry. Students are challenged to engage in the world and become men and women in the service of others, especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the community. These values are at the core of Georgetown’s identity, binding members of the community across diverse backgrounds, faiths, cultures and traditions.</p>	<p>The Georgetown Nursing Model comprises two distinct elements: the core, and the complementary processes, which contribute to and encourage the dynamic process. At the core of the model is values-based caring, surrounded by the nurse-patient synergistic component. Values-based caring is seen as essential to excellence in health care and practice, and includes the core values of individual and collective excellence, professional care and compassion, person-centered orientation and commitment to human flourishing, commitment to the common good, and social justice</p>	<p>Agrees with and supports the philosophy of Georgetown University and its Department of Nursing. In addition to the core values of individual and collective excellence, professional care and compassion, person-centered orientation and commitment to human flourishing, commitment to the common good, and social justice, the program is committed to providing advanced nursing education of the highest quality. The students and graduates will provide quality care with proficiency in all aspects of anesthesia care, and independent decision making appropriate to the graduate’s level of training in diverse settings to all segments of society.</p>