School of Nursing

A baccalaureate nursing program (BSN) was established in El Paso in 1970 under the administration of The University of Texas System School of Nursing. In 1976, the School of Nursing became an integral part of The University of Texas at El Paso and was organized as a College of Nursing. The Health Science and Medical Technology Programs were transferred to the College in 1979 and, shortly thereafter, the name was changed to the College of Nursing and Allied Health. In 1999, the School of Nursing became an integral part of the once-again renamed College of Health Sciences and the School of Nursing. On September 1, 2006, the School of Nursing again became its own independent unit and is now known as The University of Texas at El Paso School of Nursing.

The School of Nursing is located on the main UTEP campus at 1851 Wiggins Road, across from the University Library, and is housed in a large, modern building which includes classrooms, laboratories, faculty offices, and lounges for both students and faculty.

The School of Nursing provides an undergraduate nursing program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree (various options) as well as graduate programs culminating in the Master of Science in Nursing and/or Doctorate in Nursing Practice.

The undergraduate nursing program at the University of Texas at El Paso is fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and approved by the State of Texas Board of Nursing (TBON).

The curriculum provides an innovative, integrated and conceptual model for teaching and learning wherein critical thinking and decision-making are emphasized. It is grounded in the sciences and is focused on addressing nursing and health care across the life span.

The degree plan consists of approximately two years of lower-division course work followed by two or more years of upper-division nursing courses taken at the School of Nursing. The entire program is possible to complete in eight full-term semesters. The curriculum culminates in preceptored clinical practicums that include learning and practice with experienced professional nurses in acute care facilities and community health care settings.

Upon successful completion of the program, students are awarded the degree and are eligible to take the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (N-CLEX RN).

Mission

The mission of the University of Texas at El Paso School of Nursing is to prepare professional nurses at baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral levels to meet complex human needs in a competitive global healthcare environment. We seek to inspire evidence-based lifelong learning and utilization of advanced technologies by providing a progressive research environment where students, faculty and researchers investigate and meet global healthcare needs. We strive to improve healthcare and quality of life in our diverse multicultural underserved local communities by preparing graduates to make significant contributions to nursing, local, national, and global communities.

Objectives of the Undergraduate Nursing Program

1. Provide professional nursing care to individuals, families, groups, and communities in various developmental stages and from different sociocultural backgrounds.
2. Use critical thinking and apply theories, principles, and concepts in making clinical judgments about the health care needs of individuals, families, and communities.
3. Intervene to minimize or alleviate stressors: to reinforce positive adaptive behavior; to promote, maintain, and restore health; and to care for the ill, disabled, and terminally ill.
4. Collaborate with other professionals, agency personnel, and consumers in planning, implementing, and evaluating health care.
5. Practice nursing within the framework of legal, ethical, moral, and professional standards.
6. Use research findings in the care of clients/patients.
7. Provide leadership within the nursing profession and in health affairs.
8. Develop a lifetime commitment to intellectual inquiry, self-directed learning, and professional growth.
9. Use undergraduate education as a basis for graduate study.

Admission and Advising

Applications will not be accepted from students on academic probation or suspension.

Students seeking admission to the University as freshmen or transfers should consult the Undergraduate Admission section in this Catalog. Students transferring from other programs must submit a written statement from the dean or department chair of their previous program stating that the student is eligible to return to that program. This statement should be submitted via mail to:

The University of Texas at El Paso
School of Nursing
ATTN: Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education
Applicants to the School of Nursing must be accepted to the University. The University Admissions Office must evaluate official transcripts prior to consideration for admission.

**Clinical and Compliance Requirements**

Students accepted into the Nursing Programs must meet all clinical clearance requirements. Please refer to Clinical Compliance ([https://www.utep.edu/chs/compliance/](https://www.utep.edu/chs/compliance/)) for specific requirements. *Failure to comply with clinical clearance requirements will result in students having holds placed on registration or being dropped from courses.*

**Dean**


**Associate Dean, Undergraduate Education**

Dr. Laura Rodriguez ([https://hb2504.utep.edu/Home/Profile/?username=lrodriguez21](https://hb2504.utep.edu/Home/Profile/?username=lrodriguez21))

**Associate Dean, Graduate Education**

Dr. Diane Monsivais ([https://hb2504.utep.edu/Home/Profile/?username=dimonsivais](https://hb2504.utep.edu/Home/Profile/?username=dimonsivais))

**Associate Dean, Student Affairs**


**Professor**


Contact Information: mamaya@utep.edu (mtcortez@utep.edu); 915-747-8583

Education: BSN, The University of Texas at El Paso; MSN, Texas Woman’s University; Ph D, New Mexico State University; Certificate, Women’s Health Care Nurse Practitioner, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; Certificate, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center; Training in Molecular Lab, The University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center; Graduate Certificate, The Johns Hopkins University Research Interests: Environmental health hazards and public health, Neuman Systems Model in environmental health nursing research


Contact Information: dimonsivais@utep.edu (mtcortez@utep.edu); 915-747-8209

Education: BSN, Duke University; MSN, The University of Texas at El Paso; Ph D, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Research Interests: Dr. Monsivais’s research interests focus on educational issues in nursing and other healthcare professions. There is an emphasis on enhancing clinical teaching competencies, healthcare simulation, and improving the quality and safety of the healthcare system.


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Education: ADN, Garland County Community College; BSN, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center; MSN, The University of Texas at El Paso; Ph D, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Research Interests: qualitative research, obesity, mental health, addictive disorders, TBI, health disparities, PTSD

**Associate Professor**


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Education: Diploma, National Taipei College of Nursing; MSN, National Taiwan University; Ph D, The University of Texas at Austin; Postdoctoral Fellow, University of North Carolina Research Interests: My areas of interests include family caregiver burden, family values, acculturation’s effects, and cultural diversity in Hispanic families for chronically-ill older adults.


Contact Information: gmckee@utep.edu (mtcortez@utep.edu); 915-747-8173

Education: BSN, University of Texas System School of Nursing; MSN, University of Texas at El Paso; Ph D, University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston Research Interests: Health Disparities in breast cancer screening among Hispanic women. Instrument Development for use in assessment of Hispanic women’s health; Use of Telehealth with underserved populations.


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School of Nursing

Education: ADN, New Mexico State University; BS, The University of Texas at El Paso; MSN, The University of Arizona; Post Masters Degree, University of San Diego; Ph D, The University of Texas at El Paso; Post Doctoral Fellowship, University of Utah
Research Interests: Chronic illness in geriatric population; Safety in older adults: Unintentional fall injuries; Alzheimer's Dementia; End-of-Life decision making among Hispanics

Assistant Professor
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Clinical Associate Professor
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Research Interests: Student Success,

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Education: BSN, The University of Texas at El Paso; MSN, The University of Texas at El Paso; DNP, The University of Texas at El Paso
Research Interests: Pediatrics; Sim Lab Experiences; Use of Reflection in the Classroom

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Education: BSN, The University of Texas at Austin; MSN, The University of Texas at El Paso; MBA, University of Phoenix; DNP, The University of Nevada at Las Vegas
Research Interests: Simulation, Patient safety, critical thinking, prioritization, Test taking skills, NCLEX Testing

Programs
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (http://catalog.utep.edu/undergrad/school-of-nursing/nursing-bs/)
- RN-to-BSN Option (http://catalog.utep.edu/undergrad/school-of-nursing/rn-bsn-option/)

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Visit School Website (https://www.utep.edu/nursing/)