The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) was founded in 1919 and is one of the world’s great research universities. For nearly 100 years, UCLA has been a pioneer in innovative academics and groundbreaking research, and the campus, faculty and students are driven by optimism. Our faculty includes 12 Nobel Laureates, 12 Rhodes Scholars, and 10 National Medal of Science winners. UCLA was the birthplace of the internet and UCLA physicians reported the world’s first AIDS cases. More than 100 companies have been created based on technology developed right here at UCLA. With a student body of about 38,000 students, UCLA is the largest university in the state of California.

That sense of optimism and innovation extends to the UCLA School of Nursing, ranked as one of the top nursing schools in the country by US News and World Report, where we are excitingly reimagining and redefining nursing.

Our faculty members conduct pioneering research in the fields of geriatrics, cardiovascular health and enhancing the health of vulnerable populations with a focus on such areas as culturally-appropriate interventions and childhood obesity. The school’s faculty includes nearly a dozen basic scientists. Some are nurses prepared in the biological sciences such as neuroscience, physiology or genetics. Others are non-nurses, from an engineer studying links between brain changes, depression and physiology to a physician studying gene therapy for HIV/AIDS. The school also boasts a group who are biobehaviorists – marrying the behavioral and the biological.

One of nursing’s distinct characteristics has always been founded in its focus on caring for, and improving the quality of life of, patients and their family members. The School of Nursing is creating the nurse leaders of tomorrow by ensuring that our students receive the best possible clinical education today. We offer students the opportunity to work with patients in a wide variety of clinical settings including one of the best hospitals in the United States – the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center-- located just steps away from the School.
1949  The University of California Regents authorized creation of the UCLA School of Nursing, the first of the professional schools in what would become the Center for Health Sciences (including medicine, dentistry and public health). Lulu Wolf Hassenplug was appointed as the first Dean.

1950  The first baccalaureate class begins at the School.

1953  UCLA becomes the first nursing school in California to confer the Master of Science degree to nurses.

1972  A federal grant enables the School to become one of the first to establish a program to prepare nurse practitioners.

1976  The School receives a grant to start a geriatric specialization program, the first of its kind in the nation.

1983  The School establishes a nurse-managed clinic serving a mostly homeless population at the Union Rescue Mission in Los Angeles’ Skid Row area.

1987  A doctoral program is launched at the School.

1999  The Center for Vulnerable Populations Research, the School’s first center of research excellence, is established by a $1.48 million NINR grant.

2008  Dr. Courtney H. Lyder, a nationally renowned and prolific researcher on issues related to healthcare for older adults and a leading advocate for healthcare diversity, becomes the School’s sixth dean and the first African American dean at UCLA.

2012  Dr. Paul Macey named inaugural Associate Dean for Information Technology and Innovations. He is the University’s first Chief Innovations Officer.
our programs

The UCLA School of Nursing is ranked as one of the top nursing schools in the country by U.S. News and World Reports. Through our innovative curriculum, students learn relevant theory, acquire practice skills and are socialized into the profession of nursing.

The School of Nursing provides rich opportunities for students to pursue collaborative and interdisciplinary education and independent study projects. Individual academic counseling, as well as a variety of one-on-one small groups and interactive learning formats, assist students in meeting program and individual learning goals, and apply knowledge, skills and professional attitudes in their practice. As the most competitive undergraduate degree program on the UCLA campus, we attract the best and the brightest students who will become leaders in transforming the profession of nursing.

1800 applicants. 40 accepted.

Bachelor’s Program

The UCLA School of Nursing offers four degree programs

The BS program prepares students to become Registered Nurses (RNs) who can provide quality care in complex healthcare systems and environments. The preparation provides a foundation for advanced study.

The Master of Science in Nursing (Master’s Entry Clinical Nurse) includes a pathway for pre-licensure students with degrees in other disciplines to become RNs and to provide clinical leadership. This program’s focus is on health policy and health systems.

The Master of Science in Nursing Advanced Practice program is for post-licensure RNs who wish to practice as Clinical Nurse Specialists or Nurse Practitioners to promote health, address the complex healthcare needs of diverse patient populations and manage complexity, quality and safety in a variety of healthcare organizations.

The PhD program prepares nurse scholars to conduct original research, generate new knowledge and build the scientific basis for practice. Students are expected to engage in faculty research, participate in the education programs and develop as scholars. Doctoral graduates serve as leaders who educate, influence practice, advance science, optimize healthcare delivery and influence healthcare policy worldwide.

In 2012, the School and Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science began a five-year partnership for increasing the ethnic diversity of nurses with research careers thanks to a grant from the National Institutes of Health. With this grant, the two schools will develop and implement an integrated plan of individual and institutional activities to prepare master’s degree nursing students from underrepresented minority groups with the tools needed to make a seamless transition to doctoral education.
Founded in 1949

Enrollment: 594 students

Degree Programs:
Bachelor of Science
Master of Science in Nursing, Master’s Entry Clinical Nurse
Master of Science in Nursing, Advanced Practice
Doctor of Philosophy

Faculty: 41 full-time—all doctorally prepared

Faculty Honors:
21 Academy Fellows
5 Endowed Chairs

Rankings:
One of the top schools on U.S. News and World Reports—Nursing Graduate Schools
#7 in NIH research funding among Schools of Nursing
Doctoral Program in Top 10

most diverse school on campus

- **African American = 48** (8% of total students) (Black)
- **Asian American = 196** (33% of total students) (Includes Filipino)
- **American Indian/Alaska Native & Polynesian = 13** (2% of total students)
- **Hispanic = 89** (15% of total students) (Chicano/Latino)
- **Caucasian = 240** (46% of total students) (Includes: Other, Decline to State & Unknown)
- **Male = 66** (11% of total students)
making new discoveries

In 2012, faculty members published 95 articles in prestigious peer-reviewed journals

UCLA School of Nursing scholars, scientists and researchers are highly trained and committed clinicians and superb scholars. We are taking our place at the table where administrative and public health policies are debated. We bring to that table not only a nursing perspective—a voice for caring and compassion—but also clear and compelling data to support our proposals and positions.

Nursing is the oldest of arts and the youngest of professions. Our work is rooted in the compassionate care given over the centuries to those who cannot care for themselves. The modern profession of nursing is built on expertise and knowledge. As we move into the 21st century, the importance of research in building knowledge and establishing the evidence base for nursing practice continues to grow.

From the laboratory bench to the patient’s bedside, from pediatrics to geriatrics, from prevention to cause, ground-breaking advances are being driven by nursing research. At the School of Nursing, research is at the core of our mission—not only as a primary component of a comprehensive education, but as a critical investment in the future of nursing. The School has a rich history of blazing the trail for nursing research and is continually pushing the boundaries to improve health. Our findings are about advancing health and they can be used by other health disciplines.

#7 in NIH Funding
highlights of funded research

Aging
• Pressure ulcers and wound care: Early detection and treatment
• Screening and early interventions for ethical conflicts at the end of life
• Protein changes and cholesterol effects in Alzheimer’s detection

Cancer
• Cancer biomarkers for breast cancer development and progression in African American women

Cardiovascular
• Home electrocardiography monitoring to detect donor organ rejection following heart transplantation
• Effects of resistance training on tobacco-related cardiovascular disease risk
• Cardiovascular health and the Latino paradox
• Sleep and brain structure in heart failure
• Memory, thiamine levels, and brain structure in heart failure
• Passive foot movement and sleep-disordered breathing in heart failure
• Stress and health in family caregivers of persons with heart failure

International
• Social health activists role in HIV health promotion intervention in India
• HIV medication adherence program in South East China
• Smoking cessation learning for nurses in China

Health Promotion
• Reducing symptom barriers among American Indians
• Community-based lifestyle promotion with Latina women
• Korean immigrants & mammography: Culture-specific health intervention (kim-chi)
• Hepatitis B and C and HIV prevention among homeless youth and parolees
• Prostate cancer clinical decision making by diagnosed and high risk Latino men
• Effects of walnuts on male fertility

Neuro-science
• Gender differences in brain damage associated with obstructive sleep apnea

HIV/HPV
• HIV & pregnancy prevention among foster youth
• AIDS Immunity by gene therapy
• DNA’s role in HPV cancers

Pediatric
• Congenital heart defects
• Wireless pain intervention program for at risk youths with sickle cell disease
• Obesity intervention program in underserved populations
In communities throughout Southern California, the School of Nursing is engaged with local partners to improve the health of entire populations. We are delivering quality care, conducting collaborative community-based research and training the healthcare workforce. Community projects involving students include nutrition training, health fairs and health promotion counseling. Students have also participated in the Remote Access Medical Clinics, delivering much needed care to low income patients.

In 2012, the School of Nursing launched a five-year collaboration with the Los Angeles Unified School District to increase physical fitness among middle school students in underserved areas.

Other community-based research includes:
- Peer coaching: A healthy new beginning for homeless parolees with Amity Foundation
- Hepatitis B prevention for at-risk homeless youth at Santa Monica homeless shelter
- Latinos aging on Skid Row
- Cardiac risk reduction intervention for at risk young black women—local African American churches
- Partnership with Korean churches to encourage Korean American women to get mammograms
- Keeping middle schoolers moving—five-year collaboration with Los Angeles Unified School District to increase physical fitness among middle school students in underserved areas

The Union Rescue Mission
For 30 years, the UCLA School of Nursing Health Clinic has provided primary health care services to the homeless and indigent population on Skid Row. The Health Clinic is a nurse-managed facility at the Union Rescue Mission—one of the oldest and largest of its kind in the United States. Licensed by the state as a Community Health Center, the Health Clinic is devoted to caring for the primary medical needs of homeless adults, children and the elderly. It is also the only shelter-based health clinic in the city that provides health care for women and children. Last year, the Health Clinic provided comprehensive medical services to just over 2,500 members of the homeless community with a total of 8,600 patient visits. The Center manages both acute and chronic illnesses. Patients are seen on a drop-in basis for a wide variety of health care services including primary care management of respiratory, gastrointestinal and dermatologic conditions. Health education, case management, medications, diagnostic services and preventive health care services are also provided.
care
Throughout the world, UCLA has become a leader in cutting-edge nursing education, evidence-based practice and research collaborations. Since 2010, we have signed 22 memorandums of understanding with countries around the world including China, Australia, Korea, and India to engage in cooperative academic or research activities.

Some of our efforts include:

- A five-year hospital-based collaboration with a hospital in Hong Kong to combine cutting-edge education and research with new practice models.
- Development and implementation of a new educational initiative to advance tobacco control work with nurses in China and the Czech Republic using Web-based technologies.
- Collaborative research projects that improve women’s health in the Sudan and India and limit the spread of HIV in China, Vietnam, Thailand and Poland.
- HIV adherence program recognized among top HIV behavioral interventions by CDC
- Two faculty members (Dr. Adey Nyamathi and Dr. Linda Sarna) were the first nurses to be appointed visiting professors by the Anhui Medical University in China.
- Dr. Ann Williams was selected as a Fulbright Scholar in Poland.

Students in the world

With a lot of interest in health inequities around the world, our students launched Global Action in Nursing (GAIN) to enhance knowledge and participation in global health. Global health nursing is a wonderful chance to help those in the greatest need of health care throughout the world.

In December 2010 and September and December 2011, students visited rural areas in Uganda. These are villages and communities deep in the bush that never receive care. On each visit, the students conducted outreach that included triage, patient consultations, laboratory work (malaria, HIV, syphilis and typhoid testing), sanitation education and patient counseling.

In December 2011, students also travelled to Sierra Leone and Panama to provide healthcare in underserved areas. Students returned to Panama in Summer 2012, working with “Floating Doctors” to provide primary care to the Ngobe indigenous population.

For many years, the School has participated in an exchange program with Kitasato Nursing School, a private nursing school located slightly southwest of central Tokyo.

Every other year a team of faculty and doctoral students from the School visits Japan to lecture and participate in faculty-and student-related activities. On alternating years, the School receives a group of students and faculty for summer learning seminars.