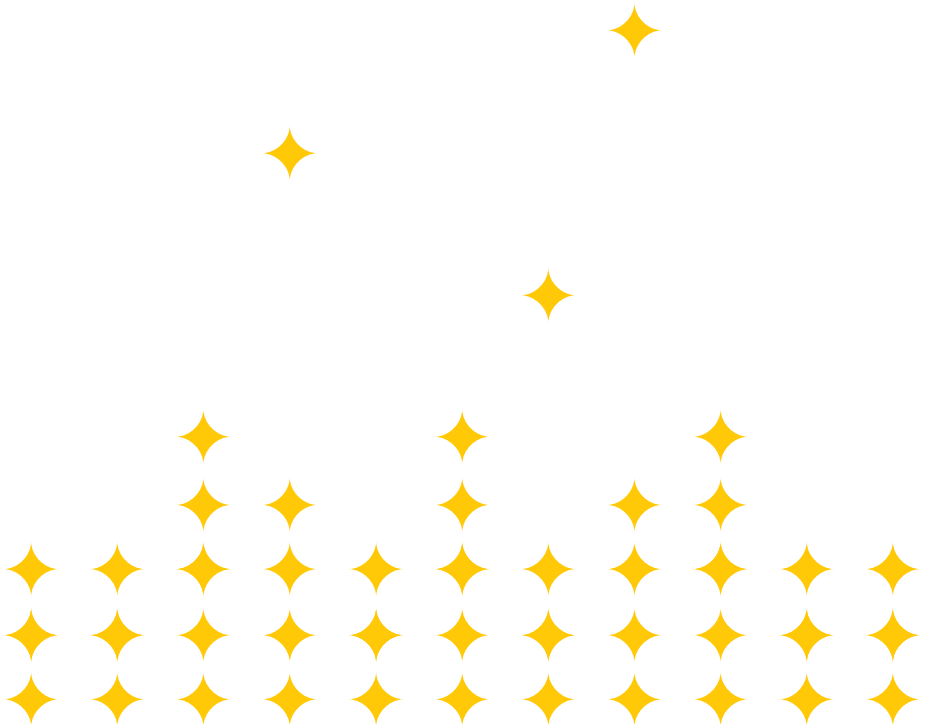




COLLEGE OF NURSING

NEW KNIGHT NURSE CELEBRATION

SUMMER CLASS OF 2026



SUMMER CLASS OF 2026

330+

NURSING DEGREES
BSN | MSN | DNP

47

STUDENTS GRADUATING
WITH UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC HONORS

2

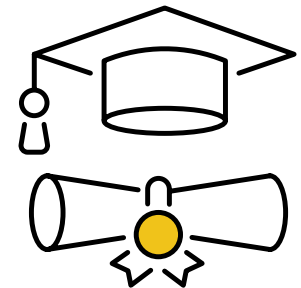
STUDENTS GRADUATING
FROM BURNETT
HONORS COLLEGE

43

DOCTORAL
SCHOLARLY
PROJECTS

5

GRADUATES WHO
COMPLETED AN HONORS
UNDERGRADUATE THESIS





NURSING PIN:

A SYMBOL OF SERVICE TO OTHERS

While the tradition of a nursing pin has evolved over its 1,000+ year history, its purpose remains the same: to serve as a visual symbol of a commitment to serve others.

Its history dates to the Crusades in Europe when knights wore a Maltese Cross as a symbol of service. The tradition continued and in 1855, Queen Victoria presented Florence Nightingale with the St. George's Cross in recognition of the care she provided to British soldiers.

In honor of Florence Nightingale, the Nightingale Badge was designed and awarded to nurses who completed the Nightingale School at St. Thomas' Hospital in London. By 1916, nursing pins became a tradition in England and the U.S. Today, nursing pins — each unique to the academic institution — continue to celebrate the completion of professional education and are proudly worn on professional ID badges.

UCF's College of Nursing pins feature Pegasus, the immortal winged horse from Greek mythology and symbol for UCF. The Pegasus represents wisdom as well as the harmony between the humanities and the sciences. UCF's nursing pins also have the letters of the recipient's degree awarded inscribed at the bottom.

SUMMER CLASS OF 2026 GRADUATES

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Nurse Executive DNP

Rosanne Corbett

"Leveraging a Comprehensive Unit-Based Safety Program (CUSP) to Strengthen Infection Prevention and Reduce MRSA Incidence"

Faculty Advisor: Jayne McMahan Willis '20DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CENP

Chau Duong

"Implementing Standardized Count Practices to Prevent Retained Items and Sentinel Events"

Faculty Advisor: Jayne McMahan Willis '20DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CENP

Heather Fray

"Evaluating the Implementation of a Structured Float Nurse Protocol on Nurse Satisfaction: A Quality Improvement Project"

Faculty Advisor: DeAnna Beverly DNP, RN, MBA, CHA, LHRM

Kimberly Mayo

"Improving Sterile Processing Safety Through a Standardized Quality Checklist to Reduce Bioburden and Instrument-Related Errors"

Faculty Advisor: Jayne McMahan Willis '20DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CENP

Monica Nebel

"Restructuring the Onboarding Process for Newly Hired Behavioral Health Nurses: Improving Retention"

Faculty Advisor: Jayne McMahan Willis '20DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CENP

Amanda Nolte

"Implementation of a Telehealth Well-Being Intervention for Healthcare Workers: A Quality Improvement Study"

Faculty Advisor: Jayne McMahan Willis '20DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CENP

Susan Upper

"Using Virtual Reality to Enhance Nurse Empathy: An Evidence Based Project"

Faculty Advisor: DeAnna Beverly DNP, RN, MBA, CHA, LHRM

Advanced Practice Nurse DNP

Dalieun Ork

"Implementing Nurse-Driven Protocols to Reduce Hospital Readmissions in a Skilled Nursing Facility"

Faculty Advisor: Valerie C. Martinez, DNP, APRN, CPNP-PC, PMHS, FNAP

Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner DNP

Tyler Gillespie

“Increasing Knowledge and Adherence to Neutral Displacement Valve Protocols for Central Venous Catheters in the Intensive Care Unit”

Faculty Advisor: Christopher W. Blackwell '05PhD, APRN, ANP-BC, AGACNP-BC, CNE, FAANP, FAAN

Haley Janke

“Risk Room Simulation to Increase New Graduate Nurse Confidence Levels”

Faculty Advisor: Laura Gonzalez '08PhD, APRN, CNE, CHSE-A, ANEF, FAAN

Tasnim Mia

“Patient-Reported Barriers to Pneumococcal Vaccination: A Survey Based Project”

Faculty Advisor: Laura Gonzalez '08PhD, APRN, CNE, CHSE-A, ANEF, FAAN

Dana Monsalvatge

“Evaluating the Implementation of a Standardized Approach to a Provider in Triage for Improving Emergency Department Metrics”

Faculty Advisor: Candace Eden RN, DNP, FASHRM, NE-BC, CPPS, CPHQ, CCMP

Haley Newkirk

“Surgical Oncology Quality Improvement Project in Oral Care”

Faculty Advisor: Frances Armstrong, DNP, APRN, AGACNP-BC, AGPCNP-BC, CHSE

Jennifer Ram

“Increasing Adherence to Sedation Titration Orders and Its Effects on Intensive Care Unit Delirium”

Faculty Advisor: Frances Armstrong, DNP, APRN, AGACNP-BC, AGPCNP-BC, CHSE

Timothy Restuccia

“Perceptions of Simulated-Based Education Among Advanced Practice Nursing Students”

Faculty Advisor: Samantha M. Stephenson, DNP, APRN, CPNP-AC

Sara Scheiner

“Implementation of a Nurse-Led Goals of Care Protocol in the Intensive Care Unit: A Quality Improvement Initiative”

Faculty Advisor: Susan Mac Leod Dyess, PhD, RN, NE-BC, AHN-BC, CNE, FNAP

Hannah Schumacher

“Optimizing Organ Donor Referral Using an Electronic Clinical Alert”

Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth V. Kinchen, PhD, RN, AHN-BC, SGAHN

Giena Small

“Enhancing Nursing Knowledge, Confidence, and Documentation Compliance Related to the Early Mobility and Exercise Component of the ABCDEF Bundle: A Quality Improvement Project”

Faculty Advisor: Susan Mac Leod Dyess, PhD, RN, NE-BC, AHN-BC, CNE, FNAP

Family Nurse Practitioner DNP

Muriel Alliance

“Bridging the Silence: A Pilot DNP Project to Implement a Hearing Screening and Referral Protocol in a University-Based Mobile Health Clinic”

Faculty Advisor: Jacqueline LaManna '13PhD, APRN, ANP-BC, BC-ADM, CDCES, FADCES, FAANP

Laurelien Bennett

“Improving Sleep Hygiene Awareness and Practices in College Students: A Structured Education Intervention in a Student Health Clinic”

Faculty Advisor: Janice Richards, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Stephanie Bhoja

“The Impact of Lifestyle Modifications on Quality of Life in Patients with PCOS: A QoL Project”

Faculty Advisor: Dana Smith '18DNP, APRN, ANP-BC, CVNP-BC, AACC

Tamica Burns

“Transforming Clinical Documentation: A Quality Improvement Project”

Faculty Advisor: Jascinth Lindo PhD, MPH, MSN, RN

Summer Chaudhary

“Development of an Evidence-based, Stakeholder-informed Roadmap for the Transition of Adolescents with Celiac Disease from Pediatric to Adult Care”

Faculty Advisor: Jean W. Davis, '19PhD, DNP, EdD, APRN, FNP-BC, PHCNS-BC, FNAP

Samantha Cooney

“Establishing a Cancer Sepsis Algorithm to Improve Door-to-Antibiotic Administration Times”

Faculty Advisor: Brian Peach, PhD, RN, CCRN-K, FCCM

Autumn Cross

“Improving Outcomes for Older Adults: A Quality Improvement Project on Geriatric ED Fall Protocols”

Faculty Advisor: Jennifer M. Crook, PhD, RN

Bevin Downs

“Evaluation of Accessibility of Medical Diagnostic Equipment in a Pediatric Primary Care Network for Pediatric Wheelchair Users”

Faculty Advisor: Jacqueline LaManna '13PhD, APRN, ANP-BC, BC-ADM, CDCES, FADCES, FAANP

Jordan Dubocq

“Utilizing Continuous Education to Increase Sepsis Bundle Compliance in the Emergency Department”

Faculty Advisor: Susan B. Fowler PhD, RN, NE-BC, NPd-BC, FCNS

Khalee Edwards

"A Quality Improvement Project: Implementing a Structured Follow-Up System to Improve Mammogram Result Notification"

Faculty Advisor: Susan B. Fowler PhD, RN, NE-BC, NP-BC, FCNS

Melissa Fajardo

"A Nurse Practitioner led Risk Stratification to reduce 30-day readmissions in Oncology Patients Post Chemotherapy Administration"

Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth V. Kinchen, PhD, RN, AHN-BC, SGAHN

Haley Ford

"Improving Transitional Care for Heart Failure in an Intensive Medical Care Unit Setting"

Faculty Advisor: Leslee A. D'Amato-Kubiet '13PhD, APRN, ANP-BC

Jeri Marks

"Using Pre-Operative Discharge Education to Enhance Patient Preparedness for Recovery Following Total Joint Replacement: A Quality Improvement Project"

Faculty Advisor: Jascinth Lindo PhD, MPH, MSN, RN

Morgan McWilliams

"A Telehealth Education Program to Improve Engagement with Telehealth Among High Utilizer Patients"

Faculty Advisor: Jacqueline LaManna '13PhD, APRN, ANP-BC, BC-ADM, CDCES, FADCES, FAANP

Stephany Mueller

"Evaluating the Quality of Outpatient Discharge Instructions in an Ambulatory Surgery Center"

Faculty Advisor: Frank Guide-Sanz, PhD, APRN, ANP-BC, '18AGACNP-BC

Kaley Nelson

"A Quality Improvement Project to Improve New Nurses' Stress, Wellbeing, and Burnout"

Faculty Advisor: Sharon J. Tucker, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, EBP-C, FNAP, FAAN

Jennifer Pentsy

"Incorporation of Audiovisual Health Information Technology to Improve Stroke Literacy"

Faculty Advisor: Amanda Emerson '21DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Jean Arlie Nina Quinones

"The Development and Implementation of Standardized Guidelines for Anti-thymocyte globulin (Thymoglobulin) Administration: A Quality Improvement Project"

Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth V. Kinchen, PhD, RN, AHN-BC, SGAHN

Daniela Rinninella Minutelli

"Reducing No-Show Rates and Enhancing Post-Discharge Engagement Through a Patient-Centered Video Intervention: A Quality Improvement Initiative"

Faculty Advisor: Samantha M. Stephenson, DNP, APRN, CPNP-AC

Savannah Russell

"Optimizing Infection Control: A Decision-Support Tool for Pediatric Nurses"

Faculty Advisor: Jennifer M. Crook, PhD, RN

Kailey Savage

"Increasing Nonpharmacological Method Use for Pain Control Following an Orthopedic Procedure"

Faculty Advisor: Geraldine Luzincourt '20DNP, APRN, FNP-C

Chandler Sock

"Evaluating the Usefulness of a High-Risk Sexual Behaviors Assessment Tool at a University Health Center"

Faculty Advisor: Latonia Green, DNP, MSN, RN

Stephanie Soto

"Enhancing Resilience and Reducing Stress Through a 3-Minute Breathing Space Exercise Among Centralized Resource Team Nurses"

Faculty Advisor: Sandra Kirkland, DNS, RN, APRN-BC, NEA-BC

Christina Troxle

"Evaluating the Implementation of the NCSBN Clinical Judgment Model into a Nurse Residency Program: A Quality Improvement Project "

Faculty Advisor: Susan Mac Leod Dyess, PhD, RN, NE-BC, AHN-BC, CNE, FNAP

Lynn Van

"Educating Hypertensive Adults on OSA: A Quality Improvement Initiative to Increase Screening Participation"

Faculty Advisor: Sandra Kirkland, DNS, RN, APRN-BC, NEA-BC

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Healthcare Simulation

Kayla Derosé
Rachael Fillinger
Amber Ingham

Nurse Educator

Courtney Brobst
Rachel Ledford

Nurse Leadership & Management

Teresa Hilario
Samantha Len
Lisa Rey

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Adult/Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

Milagros Carrasquillo

Healthcare Simulation

Larissa Farley
Binu Mathew
Benedetta Patterson
Ullyses Rodriguez-Vara

Hispanic Serving Healthcare Professionals

Nikary Cortez
Karla Rivera
Arianna Sosa
Jasmine Turbe

Nurse Educator

Megan Chipman
Sandra Davis
Rachael Fillinger
Marilyn Latorre
Oniel Laucella
Sheena Lawson
Purushottam Neupane
Marcia Peterzell

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Post-Licensure RN to BSN

Naomi Balka	Julie Kim	Maddalena Richards
Liron Ben David	Zoe Koch	Johanna Rivas
Sadia Bhuiyan	Kayla Kretschmer	John Michael Roberts
Nicole Blackstock	Gillian Laflash	Anistyn Rodriguez
Bibiana Bracero	Gina Largent	Paola Rodriguez
Gezelle Buckley	Kevin Lenoir	Alexa Rua
Viola Charles	Carrie Lewis	Martine Saint Aime
Connor Creighton	Christopher Lukac	Stevie Sampley
Alazay Cruz	Olivia Macgrath	Kaitlyn Schroeder
Corinne Drmotá	Jacqueline Madriz	Chloe Sierra
Destinee Freckleton	Nery Matamoros Murillo	Amesha Singh
Hailey Gamerl	Taylor McCullough	Damique Smith
Ruby Gerena Carreras	Ashley Mungal	Adam Soils
Farrah Haniff-Ali	Isabel Murgueitio	Shaina Squire
Olivia Howard	Padmani Narain	Tung Thao
Jacquelyn Hunter	Claudia Nunes	Nayeli Titley
Ana Jacome	Quintin Opfell	Tiffany Torres
Eliane Jean	Alyssa Padilla	Adriana Villanueva
Noah Jensen	Marie Perceval	Courtney Walters ^{SCL}
Kristen Johnson	Kaylani Perez	Taylor Weis
Tzaria Jones	Thomas Peterson	Felicia White
Sharon Kennedy ^{CL}	Jayanna Reid	Tina Woods

Concurrent ASN to BSN

UCF Online, Florida College System

Shanelle Ezra Alamo	Maria Pereira
Amirah Ali	Maria Quinones
Melanie Butcher	Rebecca Ralph
Vivian Cruzet	Isabella Rodriguez-Charet
Valeria Llanos	Dayanna Rodriguez-Frasco ^{CL}
Grace Matlak	Rose Taylor
Cairline Paul-Darling	Rylee Wallace

UCF Connect, Seminole State College

Ashley Anderson	Sarah McCarthy
Tatianna Arroyo	Megan Murphy
Emily Christensen	Amy Nguyen
Nicole Epperson	Carson Payne
Sharon Garanton	Joseph Rice
Sarah Gendusa	Corey Smith
Olivia Goenaga	Makayla Stoutt
Jasmine Gola	Kalen Tuttle
Jessica Kirkland	Isabella Vera
Haley Marshall	

UCF Connect, Valencia College

Nicole Bader
Ajay Balgobind
Crystal Colon-Rosado
Kelsey Darnell
Janine Downs
Alessandra Fajardo
Emma Fedele
Leila Hemphill
Jaylie Iznaga
Sky Jackson

Troy Kersten
Trinity Mccard
Julianna Pierone Oliveria
Laura Pierre
Rosaída Questell-Caraballo
Christopher Rivas
Natanael Santos Rivera^{CL}
Angelina Siddiq
Normee Trinh

Second Degree BSN

Kaye Maxine Aguaviva
Joseph Amaya-Bolanos
Hannah Bach
Nouralhouda Boutayeb
Lauren Bradley
Danielle Brown
Shaina Buckner
Cameron Burkett
Kendra Burnham
Jada-Lee Campbell
Karen Cano
Kiah Champion
Miuling Chang^{MCL}
Kamryn Chow
Meghan Church^{CL}
Olivia Claudio
Kathleen Clifton
Madison Cloud
Vanessa Cotamo
Emma Cote^{SCL}
Caroline Curry^{MCL}
Makaylah Davis
Taina Destine
Jared Diago
Maria Diaz Merchan
Hannah Douma
Alexandra Duran Angulo

Tyler Forman
Heather Franson
Bailey Frensley
Megan Furfey
Kaitlyn Gallagher
Visalakshi Gandikota
Brooke Green^{CL}
Terry Harris
Leslie Heinricher
Gabrielle Hershkowitz
Ali Ishaq
Madison Jenka
Bria Johnson
Samuel Justin
Sarah Keegan
Ashley Klement
Rown Klukosky
Anjali Koneru
Katie Kornacki
Jacon Ladinsky
Erica LaPine
Yalismar Lara^{CL}
Joseph Loomis
Maira Martinez-Benavidez
Amelia McGaffic
Theresa Mcguire
Kate McLaughlin^{SCL}

Abigail Medina
Adriana Medina Rodriguez
Jacob Medrano
Amy Nguyen^{SCL}
Do'Monique Noel
Jailene Oliva
William Papazian
Jaya Persaud
Maily Reyes
Sarai Richards
Nicole Richter
Cinthya Rivas Partida
Kaleana Rodriguez Hernandez
Sierra Sanchez
Brooke Sanders
Katherine Elizabeth Schaefer^{SCL}
Harry Sierra
Ireland Thigpen
Meghan Thompson
Zimira Torres Santiago
David Trivino
Raquel Vargas
Allison Vautier
Daniel Wahba
Macy Wolf^{CL}
Lianne Wong^{CL}

Traditional BSN**Lake Nona Campus**

Lena Abdelal^{CL}
Jody Arroyo
Elani Barrera^{SCL}
Lillian Bell
Chloe Benopoulos^{SCL}
Collin Bogle
Carlisle Bolger
Shay Buckman^{SCL}
Jose Bustillo^{MCL}
Emily Chae
Natali Chau^{CL}
Gordon Chen^{SCL}
David Chikezie
Allison Cohen^{CL}
Amanda Corbett
Tarick Cueva
Briana Dattile
Giovanna Diaz
Kimberly Diaz
Alexis Drew
Isabella Fandino
Maeleigh Lyn Fox^{SCL}
Vanessa Gallarday
Odin Gan^{MCL}
Caitlin Gill^{CL}
Stephen Alex Gura
Noa Gutmann^{CL}
Natalie Hagens
Victoria Halligan
Monica Hanna^{SCL}
Dasean Hield^{CL}
Moc Ho
Michelle Huang
Isabelle Karshner^{MCL}
Abrianna Lalle
Ashley Mae Larkins
Abigail Larranaga
Brooke Leggiero
Matthew Leon
Selina Liu
Jake Lozano^{CL}

Conor Lufkin^{CL}
Thuy Tien Luong
Emily Machuca^{SCL}
Nicole Marciano
Caroline Marques Bonafim
Isabella McGlone^{SCL}
Kaitlyn Mcguire
Luz Mejia Munoz
Mia Memnon
Katelyn Mihalovits
Kiersten Mordecai^{CL}
Anthony Munoz
Julia Nemeth
Anh Nguyen^{CL}
Emily Nguyen
Gabriel Nies
Chiazoka Ozougwu^{CL}
Audrey Painter
Xavier Patrick^{CL}
Samirah Paul
Michael Perez
Triet Pham^{CL}
Alexa Rangel
Kate Rodriguez
Jose Santa
Nikkisha Sejour
Ashlyn Senzig
Brianna Simmons
Emily Stewart^{CL}
Jenny Tang
Allison Tran^{SCL}
Fabiana Trinidad^{CL}
Sundari Varadarajan
Carina Vitella^{CL}
Ava Walbroe^{MCL}
Alyssa Warner^{CL}
Natalie West^{CL}
Simone Williams
Kira Wilson
Jeredy Wood^{SCL}
Carter York

SCL = Summa Cum Laude MCL = Magna Cum Laude CL = Cum Laude

BURNETT HONORS COLLEGE GRADUATES

Honors Undergraduate Thesis

Collin Bogle

"Mobility and Delirium in Mechanically Ventilated ICU Patients:
An Integrated Review"

Thesis Chair: Annette Bourgault

Noa Gutmann

"Looking Beyond Traditional Therapy: The Promising Alternative
of Ketamine-Assisted Treatments in Improving the Quality of Life
of Veterans"

Thesis Chair: Sharon J. Tucker

Isabelle Karshner

"Investigating the Role of Traditional Chinese Herbal Medicine for
Cancer Symptom Management in Older Adults"

Thesis Chair: Jennifer M. Crook

Brooke Leggiero

"Post-Intensive Care Syndrome in Adult Acute Respiratory Distress
Syndrome Survivors"

Thesis Chair: Brian Peach

Emily Machuca

"Parenting Stress and its Association with Parental Technoference:
An Integrative Literature Review"

Thesis Chair: Valerie Martinez

University Honors Scholars

Shay Buckman
Brooke Leggiero

WELCOME TO UCF ALUMNI, KNIGHT NURSE!

Congratulations! With your new degree, you are joining a community of 17,000+ Knight nurses — **a network of UCF College of Nursing alumni in all specialties, levels and communities here to support YOU.**

To get started in making connections, grow in your nursing career and keep reaching for the stars, **scan this QR code for a new Knight nurse checklist.**



Plus, continue to stay up to date on news and opportunities by following us on social media.



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University of
Central Florida
College of
Nursing



SCAN THE CODE
TO MAKE YOUR
GIFT TODAY.

MAKE A SENIOR CLASS GIFT

Propel success for future generations of Knight nurses to follow in your footsteps.

Students who celebrate becoming a #UCFGrad with a gift of **\$20.26** — the class year — will receive a graduation cord as a thank you gift.

Family and friends, honor your new #KnightNurse with a gift of any amount to support UCF's College of Nursing, fuel innovation and impact the health of our communities.

Questions? Contact Carla Craig at 407-823-0712 or carla.craig@ucf.edu