



SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER

# THE SCOPE

Southern Utah University || Issue 22



## SUU DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

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## PROGRAMS

Pre-licensure

Health Professional (HP) to BSN

RN to BSN Online

Editors: Rachel Lister and Samantha Foley  
Faculty member: Donna Lister

# Congratulations

NCLEX PASS RATE: 100%  
Fall 2020 Cohort



## PROGRAM AND LEVEL UPDATES

Fall Class of 2022 is a force to be reckoned with. We have an unmistakable bond, one that was instantaneous. As the time on campus builds, so do the friendships. The word “lunch” is said after most classes, and you best believe there’s a swarm of us heading to Chick-fil-A or Pastry Pub just to spend a little more time together. Tuesday treats always brings Capri Suns and Rice Krispies, warm smiles, and tired faces. We have parents pausing their number one priority, athletes aspiring to more than their physical abilities, and so many humans already hitched that are here in the now to achieve this incredible adventure of nursing.

We love our “loud”, and we love our wit. We love our one-liners, and we love our crazy. If you’re ever in a tight spot, say something clever just to get another laugh. That’s how we keep sane. We always know on those days we break, there’s a shoulder to cry on and a sarcastic comment to be said. The variety of personalities are a kaleidoscope of interchangeable beauty.

The unique backgrounds all of us carry were meant to come together right now to be each other’s, nursing family. We didn’t all make it on our first try, and we weren’t supposed to. Some of us had to wait for the others to catch up so we could have each other. We are family, and we’re in this together.

- Camry Miller

*Level 1*



# Level 2



Level 2 has consisted of a lot of early morning drives filled with caffeine and treats! We have been having great experiences at clinical this semester, both in Cedar and St. George! It's been nice to see everything come full circle as we start to feel more and more like nurses everyday. We are studying and working hard to prepare for finals week. We are so thankful for our faculty and for all of the time and effort they put into teaching us and for pushing us to be better everyday. We love SUU's nursing program and our fellow students and hope you all have a great summer! Thank you upper level students for being willing to come help us in the lab and conduct case studies for us! Congrats to the level 4's who are graduating and good luck on the NCLEX!

- Kamree Peterson

Level 3 has been different from previous semesters, but it has still been awesome! We've been able to learn about and engage in services provided in our community to promote health as well as work with women and newborns. We have helped with providing Covid testing on SUU campus and administering Covid vaccines with the Southwest Health Department for residents in Iron County. We have enjoyed the time we've spent both in and out of the classroom together. We have a lot of fun and are both sad and excited to be nearing the end of our nursing school experience at Southern Utah University!

- Megan Eberhard

# Level 3



# Level 4



Level 4 students are doing well! We are finishing up our clinical rotations and are super excited to be graduating! Many classmates are looking for jobs or planning on going to graduate school. We are sad to part ways but ecstatic to finish nursing school and get out in the nursing workforce !  
-Shawntae Gagnon

Our class highlights have been the labor and delivery clinicals as well as the community nursing experience. We absolutely loved the labor and delivery unit with one student saying it has been her favorite department so far. She stated that being there when parents meet their new babies for the first time was the most amazing experience.

Another got to help the doctor Saunders deliver a baby and found that she might want to be a midwife. Our class also enjoyed the experience of community clinicals. A different student talked about how much he enjoyed being able to help vaccinate at risk populations and how we were able to make such a difference in the community even as student nurses. Overall, this semester was challenging but in all the best ways. Our class is grateful for the instructors and clinicals that have helped us to gain such a strong understanding of different types of nursing and their concepts.

-Aysia Kelsch

## Health Professionals

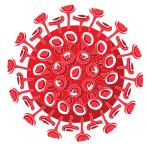


# RN to BSN

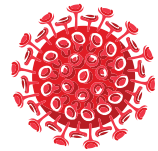


With spring comes graduation and those of us who are graduating are READY! Classes are busy right until the end of the term. Some of us are attending commencement and hope to meet each other and some faculty at that event. Online school has its challenges, but it is so awesome to have so much flexibility in time and location of study. Best of luck to all who are graduating and also to those who are continuing on. Go TBirds!

-Miranda Fillmore

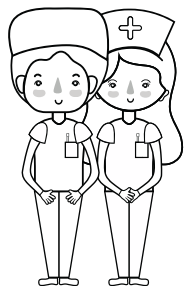


## COVID-19 UPDATE



COVID still has quite the presence here at SUU. Cameras have continued to be implemented in each classroom as well as seating charts so that if one student tests positive, the proper students will be notified and required to quarantine. Masks are still a requirement to be on campus. There is randomized COVID testing happening on campus, where students are emailed when they have been randomly selected to test. The students can then make an appointment to test.

As nurses, we learn to be prepared for whatever may be thrown our way and make solutions. We have learned to take COVID head on and take the necessary precautions. We have taken this opportunity to be a part of testing other students and administering vaccines to the community.



# SUU NURSING ALUMNI



*Lisa  
Anderson*

Class of 2018

"I have worked at a boarding school here in Cedar City for three years. I started right after I graduated the nursing program. I currently have four kids and am trying to get through the first year of graduate school. I attend school online at Eastern Kentucky University for their master's program. My plan is to become a psychiatric nurse practitioner and continue to work in the treatment industry in Utah."

*Paxton  
Edwards*

Class of 2018

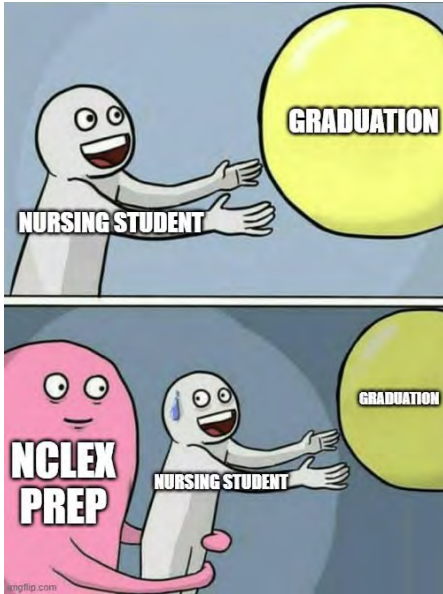
Growing up in Beaver County, I never thought I would leave southern Utah for my nursing career. I remember one day visiting with Donna Lister when she suggested looking into applying at Duke. My wife (Lexsie) and 1-year-old son (Taft) soon found ourselves moving to Durham, North Carolina. My nurse manager stated she was very impressed with my SUU portfolio and has shown it to many of the nurses working on the floor. I was nervous to start my new job on a general medicine unit with new graduates from big schools, such as: Duke, UNC, and ECU. It was such a relief to see that SUU had prepared me far more than any of the other new graduates. Because of my skills and knowledge, I was the first nurse to be trained as a charge nurse at my year mark (normally not offered until two or three years of experience).

After spending two years on a general medicine floor, I transferred to the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit. We commonly take care of post arrest patients or others waiting for a heart transplant. It is not uncommon to have several code blues on the unit each week. Duke has countless opportunities for their nurses and now offers a nurse residency and fellowship program to help new grads with the transition. Despite being away from all of our family in Utah, I love working at Duke!

SUU's Nursing Program pushes their students to an exceptional level that stands above the average new graduate nurse. I am proud to represent SUU and know that it has taken me further than I ever imagined. I am extremely grateful for all of the staff and friends in the Department of Nursing at SUU.



# COMIC RELIEF



When people ask me why I chose nursing...



Me checking a low BP for the 5th time hoping it's not real.

Me watching my psych patient pull out their IV and smear blood all over the walls



Pronouncing drug names



My nursing student waiting for me to finish giving report to tell me the patient stopped breathing



YOUR FIRST CLINICAL DAY. THE PATIENT CODES AND YOU ARE TRAPPED IN THE CORNER!



Practicing all the healthy habits I'm learning about in nursing school to teach patients.

Doing the complete opposite to get through nursing school.

