

Doctoral

# Doctor of Nursing Practice Nurse Anesthesia

## Degrees Available at SIUE

- Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Please note that international students are ineligible to receive a student visa for this program.

## Specializations

- Nurse Anesthesia

## Nurse Anesthesia DNP at SIUE

The nurse anesthesia DNP specialization prepares registered nurses with a baccalaureate or graduate degree in nursing to provide individualized anesthetic patient care for surgical, diagnostic, therapeutic or pain management procedures. Nurse anesthetist practices are based on both institutional and state policies, but are usually in collaboration with physicians. Nurse anesthetists are well respected and often work autonomously, especially in rural areas where they may be the sole anesthesia providers.

The nurse anesthesia DNP specialization offers courses and clinical experiences that meet or exceed the standards of the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Program (COA). The NA DNP program at SIUE is fully accredited through May 2030 by COA, 222 S. Prospect Ave., Suite 304, Park Ridge, IL 60068-4010.

Within the specialization, students learn to provide anesthetic care in diverse settings, including both rural and urban settings. Following graduation, students will meet the minimum didactic and clinical requirements to become eligible to take the National Certification Examination offered by the National Board on Certification and Recertification of Nurse Anesthetists. The nurse anesthesia DNP specialization is offered full time over nine semesters (36 months) on the Edwardsville campus.

## Application Requirements

- Submission of Graduate School application and \$40 university application fee prior to the established deadline.
- A degree in nursing from a CCNE, NLNAC or ACEN accredited program. Graduates from non-NLNAC, CCNE or ACEN accredited programs may be evaluated on an individual basis. Please contact the School of Nursing for more information.
- An unencumbered license as a registered professional nurse and/or an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) in the United States or its territories or protectorates.
- Submission of all postsecondary academic transcripts.
- Minimum undergraduate nursing GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Submission of a resume or curriculum vitae (CV) that includes a description of all work experience, certifications/licensures, degrees, scholarship activities (research, quality improvement projects, publications, etc.), awards, and community service.



# SIUE

School of Nursing

## Program Administrators

**Laura Bernaix, PhD, RN  
Dean**

**Roberta Harrison, PhD, RN  
Associate Dean for  
Academic Programs**

**Andrew Griffin, PhD, CRNA,  
APRN  
Assistant Dean for  
Graduate Programs**  
Areas of Expertise: Office-  
Based Anesthesia and  
Anesthesia Education

**Kevin Stein, DNAP, CRNA,  
APRN  
Program Director, Nurse  
Anesthesia Specialization**  
Areas of Expertise: Business of  
Anesthesia and Technology in  
Anesthesia

**Leah M. Baecht, DNP,  
CRNA, APRN  
Interim Assistant  
Program Director**  
Areas of Expertise: OB  
Anesthesia and Student  
Wellness

## Nurse Anesthesia Faculty

**Justin Baecht, MS, CRNA,  
APRN**  
Areas of Expertise:  
Pathophysiology, Chemistry  
and Physics Related to  
Anesthesia

**Matt Bednarchik, DNP(c),  
CRNA, APRN**  
Area of Expertise: Acute and  
Chronic Pain Management

**Nick Collier, DNP(c), CRNA,  
APRN  
Nurse Anesthesia  
Simulation Coordinator**  
Areas of Expertise: High  
Fidelity Simulation and  
Cardiothoracic Anesthesia

**Rebecca Collier, DNP,  
CRNA, APRN  
Coordinator for Nurse  
Anesthesia Student  
Academic Success**  
Areas of Expertise: Pediatric  
Anesthesia and DNP Project  
Development

**Lauren Douglass, DNP,  
CRNA, APRN**  
Areas of Expertise:  
Perioperative Anesthesia Care

**Wesley Gallagher, DNP,  
CRNA, APRN**  
Areas of Expertise: Anatomy,  
Physiology and Pathophysiology  
Related to Anesthesia

**Chaya Gopalan, PhD**  
Areas of Expertise: Anatomy,  
Physiology & Pathophysiology

**Joe Grazaitis, DNP, CRNA,  
APRN**  
Areas of Expertise:  
Pharmacology of Anesthetics  
& Ultrasound-Guided Regional  
Anesthesia

**Whitney Heischmidt,  
DNP(c), CRNA, APRN**  
Area of Expertise:  
Cardiothoracic Anesthesia

**Adam Schneider, DNP,  
CRNA, APRN, NSPM-C**  
Areas of Expertise:  
Pharmacology of Anesthetics,  
Acute and Chronic Pain  
Management and Ultrasound-  
Guided Regional Anesthesia

**Jenna Tebbenkamp, DNP(c),  
CRNA, APRN**  
Areas of Expertise: OB  
Anesthesia, Leadership and  
Business Administration

**Mary Zerlan, DNP, CRNA,  
APRN**  
Area of Expertise: Anesthesia  
for Organ Transplants and  
Nursing Research

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
**EDWARDSVILLE**

SCHOOL OF NURSING

[siue.edu/nurse-anesthesia](http://siue.edu/nurse-anesthesia)

## Sample Curriculum (subject to change)

### Year 1

Summer	NURS 514 Advanced Human Physiology	4
NURS 515 Advanced Human Pathophysiology	4	
PAPA 561 Biostatistics/Epidemiology	3	
Total Credits	11	
Fall	NURS 516 Pharmacology for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURS 600 Theory Guided Practice	3	
NURS 564 Chemistry and Physics Applied to Anesthesia	3	
NURS 604 Evaluating Evidence for Improving Practice/Healthcare Outcomes	3	
Total Credits	12	
Spring	NURS 606 Leadership and Health Policy for Advanced Nursing Practice	3
NURS 513 Advanced Health Assessment & Practicum	3	
NURS 529 Orientation to Nurse Anesthesia Practicum	5	
NURS 563 Pharmacology Related to Anesthesia	3	
Total Credits	14	

### Year 2

NURS 565a Theoretical Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia I	5	
NURS 565b Clinical Practicum in Nurse Anesthesia I	1	
NURS 695a Introduction to DNP Projects	1	
Total Credits	7	
Fall	NURS 566a Theoretical Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia II	5
NURS 566b Clinical Practicum in Nurse Anesthesia II	2	
NURS 697a Doctoral Project Design and Management I	1	
Total Credits	8	
Spring	NURS 567a Theoretical Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia III	5
NURS 567b Clinical Practicum in Nurse Anesthesia III	2	
NURS 697b Doctoral Project Design and Management II	1	
Total Credits	8	

### Year 3

Summer	NURS 560 Ethical, Legal & Systemic Issues in Anesthesia Practice	3
NURS 670a Clinical Leadership in Anesthesia Seminar	1	
NURS 670b Clinical Leadership in Anesthesia Practicum	1	
NURS 697c Doctoral Project Design and Management III	3	
Total Credits	8	
Fall	NURS 668a Clinical Correlations & Innovations in Anesthesia Practice I	3
NURS 668b Clinical Practicum in Nurse Anesthesia IV	2	
NURS 697d Doctoral Project Design & Management IV	1	
Total Credits	6	
Spring	NURS 669a Clinical Correlations & Innovations in Anesthesia Practice II	3
NURS 669b Clinical Practicum in Nurse Anesthesia V	2	
NURS 697e Doctoral Project Design & Management V	1	
Total Credits	6	
<b>Total Hours</b>	<b>80</b>	

### Application Requirements, Cont.

- Submission of a personal statement.
  - Suggested topic: Some students have a background, identity, interest or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
- Submission of three professional reference forms.
  - One must be from the supervisor of your most recent critical care setting.
  - One must be from a nurse holding a graduate degree in nursing or a related field.

### Application Deadline

The application deadline is **May 1** for the class entering in the following May. Program application materials may be uploaded during the application process, but official transcripts must be sent directly from the school attended, and test scores must be verifiable with the appropriate testing service. Please contact the Graduate Admissions Office with questions regarding the application submission process at [graduateadmissions@siue.edu](mailto:graduateadmissions@siue.edu).

The program generally interviews candidates in July and admits them to the School of Nursing with notification in August to enroll in May of the following year. Once accepted, a non-refundable advance deposit fee of \$1,000 is required to secure a seat in the nurse anesthesia cohort (applied towards future tuition). Payment is due within two weeks of admission to the School of Nursing to validate the candidate's commitment to enroll in the program.

Applicants may follow up with the graduate nursing advisor at 618-650-3930 for additional questions or to check on the status of an application.

### Graduation Requirements

Doctoral students in the School of Nursing's Nurse Anesthesia option must complete all courses with a GPA of 3.0/4.0, which includes successful completion of all clinical practicum experiences. Nurse anesthesia students must also successfully complete a DNP project.

### Contact Information

Andrew Griffin, PhD, CRNA, APRN  
 Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs  
 School of Nursing  
 Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
 Phone: 618-650-3956 or 800-234-4844  
 Email: [agriffi@siue.edu](mailto:agriffi@siue.edu)