

## Online Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Mission, Vision, and Philosophy

### Mission

The mission of the online MSN degree program at the University of Mount Olive is to support the university's mission through building on baccalaureate nursing education to preparing nurse educators and nurse leaders by broadening their nursing theoretical, practice, and research knowledge for delivery of healthcare with diverse populations in a rapidly changing healthcare system.

### Vision

The vision of the University of Mount Olive online MSN degree program works in concert with that of the university, "...to serve our students, our founding church, and our communities." The vision of the online MSN degree program at the University of Mount Olive is to grow nursing leaders for the ever-changing global healthcare environment.

### Philosophy

The philosophy of the online MSN degree program at the University of Mount Olive views nursing as a professional service discipline grounded in the arts, sciences, humanities, and the application of knowledge obtained through scientifically based inquiry. The nursing faculty promote and adhere to a paradigm of caring that addresses holistic human responses throughout the age continuum. This paradigm includes nursing education, nursing administration, and nursing research practices that encompass provisions of care, coordination of care, and consummate professionalism. While the nursing faculty subscribes to a variety of theoretical frameworks reflecting adaptation, self-care, transcultural, and humanistic aspects, we believe that the essence of nursing is caring.

The nursing faculty view "caring" as the basis for nursing. Caring involves recognizing patient diversity, potential, autonomy, and universal needs. Further, caring requires understanding and acceptance; it promotes egalitarian relationships and has as its goal the empowerment of all individuals. The concept of caring permeates nursing education, nursing administration, and nursing research practices, and all three of these entities intertwine in the delivery of global healthcare. The nursing faculty draws upon their collective cognitive, clinical, and creative abilities to prepare nursing educators and nursing administrators for the promotion of safe and effective nursing care that follows evidence-based standards of practice.

We believe that both the nursing faculty and the graduate nursing students have a responsibility to each other to create a learning environment that is conducive to learning, freedom of thought, scholarly inquiry, the affirmation of beliefs and skills, critical thinking, critical decision-making, ethical practice, facilitative communication, and leadership. Our online MSN degree program graduates will assume roles as professional nursing leaders and nursing educators in the academic and nursing professional development settings. They will promote the health of individuals, families, and populations, the enhancement of society's healthcare management, and evidence-based practices in the nursing profession in today's rapidly changing healthcare settings.

Healthcare provides a dynamic environment in which there exists the potential for physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being for all individuals. Healthcare professionals practicing in this environment need to work in partnership with each other and the communities they serve. Both independent and collaborative nursing strategies are necessary components of practice. To this end, the nursing faculty are committed to role-modeling a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approach to nursing education, nursing administration, and nursing research practices, and to developing within the graduate nursing students a sense of awareness of economic and outcome aspects of the current healthcare marketplace.