

## The Nurse Educator Certificate Program at TCNJ is

- Non-degree certificate program that is composed of a 14-credit sequence of graduate courses to prepare future nurse educators to teach in academic and/or healthcare settings. The program includes four theory courses with practicum hours imbedded in 2 of the courses.

### Courses include:

1. **NURS 570 Teaching Strategies with Practicum (Fall 2019)**
2. **NURS 571 Curriculum Development and Learning Theory (Summer 2020)**
3. **NURS 572 Teaching with Technology for Health Professionals (Spring 2020)**
4. **NURS 573 Assessment/Evaluation Methods with Practicum (Fall 2020)**

## TCNJ Nurse Educator Certificate Offers:

- Blended Classes (online and face-to-face classes) that give you the opportunity to interact with faculty and other students.
- Preparation for continuing your education at the graduate level.

## When

- To accommodate the working RN, some classes will be scheduled online. The time block for face-to-face classes is typically 5:00-7:50 PM.
- Class schedules follow TCNJ's regular academic calendar and are offered Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters.

## What is the typical time for completion of your certificate?

1 year (Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters).

The College of New Jersey **Nurse Educator Certificate** program places emphasis on helping to develop tomorrow's leaders in the field of Nursing. This blended certificate program prepares nurses to teach in classrooms, educate online, or drive change in hospitals and health systems in the community. Our program provides students to develop understanding of how technology, assessment, and academic supports facilitate student progress and improve instruction. We pride ourselves on preparing our graduates to continue setting goals, which will lead them to positions of professional leadership or advanced practice.

### Admission Requirements

Baccalaureate degree in Nursing from an NLN or CCNE accredited institution.

- Preadmission interview may be requested.
- Undergraduate health assessment course or approved equivalent.
- Successful completion of an undergraduate statistics course (or approved equivalent).
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in their Baccalaureate degree program.

### Additional Requirements for accepted students

- CPR Certification
- Criminal Background Check
- Drug test
- Adherence to the health requirements of the college and the school

#### Contact:

Dara Whalen, PhD, MSPH, APN, CRNP, FNP-BC, CNE, SANE  
Assistant Professor  
Graduate Program Coordinator  
whalend@tcnj.edu

Yolanda Nelson, EdD, MSNed, RN-BC  
Assistant Professor  
Nurse Educator Track Leader  
nelsony1@tcnj.edu

## **Nurse Educator Certificate consists of the following courses:**

### **NURS 570 Teaching Strategies with Practicum (50 practicum hours)**

3 credits

This course provides nurses with a variety of teaching strategies and evaluation tools aimed to promote positive and effective learning environments. Emphasis is on developing an understanding of what it means to learn and to teach. Students will explore the meaning of their personal teaching philosophy and how changing paradigms of contemporary teaching practices impact both the teacher and the learner. Selected teaching theories will be examined and applied to both the role of nurse educator and the nurse education practice. Students will apply critical thinking skills to assess the needs of and plan teaching strategies based on educational theory and evidenced-based practices related to education. Practicum component is also included in this course.

### **NURS 571 Curriculum Development and Learning Theory**

3 credits

This course examines curriculum and assessment through theoretical and practical lenses. Emphasis is placed on preparing educators to create and evaluate coherent, aligned, student-centered curriculum consistent with effective pedagogy. Students will learn how to develop/utilize curriculum crosswalk(s) assuring essential objectives and learning strategies are in line with current academic and clinical practice recommendations and are based on established and emerging learning theories.

### **NURS 572 Teaching with Technology for Health Professionals**

3 credits

This course is designed to deepen students' skills, concepts and capabilities in information technology within the framework of nursing and health education. Students will learn contemporary techniques for teaching and learning with technology, including best practices in online design and digital resource creation and dissemination. Existing and developing technologies utilized in nursing education and practice settings will be explored.

### **NURS 573 Assessment/Evaluation Methods with Practicum (150 practicum hours)**

5 credits

This course emphasizes developing a systematic assessment plan, generating learning objectives and outcomes, developing blueprints and examinations, and analyzing statistical test data. Measurement theory related to norm referenced and criterion referenced evaluation methods will be reviewed. Students will explore measurement tools for evaluation of cognitive, affective, and psychomotor domains, and gain experience in computer analysis of measurement tools. Use and interpretation of standardized tests will be explored. The principles and practices of assessment along with current issues and research related to educational measurement will be discussed. Practicum component is also included in this course.