



HSHS Ambassador Program

Quick Facts about Murray State University

- Murray State University is a tax-supported institution composed of five academic colleges and a school of agriculture.
- There are nine residential colleges on campus.
- The main campus is comprised of 71 major buildings and two libraries.
- The University extends its services through its regional campuses in Paducah, Hopkinsville, Madisonville, and Henderson, and also through its distance learning programs.
- There are about 1,450 new freshmen on campus.
- The student body is 82% undergraduate.
- Minority students make up 13% of the students.
- Murray State has a diverse student body with 461 international students coming from 64 foreign countries.
- Six in ten students are women.
- The out-of-state students make up 28% of the student population.

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

B.S.N. (Bachelor of Science in Nursing)

A baccalaureate degree in nursing provides a registered nurse ample professional employment opportunities throughout the nation and world in a wide variety of health care settings. These settings include rehabilitation, nursing homes, hospitals, home health, outpatient clinics, and school health clinics. The B.S.N. prepares the graduate nurse with a broad knowledge base, leadership, and research skills that permit functioning in new and challenging situations. The B.S.N. is also required as preparation to enter programs of graduate nursing education. In many parts of the country, registered nurses with the B.S.N. degree earn higher salaries than other registered nurses. The Murray State University B.S.N. and M.S.N. programs are accredited by the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission, approved by the Kentucky Board of Nursing and have preliminary approval from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

The first year at Murray State is devoted to fulfilling university study requirements. These courses provide a foundation for all subsequent program requirements. The nursing program admits students only after certain requirements have been met. To be considered for admission, students are subject to the following criteria: minimum GPA of 2.5 or above; sophomore standing of 30 or more semester hours of credit; completion of the following courses (or equivalent) with a grade of "C" or above: ENG 101, ENG 102, CHE 105, CHE 106, BIO 199, BIO 228, PSY 180; academic advisement in developing a plan of study. Once admitted into nursing, the curriculum takes five or six semesters to complete. The courses offer a variety of clinical opportunities as well as lecture courses.

R.N.-B.S.N PROGRAMS (Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing)

Because the RN to BSN program is part of the Extended Education Department, the RN is only required to take 28 hours of nursing and one other 3-hour course from MSU in addition to other requirements for the degree. All other courses for the four-year degree can be met at the local community college. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO COME TO MURRAY, KY FOR CLASSES. Classes are offered at offsite locations by interactive TV, on-line, and by instructors at sites.

The length of time it will take a student to complete the program depends upon how many hours the student needs (general education hours), how much time the student has available to attend class, and willingness of the student to travel for some classes if necessary. All courses are not offered at every site every term, but are available at another site - Madisonville, Paducah, Hopkinsville or Murray. Some courses are taught in short summer term, online, and over interactive television, as well as taken offsite. Many students are able to complete the 31 hours from MSU within one year.

M.S.N. PROGRAM (Master of Science in Nursing)

The purpose of the **Master of Science in Nursing Degree** at MSU is to prepare advanced practice nurses within a rural setting. The MSU graduate nursing program offers three options of study: **The Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS)**, **Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)**, and **Nurse Anesthetist (NA)**. The Family Nurse Practitioner and Nurse Anesthetist options are full time. The Clinical Nurse Specialist is an advanced practice nurse with a concentration in a selected area of clinical nursing with a focus on adult health. Emphasis is placed on case management. The CNS is prepared to function as an expert practitioner, leader, researcher, educator, and consultant.

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK,

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & GERONTOLOGY

SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

The baccalaureate social work program of Murray State University is fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education and strives to prepare students for professional entry-level generalist social work practice. Within this objective, the program strives to meet the individual needs of students as well as to reflect the growing need for generalist practitioners in the region.

The faculty of the program is committed to creating an educational environment in which students can achieve the following key social work objectives:

- Develop the personal qualities, attitudes, values, and professional qualities essential for effective practice;
- Apply critical thinking skills within the context of professional social work practice;
- Practice within the values and ethics of the social work profession and with an understanding of and respect for the positive value of diversity;
- Use communication skills differentially with a variety of client populations, colleagues, and members of the community;
- Develop generalist practice skills and knowledge necessary to work with systems of all sizes and to be able to identify and link resources with system needs;
- Understand the forms and mechanisms of oppression and discrimination and the strategies of change that advance social and economic justice;
- Analyze the impact of social policies on client systems, workers, and agencies;

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

Educational Objectives of the Major in Criminal Justice with a concentration in Corrections/Law Enforcement (B.A./B.S. Degree)

1. Graduates must demonstrate oral and written communication skills that follow the conventions of Standard English usage and meet the criteria for clarity, organization, development and thoughtfulness.
2. Graduates must demonstrate basic understanding of research methodologies, statistical analysis, and computer applications.
3. Graduates must demonstrate mastery of the process and components of the criminal justice system, crime causation, criminal law, and the principles of administration and management.
4. Graduates must demonstrate that they can apply historical, ethical, social, and political principles to analyze and evaluate a case study and respond appropriately to it.
5. Graduates should have completed a strong liberal arts education that is helpful in their future pursuits (i.e., a high percentage of graduates successfully achieve admission to law school).

GERONTOLOGY PROGRAM

The Gerontology program offers a minor in Gerontology. This minor is a strong compliment to a wide variety of majors. The demographics in the U.S. are clear in regard to the increasing percentage of the population who will fall under this category into the next decades. A minor in Gerontology will position students well for the future.

DEPARTMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

College of HSHS

The Department of Occupational Safety and Health offers career preparation in occupational safety and health in safety compliance positions with federal, state and local agencies. These positions include safety management; loss control specialists; industrial hygiene; and environmental operations. At the baccalaureate level the degree programs are designed to provide the technical and professional knowledge required by individuals pursuing professional careers in accident prevention, loss-control management and supervision, inspection and control of occupational hazards, industrial hygiene, or environmental health and safety.

Program options in the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in occupational safety and health are accredited by the Related Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (RAC/ABET). Murray State University has one of a limited number of accredited programs throughout the United States. Selecting a career in occupational safety and health will not only provide a good income but will give you the added benefits of self-satisfaction and recognition in society. The primary responsibility of this profession is to protect our most precious resource... fellow human beings, by assuring every person a safe and healthful place to work. There is a projected strong demand for persons entering the profession.

The job outlook for college graduates in occupational safety and health is extremely good, and starting salaries are competitive with those of other professional fields. The curriculum in Occupational Safety and Health at MSU provides a broad-based educational background designed to prepare individuals for entry-level and advanced work in the field. Practicing safety professionals today must draw upon specialized knowledge in both the physical and social sciences. In performing their job functions, they will apply the principles of measurement and analysis to evaluate safety performance. They must have fundamental knowledge of statistics, mathematics, physics, and chemistry, as well as the fundamentals of the engineering disciplines. Safety practitioners will utilize knowledge in the fields of behavior, motivation, and communication. Knowledge of management principles, as well as the theory of business and government organization, is also necessary.

DEPARTMENT OF WELLNESS AND THERAPEUTIC SCIENCES

COMMUNICATIONS DISORDERS PROGRAM

College of HSHS

The Program in Communication Disorders provides pre-professional undergraduate and professional graduate programs. The graduate program leads to national certification, Kentucky licensure and teaching certification as a speech-language pathologist. These professionals work with individuals to improve their communication skills. Their practice and work may take place in many types of facilities, including public and private schools, hospitals and rehabilitation centers, agencies providing health care, and private practice offices. Clinical services are provided to infants and children, adolescents and adults, and older people in areas directly related to communication (speech, language, and hearing). In addition, services are provided to improve skills in areas that support communication, like feeding, swallowing, and augmentative and alternative means of communication for those individuals who are unable to use speech and/or language to communicate.

RECREATION

Students may pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation to prepare themselves for leadership roles in parks and recreation areas and a variety of recreation programs. Service learning and hands-on experiences occur throughout the curriculum allowing students to accumulate relevant professional practice. All recreation majors complete a semester internship as part of their degree requirements

The Recreation curriculum prepares professionals for jobs in a variety of settings including: local, state, regional and national parks & recreation areas; an array of agencies with strong recreation emphases (YMCAs, organized camping, Boys & Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.); commercial recreation settings; and many other opportunities in the recreation and leisure field. Students completing the Recreation degree are qualified to sit for the national examination and become Certified Park & Recreation Professionals.

EXERCISE SCIENCE WITH WELLNESS, ATHLETIC TRAINING OPTION, & PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY OPTIONS

A Bachelor of Science degree with an area in exercise science is a program designed for students with an interest in sports medicine, health promotion, athletic training, physical therapy, and wellness. Jobs are available in corporate fitness, hospitals, clinics, schools, colleges and universities, semi-professional and professional sports, and private enterprise.

Pre-Physical Therapy Option.

The Pre-Physical Therapy program prepares students to qualify to apply for graduate schools to become Physical Therapists. Physical Therapists evaluate an individual's condition and plan and administer treatments to promote optimal health. Physical therapists are concerned with improving the body's movement and function. This includes relieving pain, maintaining cardiopulmonary function, and promoting optimal functioning following injury or disease

Athletic Training Option.

The Athletic Training option leads to state and national certification as an Athletic Trainer. Athletic Trainers typically work with sports teams (public school, college and semi-professional and professional teams) or in sports or hospital clinics that work with athletes.

NUTRITION, DIETETICS AND FOOD MANAGEMENT

The dietetics option prepares students to become Registered Dietitians (R.D.)... noted professionals in the field of food and nutrition. Students complete their four-year class studies on campus and then apply for a six-month to one-year internship in a healthcare institution located nearby or elsewhere around the country. Murray State University also offers an internship program. Completion of the internship enables the student to take the registration examination to earn the R.D. credential. Students who choose not to complete an internship can also be employed in many positions in the food and nutrition industry. The curriculum allows for supporting electives in a nutrition related area of interest such as exercise science, journalism or business.

The **Food Management Option** prepares graduates for exciting and well-compensated careers in food service management. The program includes both classroom instruction and actual on-the-job experience on campus for college credit. Graduates are prepared for positions as foodservice directors in public and commercial food businesses, as well as positions in institutional foodservices such as businesses and hospitals. Other positions include food sales and marketing representatives, purchasing agents, and catering positions. Career opportunities are abundant and cover a wide variety of personal interests.