

GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM NEWS

Fall 2026



**MOSS SCHOOL
OF NURSING**
COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY

 **Colorado Mesa University**
Health Sciences Building
1100 North Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501-3122

 8 am–5 pm, Monday–Friday

 970.248.1306 • 800.982.6372

 coloradomesa.edu/health-sciences

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM ...

Colorado Mesa University (CMU) offers Master of Science in Nursing degrees in family nurse practitioner (FNP) and adult-gerontology nurse practitioner (AGNP) tracks. CMU also offers a Doctor of Nursing Practice FNP. The CMU graduate nursing program is focused on the care of rural and underserved populations. Courses in our curriculum include primary care across the lifespan, mental and behavior health, and a rural and underserved capstone. CMU boasts relatively small class sizes, allowing students to have meaningful interactions with peers and course faculty. CMU graduates also perform at or above the national average for nurse practitioner certification pass rates.

Welcome to the Fall semester, Graduate Nursing students! We are excited to begin another semester of learning, growth, and professional development with you. Whether you are continuing your journey or joining our program for the first time, we look forward to supporting you as you expand your knowledge, strengthen your clinical expertise, and prepare to make a meaningful impact on healthcare. We encourage you to embrace new opportunities, connect with your peers and faculty, and make the most of the experiences ahead. Wishing you a successful, rewarding, and inspiring semester!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall Faculty Meetings: You are all welcome to attend all or part of a meeting in person (DHS conference room) or virtually (via Zoom).

Tuesdays: 9/1, 10/6, 11/3, 12/1/2026 (3-4:30 pm MST)
RSVP to Mr. Cruse if you wish to attend

Graduate Advisory Board Meeting October 14, 2026, at 5 pm in person (DHS Fishbowl) or via Zoom (RSVP Steven Cruse)

Stronger Together: Public Health in the Heart of the Rockies 2026

Keystone Conference Center, Dillon, CO

Sept. 22 -24, 2026

National Hartford Center for Gerontological Nursing Excellence Leadership Conference (Virtual) and will be held October 20-22, 2026

Fall OSCES & GPS for students in NURS610, 615, & 620 are planned for December 9 & 10, 2026 (via Zoom).

Nurse Educator Conference in the Rockies 2027

Beaver Run Resort, Breckenridge, CO

June 21-25, 2027

National Nurse Practitioners Symposium 2027

Keystone Conference Center, Dillon, CO 80435

July 15- July 18, 2027

ADVISING & ADMINISTRATION

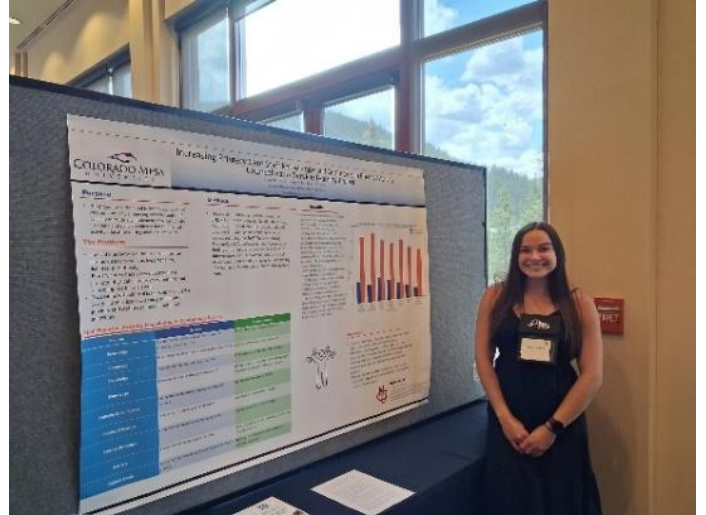
Please contact your assigned advisor should you vary from your plan of study (previous course progression sheet).

- Dr. Urban will advise MSN-FNP students
- Dr. Hall will advise all AGNP and NE students.
- Dr. Marshall will advise DNP students.
- **Steven Cruse continues as our clinical placement coordinator**

Student Shout Outs

Congratulations! Katie Lawrence for her poster presentation at the **National Nurse Practitioners Symposium** in Keystone Colorado in July 2026.

The topic of her presentation was *Increasing Primary Care Staff Knowledge and Confidence in Physical Activity Counseling: A Service-Learning Project.*



Congratulations! Laura Partin has been accepted to present at the National Hartford Center for **Gerontological Nursing Leadership** Conference in October.

The topic of her presentation is *Enhancing Clinical Accessibility using ADA compliant medical diagnostic equipment and exam room recliners.*

Rodger Van Voorhees, will be defending his capstone this fall on best practices for interprofessional education on November 9, 2026 from 2-3 pm MST **via ZOOM**

Welcome New Full-Time Faculty for Spring 2027!

Dr. Steven Malarchick lives in Farmington New Mexico and has lived in the Four Corners area since 1984. Here is a little more about Dr. Malarchick in his own words:

Hi everyone, I am Steven Malarchick and I currently work live in Farmington, New Mexico and work at San Juan Health Partners and for Washington University in St. Louis. I have been around medicine since 1992 when I became an EMT in Cortez, Colorado. I became a paramedic in 1997 and a nurse in 2003 with my ASN. I did the thing I would guess a lot of do and continued to go to school throughout my life, getting my BSN from UNM in 2010, my MSN with an emphasis in nursing education in 2015 from CMU and my DNP from CMU in 2021. I have

What's New with Faculty?

- **Congratulations Dr. Bridget Marshall, who was promoted to full professor effective this fall!**
- Dr. Urban & Dr. Hall have an article in submission on health policy in graduate nursing education to the Journal of the American Association of NPs.
- Dr. Stanley & Dr. Hall have an article in submission on emergency preparedness in nursing education to the Journal of the American Association of NPs. They are also presenting at the National Hartford Center for Gerontological Nursing Excellence Leadership Conference in October.
- Dr. Hall published an article with the National Hartford Center for Gerontological Nursing Excellence New Directions on cancer survivorship in geriatrics.
- Dr. Hall will present on H Pylori transmission & public health implications at the Public Health in the Rockies conference in Sept. 2026

HAVE A WONDERFUL FALL SEMESTER!

Mr. Cruse & Alyssa Jennings, & Drs. Malarchick, Donovan, Eyre, Hall, Marshall, Stanley, and Urban



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two grown daughters, Sydney and Abby, and one granddaughter, Opal. I have done all kinds of crazy jobs over the years. I can't wait to help students learn!

Preceptor Corner

Do you love NP students? Love their enthusiasm to learn and your opportunity to precept? Please contact Steven Cruse scruse@coloradomesa.edu with your availability schedule so we can partner you with a student eager to learn from you!

All of our students perform service-learning projects with preceptors and clinical sites. So, if the clinic has a task that needs to be done but no one to do it, our students & faculty can help!

Preceptors can also use precepting and their collaboration on students' scholarship towards their own **certification renewals** (depending on the accrediting agency).

For preceptors who also love teaching, reach out to the CMU HR for adjunct teaching opportunities!

A Heartfelt Thank you to our current & past preceptors!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our **Graduate Nursing Preceptors** for the time, expertise, mentorship, and dedication you provide to our graduate nursing students.

Thank you for sharing your knowledge, inspiring our students, and helping shape the future of nursing. We are truly grateful for all that you do!

