University of Colorado
College of Nursing
Undergraduate Honors Program

Madalynn Neu, PhD, RN, FAAN
Catherine Jankowski, PhD, FACSM,
Coordinators, BS Honors Program
Information Session
Are you interested in finding ways to combat childhood obesity?
How about investigating the meaning of dignity in persons with serious illness?
Test massage as a way to reduce irritability and GERD in infants?
Or, determine the impact of trauma and abuse in opioid use disorder?
Dr. Patricia Grady, PhD, RN, FAAN, former director of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) has said:

"There's a real shortage of nurse researchers and faculty."

- Nursing needs more researchers to delve into important areas such as health promotion, disease prevention, improving quality of life, eliminating health disparities and setting directions for end-of-life research.

“Introducing exceptional nursing students to research as a career opportunity is a seed that needs to be planted early in their education.”
PhD versus DNP

- **PhD: Doctor of Philosophy**
  - a *scientific research* degree
  - Generate new knowledge in the physical, biological, and social sciences

- **DNP: Doctor of Nursing Practice**
  - a *clinical* degree
  - Apply knowledge in clinical settings

- Students who complete the Honors program are given preferential consideration for admission to the CU CON PhD program.
What is the CON Honors Program?

Students conduct research based on individual interests & faculty research

- **Format**
  - Seminars
  - Mentored independent study research experiences

- **Goals**
  - Promote scholarship, intellectual, & professional development
  - Challenge students to grow & excel

- **Products**
  - Thesis paper (publishable)
  - Poster/oral presentation at a nursing conference
Characterization of Childhood Obesity and Behavioral Factors

Jessica Olson, BSN, RN, Heather Aldrich, PhD, Tiffany J. Callahan, MPH, BA, Ellyn E. Matthews, PhD, RN, AOCNS, CBSM, FAAN, & Bonnie Gance-Cleveland, PhD, RNC, PNP, FAAN

\textbf{Article}

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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ybin

Health at hand: A systematic review of smart watch uses for health and wellness

Blaine Reeder, PhD*, Alexandria David, BS

\textit{University of Colorado | Anschutz Medical Campus, College of Nursing, Mail Stop C288-19, 13120 E 19th Ave, Ed 2 North, United States}
Example publications by Honors Students & their mentors

Meredith Jameson, Class of ’16
Anna Smith, Class of ’17
Maytham Alshahood, Class of ’16

Comparison of two tools to assess dyad feeding interaction in infants with gastroesophageal reflux disease

Meredith Jameson1 Karen Fehringer2 Madalynn Neu1

Comorbid mental health disorders in persons living with HIV: Adherence to antiretroviral therapy.

Smith AB1, Cook PF2.

International Journal of Migration, Health and Social Care

Burmese and Bhutanese refugee utilization of healthcare services in Colorado

Maytham Alshadood, Scott Butler Harpin, Jini Puma
The CON Honors Program is...

- Not an “honor society”
- Not easy – adds to the rigorous undergraduate nursing curriculum
- Not passive – requires active engagement for 2 years
- Not required for the BS in Nursing
- Not lonely – the Honors students & faculty are supportive
Why Apply?

Honors students receive:

- Individualized mentorship in scholarly inquiry
- Small group instruction in critical thinking skills leading to the development of a testable research hypothesis
- Opportunity to develop scientific writing & speaking skills
- Preferential consideration for admission to the CU CON PhD program.
What Does the Program Involve?

- Students in the program take 6 credits beyond the traditional BS
- Credits focus on research and scholarship:
  - Junior year
    - Two 1-credit honors seminar courses
      - 1 each in fall and spring
  - Senior year
    - Two 1-credit honors seminar courses
    - Two 1-credit mentored independent study courses
  - Thesis is a scholarly paper and poster or podium presentation.
Who is Eligible?

- Pre-licensure students in the traditional College of Nursing program
- Attend class on the Anschutz Medical Campus
- Minimum of 3.7 cumulative grade (GPA)*
- Curiosity and enthusiasm for research
Participation in the honors program includes many advantages for students, future employers, and society.

Students enjoy close interaction with distinguished faculty, thought-provoking seminars, and independent study.
When and How do I Apply?

- Applications due mid-March
- Interviews mid-April
- Forms & instructions are available through the admissions office or CON website
How are Applicants Selected?

- A committee will select students based on:
  - acceptance into BS nursing major
  - minimum cumulative GPA of 3.7/4.0 scale
  - 1-page resume / curriculum vitae
  - honors program questionnaire
  - two letters of reference
  - essay
  - interview
College of Nursing

Traditional Nursing
Bachelor's Program

Accelerated Nursing
Bachelor's Program - UCAN

Online RN to BS in Nursing
Program

Online Dual Enrollment ADN in Nursing & CU BS in Nursing

Bachelor's Programs
Multiple Pathways to Your Degree

Nursing BS Honors Program

Required for entry: Some college / Associate's Degree

BS Honors Information

College of Nursing
The CON pays tuition for Honors courses in Spring of Junior Year & all Honors courses in Senior Year!!

Whoa Hoo!
Who Should I Contact for Additional Information?

- Additional information and application forms are available on the CON website
- You may also contact the Honors Program Coordinators:
  - Madalynn Neu, PhD, RN
    Madalynn.neu@cuanschutz.edu
    (Office) 303–724–8550
  - Catherine Jankowski, PhD, FACSM
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