



University Extension
Professional Studies

APPLY THE SCIENCE BEHIND THE CRIME

Professional Certificate in Forensic Nursing



Take your nursing career to another level and connect your healthcare knowledge with forensics. Make a difference in the lives of crime victims as you apply your knowledge to each case including trauma, acts of violence, mass casualty incidents, sexual assault, and human abuse. Law enforcement and the legal community realize the positive impact forensic nurses have on case outcomes, and rely on them to apply their expert knowledge of medical science.

Courses are structured to provide both core content and an introduction to several sub-specialties within the discipline including death investigation, correctional nursing, forensic psychiatry, forensic photography and clinical forensic nursing. Forensic nursing, like traditional nursing, is divided into several specialty areas such as the sexual assault nurse examiner, crime scene and death investigator, the correctional nurse, and psychiatric nurse. Nurses who have an interest in the forensic aspects of healthcare provide necessary services for the victims of violence. The ability to recognize forensic issues and to preserve, document and collect evidence are essential skills of a forensic nurse.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

Best practices for collecting forensic evidence

Ways to communicate with members of a multidisciplinary forensic team

Policies and procedures required for conducting sexual assault exams

Social and political implications of violence

 **TOTAL UNITS**
16

 **TUITION**
\$4,500

 **COMPLETION TIME**
9-15 months

 **FORMAT**
Online



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BENEFITS OF EARNING A CERTIFICATE

There are several reasons why, Bachelor's degree in hand, you might be considering continuing your studies. An upgraded education section on your resume can open the door to a new career, or, if you're already working, lead to a promotion and a higher salary. While you're working, going back to school is an excellent way to stay current in rapidly changing fields, or, if you've been away from the workforce for a while, to quickly get caught up in the latest trends, concepts, and advances.

While there are as many paths to follow, as there are reasons to follow them when approaching continuing education, there is enormous value in terms of time, financial investment, and personal flexibility while gaining practical training from working professionals in your industry that extends beyond the theory of the classroom and into the real world.

KEY BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- UC quality curriculum
- Professional endorsements
- Schedule flexibility
- Variety of courses and programs
- Instruction from professional leaders in the industry

PAY AS YOU GO



Pay per individual course as you register.

AVERAGE COURSE TUITION
\$450-500 PER (2 UNIT) COURSE

*Learn more about [tuition assistance](#).

CAREER INFORMATION



IN-DEMAND FIELD

Jobs are projected to grow at a rate of 16% over the next 5 years.



STRONG EARNING POTENTIAL

Median Salary **\$76,967**



VARIETY OF JOBS TO CHOOSE FROM

- Forensic Nurse
- Forensic Nurse Investigator
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
- Forensic Clinical Nurse Practitioner



SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

- Critical Thinking
- Service Orientation
- Social Perceptiveness



REALITY CHECK. WHAT YOU WILL DO ON THE JOB.

- Collect evidence from a victim to help with investigation
- Document and store evidence for evaluation
- Photograph and document injuries and evidence
- Communicate and collaborate with other specialists
- Conduct necessary procedures to assist in determining cause of death

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STUDY PLAN

Our certificate programs are designed to be flexible, allowing you the option to take just a few courses or earn the complete certificate. If choosing to complete the certificate, we recommend you get the most out of your experience by following the suggested completion path below.

Required Courses		
QUARTER		UNITS
1	Introduction to Forensic Science in Healthcare Settings BMSC X465	3
	Forensic Approaches to Blunt Force and Firearm Injuries BMSC X465.1	2
2	Occupational Considerations in Forensic Nursing BMSC X465.4	2
	Forensic Photography in the Healthcare Setting BMSC X465.6	1
3	Sworn Testimony for the Healthcare Specialist BMSC X465.12	2
	Introduction to Forensic Pathology for Health Care Specialists BMSC X465.9	2
4	Elective	4

Elective Options		
QUARTER		UNITS
1 - 4	Examination and Care of Sexual Assault Patients: Adult/Adolescent BMSC X466	4
1 - 4	Forensic Nurse Death Investigation BMSC X465.10	4

ARE YOU READY FOR YOUR NEXT STEP?

Schedule an appointment with a [Student Success Coach](#) to get started. extension.ucr.edu/coach



*For a full list of policies and procedures, check our [website](#).