

## **Nurse-Midwifery Program Philosophy and Objectives**

The philosophy of the Nurse-Midwifery Program is in accord with the philosophy of the Division of Nursing. In addition, the nurse-midwifery faculty believe that the program is designed to prepare specialized, scholarly nurses who practice as professional nurse-midwives according to established standards and who, through scientific inquiry and continued professional growth contribute to their discipline and profession.

The nurse-midwifery faculty believes that every person has a right to access quality health care that is delivered according to the ACNM Code of Ethics (1990, Rev 2004) therefore nurse-midwifery graduates are prepared to synthesize and apply knowledge, skills, values, and meanings necessary for safe, independent care, management, and coordination of women with diverse backgrounds, healthy newborns, and their families during the antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and neonatal periods.

In addition, they manage and promote gynecologic health of women throughout the life span. Nurse-midwifery graduates support the active participation of clients and families, as well as collaborative and collegial interdisciplinary practice in diverse health care systems.

It is intended that graduates will become leaders and influence factors affecting the discipline of nurse-midwifery and the profession of nursing.

Upon completion of the Nurse-Midwifery Program graduate nurse-midwives will be eligible to take the national American Midwifery Certification Board examination to be eligible to be recognized as a certified nurse-midwife.

### **The Objectives of the Shenandoah University Nurse-Midwifery Program**

By the completion of this track, the graduate will:

1. Synthesize theories from nursing and related arts and sciences in providing nurse-midwifery care for diverse women and their families.
2. Synthesize nursing knowledge, skills, values, and meanings in the provision of comprehensive nurse-midwifery care and management for diverse women and their families.
3. Using the nurse-midwifery management process, coordinate and deliver care for diverse women and their families across the lifespan.
4. Assume individual responsibility for the choice of therapeutic nurse-midwifery interventions and accountability for their outcomes for clients and families.
5. Synthesize the impact of practice standards, as well as legal, ethical, political, economic, accrediting, and controlling factors on the delivery of nurse-midwifery care.

6. Positively influence practice standards, as well as legal, ethical, political, economic, accrediting, and controlling factors impacting the delivery of nurse-midwifery care.
7. Contribute to the discipline of nurse-midwifery and the profession of nursing through scientific inquiry.
8. Provide collegial and collaborative leadership among professional nurse-midwives and other health care providers.
9. Demonstrate the desire for and value of continued professional growth by identifying individual learning needs, as well as the needs of the discipline of nurse-midwifery and the nursing profession.
10. Design a career development plan based on self-evaluation, the desire for continued professional growth, the needs of the discipline/profession, and those factors influencing the discipline/profession within the region where you intend to practice.

The Shenandoah University Nurse-Midwifery Program is accredited by:  
The American College of Nurse-Midwives  
8403 Colesville Rd., Suite 1550  
Silver Spring, MD 20910-6374  
[www.midwife.org](http://www.midwife.org)  
(240) 485-1800

Program Director: Juliana van Olphen Fehr, CNM, PhD, FACNM  
Professor and Director, Nurse-Midwifery Program  
Eleanor Wade Custer School of Nursing  
Shenandoah University