

NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL OF NURSE ANESTHESIA



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*The following topics may be found in the Student Handbook:
 Students' Objectives, Evaluations, Grading Policies
 Deferral of Graduation
 Student Rights/Responsibilities
 Grievance and Appeals Procedures*

Program Philosophy

The purpose of the New Britain School of Nurse Anesthesia is to provide competent, safe nurse anesthesia practitioners commensurate with the needs of society. This is accomplished through an intensive graduate level curriculum including a comprehensive clinical training practicum.



Program Objective and Design

The overall objective of this nurse anesthesia program is to provide the ethical and fundamental academic foundations and clinical experience to enable the graduate to deliver competent anesthesia care in a wide variety of clinical situations. This includes the entire peri-anesthetic experience including pre-anesthesia assessment, intra-operative management, post-operative care and adjuvant anesthesia services. The graduate is also expected to continue in their personal and professional growth, portray a professional social posture and sustain efforts to improve the quality of the health care system.



The program begins in May annually and lasts 29 months. The first twelve months is the didactic phase, offered at Central Connecticut State University. During the didactic phase the student is a full-time matriculating student at CCSU. The clinical phase (the following 17 months) is offered primarily at The Hospital of Central Connecticut, with rotations to three affiliate hospitals, in nearby Hartford, CT. The program has been granted full accreditation status by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs for ten years, expiration date May 2011.

Upon satisfactory completion of all didactic and clinical work, graduates are awarded the Master of Science degree in Biological Sciences: Anesthesia from Central Connecticut State University as well as a certificate from the New Britain School of Nurse Anesthesia. Successful completion of this program makes the graduate eligible to take the national certification examination. Upon passing this examination, the graduate receives initial certification from the Council on Certification and then may use the title of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). The graduate is also eligible for full, active membership in the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA).

Training Facilities

Primary basic and applied science didactic courses are presented at Central Connecticut State University. The faculty at THOCC presents anesthesia courses. The Program Director is on the faculty of Central Connecticut State University. Several nurse anesthetists and anesthesiologists participate in teaching the didactic anesthesia courses at the hospital. Most are also clinical instructors. Clinical experience is coordinated through the New Britain School of Nurse Anesthesia and utilizes training at The Hospital of Central Connecticut, New Britain campus, in New Britain, CT, St. Francis Hospital, Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and Hartford Hospital in Hartford, CT.

Student Life



The average time commitment, including clinical experience, classroom hours and class preparation is approximately 60 - 70 hours per week. Due to the heavy demands of the program on students' time and energy, outside employment is allowed, but not encouraged. During the clinical phase, no more than sixteen hours of outside employment per week is allowed. Also, night shift-work prior to a scheduled clinical day is not permitted. No student may work in the provision of anesthesia services.

Students are required to attend all classes and departmental offerings. They are encouraged to participate, on a student level, in activities of the Connecticut Association of Nurse Anesthetists and the New England Assembly of Student Registered Nurse Anesthetists. Students obtain associate membership in the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists.

Vacation, Sick, Holiday Time

During the didactic phase, students follow the calendar and policies of CCSU as stated in the graduate catalog. Students will observe all holidays and have vacation time during the month of August and during semester breaks in December/January and March.

During the clinical phase, students are entitled to six hospital holidays. Students are also entitled to



twenty days during the clinical phase to be used as vacation or sick time. For an illness lasting more than one week, the student may need to take a leave of absence. Clinical time is usually 6 AM to 4 PM; with a rotating call schedule of 3 PM - 11 PM. No holidays are required. Some Saturdays may be required.

Insurance

During the *didactic phase*, CCSU Health Services, located in Marcus White Annex, provides a variety of services to all full-time graduate students. CCSU offers health insurance to full-time students for \$946 per school year. During the *clinical phase* students can receive health insurance as a benefit provided by New Britain Anesthesia, P.C., (sponsoring private corporation of anesthesiologists). Liability (malpractice) insurance is also provided by the anesthesiologists' corporate group plan.

Other Benefits

Surgical scrubs and free parking are provided by the hospital. The anesthesia department supplies all equipment needed for the provision of anesthesia services with the exception of a personal monaural earpiece. Students are responsible for their own meals, transportation, and housing. There is infant/child day care available through The Hospital of Central Connecticut. For further information, contact the Program Director.



Leaves of Absence, Transfers

The granting of a leave of absence will be determined on an individual basis. Students are discouraged from taking a leave of absence as it interrupts continuity of learning.

Transfers out of this program may be discussed on an individual basis with the Program Director. Due to program variability and the sequential program design, transfers into this program are not permissible.

Tuition and Fees

Students are required to apply to the Graduate School at Central Connecticut State University after acceptance into this program. Tuition is charged during the first year only, and paid directly to CCSU. Proof of one year of residency in Connecticut is required to pay the lower tuition. Tuition and fees are subject to change without notice. There is no tuition during the clinical phase. Current tuition and fees are:

CT Resident	New England Resident	Non New England Resident
\$13,076	\$15,583	\$23,394

Other Fees:

New Britain School of Nurse Anesthesia Application Fee (non-refundable)	\$ 50
New Britain School of Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Fee (due on acceptance into the program)	\$1,000
Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) Student membership fee (payable on first day of school)	\$100
National certifying exam fee (payable on graduation)	\$725

Other predictable expenses: (approximate costs)

Monaural earpiece (for stethoscope)	\$ 75
Didactic phase books	\$1,000
Clinical phase books	\$1,000
Computer with word processing; Internet, spreadsheet, Powerpoint and email capabilities	\$1000 - 2,000
THOCC identification badge	\$10

Financial Aid

Assistance in securing student loans may be provided by the Financial Aid Office at CCSU. The Financial Aid Office will also assist with securing private loans during the clinical phase. For more information, please visit the CCSU Financial Aid website – www.ccsu.edu/finaid.

Requirements

To qualify for an interview for admission consideration, you must meet the following requirements:

Current unrestricted licensure as a registered professional nurse in one of the fifty states.
Note: you must obtain a Connecticut RN license in order to begin the clinical phase.

1. Minimum of two years of nursing experience in a critical care setting such as medical or surgical ICU, or other areas deemed appropriate by the Admissions Committee. Critical care is defined as regular hands-on care of patients with life threatening pathophysiology, invasive lines e.g. pulmonary artery catheters and arterial lines; ventilators; continuous ECG monitoring and interpretation; vaso-active infusions. In general, Emergency Department experience does not qualify as critical care.
2. Must have current certification in basic and advanced life support (BLS and ACLS), CCRN and PALS certifications are highly recommended.
3. One of the following:
 - a. Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing
 - b. Baccalaureate Degree in another science that the Admissions Committee deems appropriate.
4. Prior to admission, the student should have taken the following science courses **as a minimum with a grade of B or better:**
 - a. 2 semesters of chemistry: 1 semester inorganic/general and 1 semester organic/biochemistry
 - b. 2 semesters of human anatomy and physiology
 - c. 1 semester of microbiology
 - d. Pre-requisite science coursework greater than 7-10 years old must be supplemented with refresher courses at either the undergraduate or graduate level. (Please call the director with individual concerns.)
5. Requirements for admission to the Graduate School at CCSU include a cumulative grade point average of **at least 3.0** on a 4.0 scale.
6. At least three professional reference letters.
7. A personal interview with the Admission's Committee.
 - a. Note: interviews are granted only to qualified applicants who meet or exceed the above pre-requisites.

Applicants should request a graduate catalog from Central Connecticut State University for specific information. The address is:

The Graduate School, Central Connecticut State University
1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT 06050
Telephone (860) 832-2350

*Note: Application to the School of Graduate studies should NOT be submitted at this time. Official application is made AFTER acceptance into the New Britain School of Nurse Anesthesia. The appropriate

university officials will review your application file and transcripts during the application process to determine acceptability to CCSU graduate school. Applicants who are accepted will have to submit completed health forms (medical history, physical exam and up-to-date immunization records) to the University at the time of registration to CCSU.

Applicant's Requirements and Responsibilities

1. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The New Britain School of Nurse Anesthesia complies with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Applicants shall not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, marital status, physical or mental handicap or disability, or any other legally protected factor.

2. Applicants must understand that to successfully progress through the nurse anesthesia program they must be able to perform the essential functions, technical skills and/or tasks of a nurse anesthetist using the following abilities:

Communication Skills

- Thorough command of the written English language for the purpose of generating medical records, academic papers and scientific journal entries.
- Thorough command of the spoken English language for the purpose of communicating effectively and clearly in a fast-paced clinical setting, with patients of all ages and during emergency situations.
- The Admissions Committee will evaluate an applicant's written and verbal English skills by assessing the application, letters, e-mails, correspondence, personal interview, and any other means of communication.

Sensory Capabilities

- Discriminate variations in human responses to disease using visual, auditory, tactile and other sensory clues.
- Discriminate changes in monitoring devices and alarms using visual and auditory senses.

Motor Capabilities

- Coordinate gross and fine motor movements and the senses of touch and vision as required of the anesthetist to safely provide all aspects of general, regional and Monitored Anesthesia Care (MAC) and the endurance to handle multiple patient needs. Examples of such care include, but are not limited to, such tasks as: insertion

of intravascular and intra-arterial lines, administration of regional anesthetics, and performance of airway management.

- Demonstrate sufficient physical strength to perform airway management, move and position patients and equipment.
- Sufficient stamina to stand or sit for prolonged periods of time, and walk to various patient care areas throughout the institution, including the ability to respond to in-house emergencies in a timely manner.
- Safely maneuver in the operating room and other anesthetizing locations.
- Respond appropriately to monitors, alarms and changes in patient conditions that require physical interventions.

Cognitive

- Use reason, analysis, calculations, problem solving, critical thinking, self-evaluation and other learning skills to acquire knowledge, comprehend and synthesize complex concepts.
- Interpret information derived from auditory, written and other visual data to determine appropriate anesthetic management plans.
- Apply theoretical knowledge to practice to provide safe anesthetic care.

Behavioral

- Demonstrate personal and professional ethical behavior, self-control as well as tactfulness, sensitivity, compassion, honesty, integrity, empathy and respect, including the ability to handle multicultural issues.
- Work flexibly and effectively in stressful and rapidly changing situations.
- Cooperate with other members of the health care team to provide a therapeutic environment and safe patient care.

3. Criminal Background Checks, Drug Screening:

Participation in clinical rotations is a required part of the curriculum and a requirement for graduation. Clinical rotation sites may require a drug, criminal, and/or child abuse background check prior to participation in the clinical rotation. Clinical rotation sites may deny a student's participation in the clinical rotation because of a felony or misdemeanor conviction, failure of a required drug test, or inability to produce an appropriate health clearance, which would result in delayed graduation or in the inability to graduate from the program. If required, drug and background checks will be done at the student's expense.

4. Future Certification as a Nurse Anesthetist:

Applicants must be aware of the requirements of the National Board of Certification of Nurse Anesthetists (accessed from www.NBCRNA.com May 2010)

“The RN applicant for CRNA certification must verify:

- a. that his or her license has never been revoked, restricted, suspended or limited by any state, has never been surrendered, and is not the subject of a pending action or investigation;
- b. that he or she does not currently suffer from a mental or physical condition which might interfere with the practice of nurse anesthesia;
- c. that he or she does not currently suffer from drug or alcohol addiction or abuse;
- d. that he or she has not been convicted of and is not currently under indictment for any felony;
- e. that, except for incidents occurring during the nurse anesthesia educational program which were thereafter satisfactorily resolved, he or she has not been the subject of any documented allegations of misconduct, incompetent practice, or unethical behavior;
- f. that he or she has never been the subject of disciplinary action, been placed on probation, suspended, or dismissed from a nurse anesthesia educational program for unethical behavior, questions of academic integrity or documented evidence of cheating.

If the candidate does not so certify, he or she must provide full documentation of the reasons therefore with sufficient specificity to allow the NBCRNA to evaluate the possible impact of the problem on the candidate’s current ability to take the NCE or practice nurse anesthesia and to resolve the issue to the NBCRNA’s satisfaction.”

Applicants must also be aware that the Council on Certification of Nurse Anesthetists may not allow applicants to become certified who have been:

- a. found by a court of law to be mentally incompetent;
- b. convicted of or pleading no contest to a felony that is in the view of the NBCRNA, related to the practice of nursing or nurse anesthesia;
- c. dismissed from a nurse anesthesia program for cheating or violating honesty and integrity policies.

Added to web site May 20, 2010

Faculty and Administration

Program Director; Adjunct Faculty	Joan Dobbins, CRNA, MS
CCSU Medical Director	Greg Fauteux, MD
Clinical and Didactic Anesthesiologist Faculty	Anil Bhardwaj, MD H. Balakrishna, MD Ken Colliton, M.D Pranay Kanake, MD Harris Kantor, MD Mohan Kasaraneni, MD Steven Kron, MD Michael Loiacono, DO Brian Reilly, MD Neil Seong, MD Angela Smith, DO
Clinical and Didactic Nurse Anesthetist Faculty (only full time CRNAs listed)	Janson Andrews, CRNA, MS Justin Bruce, CRNA, MS Orlando Diaz, CRNA, MS Burnette Donato, CRNA, MS Jacqueline Futia, CRNA, MS Kristine Glenney, CRNA, MS Kelly Gorski, CRNA Lisa Gulino, CRNA, MS Nancy Hock, CRNA, MS Ben Kershner, CRNA, MS Jennifer Meijer, CRNA, MS Tim Murphy, CRNA, BS Antoinette Oakes, CRNA, MS Elizabeth Parker, CRNA, AS Alex Rhouddou, CRNA, MS Katie Mitchell, CRNA, MS Jose Sousa, CRNA, MS Robert Stevens, CRNA, MS Amy Wessman-Pelletier, CRNA Terri Williams, CRNA, MS
Affiliation Faculty/Coordinators: CCSU Academic Coordinator	Ruth Rollin, Ph.D.
St. Francis Hospital	Frank Rosenberg, MD Toby McPherson, CRNA, MS
Connecticut Children's Medical Center	Craig Bonnani, MD Betsy Beatson, CRNA
Hartford Hospital	Dianne Murphy, CRNA, MS Stephanie Stewart, CRNA, MS Kenneth Wells, MD

Application Procedure

Applications must be received by September 30th for classes beginning the following May. After all materials requested in the application procedure have been received, the Program Director will review the file to determine eligibility for interview. The applicant should call to ascertain that their file is complete and to request a personal interview. Every effort will be made to assist the applicant with the application procedure.



Interviews are held in October and November. Requests for interviews in September will be considered. The Admissions Committee meets in early December to choose a class of twelve. The Committee has access to all materials submitted by the applicant.

Factors considered in the selection process are: academic achievement and grade point average, science and technology aptitude, critical care clinical experience and expertise, career motivation and other personal traits indicative of success in the program and dedication to a career in nurse anesthesia.

The Committee is especially interested in:

1. Academic transcripts demonstrating overall excellent achievement and intellectual curiosity with an emphasis in sciences.
2. Application documents demonstrating clarity, completeness, and a concise relevant personal statement.
3. Quality and quantity of critical care nursing experience and expertise.
4. Professional references demonstrating an excellent work record and professional conduct.
5. Pre-admission interview demonstrating professionalism, motivation, and the ability to communicate well.

Students are appointed on the basis of personal merit and capabilities without discrimination as to race, color, religion, age, gender, national origin, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, or any factor protected by law.

The Committee will notify applicants in writing of acceptance decisions. A clinical fee of \$1,000 is payable upon acceptance of our offer to attend the program.

NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL OF NURSE ANESTHESIA PROGRAM DESIGN

The New Britain School of Nurse Anesthesia in conjunction with Central Connecticut State University grants a Master of Science Degree in Biological Sciences with a concentration in Anesthesia. The program has two phases: the first is the didactic phase with classes held at the University. The second phase is clinical, primarily held at The Hospital of Central Connecticut.

The student must maintain all academic requirements (grade point average 3.0 per semester, no course grade below a C in the Graduate School, successfully complete all requirements for the degree and satisfactorily complete the clinical phase to be eligible for graduation from the program.

The program is 29 months in length beginning annually each May to coincide with the summer sessions at CCSU. The first 12 months (DIDACTIC PHASE) are spent at the CCSU campus that is 5 minutes from the primary clinical site and program offices located at The Hospital of Central Connecticut. During this time the student is enrolled full-time at CCSU for the Summer, Fall, and Spring semesters.

Two options for completing the Master's Degree are available: Option A-Thesis and Option B-Oral Comprehensive Exam /Clinical Seminar. The thesis can be started at any point and must be completed in order to graduate from the program as well as be awarded the Master's degree. The thesis may entail clinical research, laboratory research or comprehensive literature review in a subject pertaining to the field of nurse anesthesia. The oral comprehensive exam option includes a clinical seminar/case study presentation (BIO-590 Clinical Seminar) presented in the first Fall semester of the clinical phase and an oral-comprehensive exam taken in the late Summer of the second clinical year (see below).

The remaining 17 months (CLINICAL PHASE) are spent in the clinical phase at THOCC with a four-week rotation at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, a four week rotation at Connecticut Children's Medical Center, a 5 to 6 month rotation at Hartford Hospital. An average of 750 cases and 2560 hours are completed. During the first seven months of the clinical phase there is a full didactic class day each week. For the remaining 10 months, there is a class day per month. There are scheduled departmental clinical conferences, and classes throughout the program. There are no required holiday or over-night call rotations.

During the clinical phase there are also a number of required courses that are not applied to the graduate degree nor subject to tuition charges. These are listed on the Master class schedule under ***HOURS**.

***NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL OF NURSE ANESTHESIA
MASTER CLASS SCHEDULE***

CCSU DIDACTIC PHASE COURSE SEQUENCE

SEMESTER	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	CREDIT	HOURS*
SUMMER-I	CHEM-550	Basic Organic & Biochemistry	3	
	BIO-517	Human Anatomy & Physiology	6	
FALL-I	BIO-528	Pharmacology-I	4	
	BIO-598	Research in Biology	3	
	BIO-500	Seminar in Biology	2	
	BIO-540	Special Topics: Neuroscience	3	
SPRING-I	BIO-518	Pathophysiology and Applied Physiology	3	
	BIO-530	Immunology	3	
	ED-511	Curriculum Development	3	
	*AN-520	Basic Principles of Anesthesia		30
	BIO-599	Thesis Completed by graduation, only for those choosing this option.	3	

CLINICAL PHASE COURSE SEQUENCE

SEMESTER	COURSE	DESCRIPTION	CREDIT	HOURS*
SUMMER-II	*ANES-550	Physics and Equipment		20
	*ANES-530	Advanced Principles of Anesthesia		20
	*ANES-528	Anesthesia Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutics		10
FALL-II	BIO-590	Clinical Case Presentation Only for those choosing oral comp exam option.	1	
	*ANES-530	Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (continued)		20
	*ANES-528	Anesthesia Pharmacology (continued)		
SPRING-II	*ANES-500	Professional Aspects of Nurse Anesthesia Practice 45		45
	*ANES-530	Advanced Principles of Anesthesia (continued)		20
SUMMER III		Oral Comprehensive Exam (only for those choosing this option)		20

*Indicates courses not applied to graduate degree at CCSU and not subject to tuition charges.

CCSU - COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MS BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES: ANESTHESIA

CHEM 550	Basic Organic and Biological Chemistry Selected topics in chemistry of biological processes: classes of organic compounds found in biological systems, their significance in nutrition and metabolism, energy production, and acid-base and related concepts as applied to body fluids as aqueous media.
BIO 517	Anatomy, Physiology, Pathophysiology Functional anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology of man. A review of cell physiology is followed by an in-depth analysis of muscular, circulatory, nervous, respiratory, excretory, and endocrine systems with special applications to the health sciences.
BIO 528	Pharmacology A comprehensive investigation into pharmacological agents and their utilization with relevance to the health sciences. Special consideration given to pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and pharmacotherapeutics. (Anesthesia students are provided an additional equivalent of 2 credits at NBGH - not applicable to graduate degree).
BIO 518	Pathophysiology and Applied Physiology A continuation of BIO 517 with emphasis on pathophysiology and clinical applications in cardiac, renal, respiratory neuro, obstetric and hepatic systems.
BIO 540	Special Topics: Neuroscience
ED 511	Principles of Curriculum Development Examination of selected programs including stated objectives, organizational patterns, curriculum materials, and instructional strategies. This examination will utilize various models of decision making.
BIO 500	Seminar in Biology Seminar course open to graduate biology students with permission of the Department chairman. Through individual readings, discussions and presentations, students will study contemporary topics in biology and anesthesia. Power Point™ presentation expected.
BIO 598	Research in Biology Designed to familiarize student with techniques and resources associated with research in the specialization. Topics include research design, statistical analysis, writing grant proposals, spreadsheet applications, utilization of Power Point™ and Excel™ software is expected. Opportunity for practical application will be provided.
BIO 599	Thesis (For Option A-Thesis) For students completing Master's requirements under Plan A. At conclusion of study, written thesis acceptable to student's thesis advisor must be filed in triplicate.
BIO 530	Immunology introduction to the structure of the immune system, the immunoglobulins, antigen-antibody interactions, infection, immunity, lymphocytes, histocompatibility and genetic regulation.
BIO 590	Clinical Anesthesia Seminar (For Option B-Exam/Clinical Seminar) Seminar course open to graduate nurse anesthesia students who have elected Option B

	for completion of degree requirements. The student is expected to present an anesthesia patient/ case management topic of their choice to the anesthesia department, using Power Point software and a computer projector.
AN 500	Professional Aspects of Nurse Anesthesia Designed to help the registered nurse develop into an advanced practice nurse, understanding the increased responsibility, and social, political, legal and economic realities of nurse anesthesia practice. Including topics such as history, ethics, substance abuse, legal aspects, quality assurance, risk management and insurance, and governmental regulation of practice.
AN 550	Physics and Equipment Develops the relationships between basic physics and technology in anesthesia and critical care medicine. Includes orientation to state-of-the-art equipment utilized during the clinical practicum with focus on maximizing patient safety, and basic anesthesia equipment maintenance.
AN 520, 530	Principles of Anesthesia Practice Divided into Basic Principles (30 hours), presented in spring semester while at CCSU and Advanced Principles (60 hours), presented during the clinical phase. Basic Principles is a beginning overview of current anesthetic practice. Topics include pre-anesthesia evaluation, fluid and blood therapy, monitoring, the anesthesia machine, acid-base balance, pain management, post anesthesia care unit, and regional anesthesia. Advanced Principles builds on the foundation of Basic Principles and other courses. It is integrated within the clinical practicum and presents a more thorough investigation of Anesthesia specialties including cardiac, thoracic, pediatric, obstetric, neuro, vascular, gynecologic, other case managements, and physical assessment appropriate to the speciality of nurse anesthesia.
AN 528	Applied Anesthesia Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapeutics A continuation of BIO-528 Pharmacology I, it is presented during the clinical phase as a more intensive examination of the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of anesthetics and adjuvant drugs with specific focus on clinical applications.