MISSION
Samuel Merritt University educates students to become highly skilled and compassionate healthcare professionals who positively transform the experience of care in diverse communities.

VISION
Samuel Merritt University will become nationally recognized as a premier, multi-specialty health sciences institution. Expert faculty and staff will shape an inclusive learning environment where all students experience best teaching practices and state-of-the-art learning approaches. The University will select and support students who will flourish in its rigorous academic programs, learn to practice expertly, and pass licensure or certification examinations on first attempt.

VALUES
At Samuel Merritt University we value...

> A learning environment where we challenge ourselves and our students to think critically, seek mastery, and act compassionately.
> A collegial environment where we are fair, respectful and behave with integrity.
> A collaborative environment where we partner with one another and with others in the community.
> An innovative environment where we take reasoned risks and move nimbly.
> A results-oriented environment where we provide and expect exceptional performance and service.

86% OF NEW STUDENTS SAY THE TOP REASON THEY CHOSE SMU IS BECAUSE OF OUR REPUTATION.
WELCOME TO SMU

Welcome! Thank you for your interest in Samuel Merritt University. For over 100 years, we have been educating caring, compassionate health care professionals. SMU is a diverse community with many languages represented, sexual orientations, learning differences, and ethnic diversities. In the Admission Office we have counselors who speak Spanish, Vietnamese and Greek. In addition, we have services available for our military personnel transitioning to academia. On behalf of Samuel Merritt University, I welcome you to the SMU family and wish you the absolute best in your educational and personal growth.

Samuel Merritt University welcomes applicants who are likely to benefit from its rigorous academic programs and who seek an environment which is conducive to intellectual, professional, and personal development. In particular, the University seeks students of diverse backgrounds who have the potential to become competent, compassionate and contributing health care professionals. Admission decisions are made on the basis of an assessment of the student’s previous academic record and personal achievements, national test scores (if applicable), letters of recommendation, personal essays, interviews (if applicable), and the likelihood of success in the academic program.

Timothy Cranford
DEAN OF ADMISSIONS
PROGRAMS OF STUDY

NURSING
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
PHYSICAL THERAPY
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
PODIATRIC MEDICINE

ABSN

Samuel Merritt University, School of Nursing, offers an accelerated baccalaureate program (ABSN) for candidates with undergraduate degrees in other fields. The program recognizes each individual’s past experiences and academic achievements and builds upon these assets. It provides a mechanism for graduates with non-nursing degrees to change careers efficiently and effectively. Because of these basic premises, the curriculum is different from the traditional BSN.

The program is designed to be completed in 12 months. The curriculum includes three terms of intensive study at a rapid pace. Although the curriculum and format are different from Samuel Merritt’s traditional BSN program, the goals, learning outcome objectives and foundational concepts are the same.

BSN

FRESHMAN ENTRY: PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Students interested in entering the program as a freshman must apply directly to one of our partnership programs for pre-nursing at Holy Names University, Mills College, Saint Mary’s College of California or Notre Dame de Namur University. Following completion of two years of pre-nursing courses, students who meet all conditions of the partnership program are given priority admission to Samuel Merritt University for the completion of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.

TRANSFER STUDENTS—DIRECT ENTRY

Samuel Merritt University admits transfer students on a limited basis in fall and spring. The admission is as a first semester junior and it will take four semesters to complete the program.

The clinical student/faculty ratio: in the clinical, hands on setting at Samuel Merritt, there is one faculty member assigned to work with eight or nine students. That closeness gives you a greater opportunity to build confidence and perfect your clinical skills. It also means more direct patient contact. Your clinical group will be small enough to know your classmates and instructors by name, and to receive the attention you deserve.

MSN

The Master of Science in Nursing offers an entry-level program and three post-professional options. The entry-level program is designed for those who have a baccalaureate in a non-nursing field and who are not registered nurses. There are three advance practice options that provide the registered nurse who has a baccalaureate (usually in nursing) with advanced skills: nurse anesthesia (CRNA), family nurse practitioner (FNP), and case management.

CASE MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this program is to prepare experienced nurses with advanced theory and practice in a systematic case management approach to the delivery of health care to diverse patient populations. Case management emphasizes collaborative methods of coordination, continuity, and quality of care within a cost-sensitive perspective. Emphasis will be placed on critical-thinking and strong planning and decision-making skills needed to recognize and respond to the constant changes in the health care delivery system.
CRNA
It is the intent of our program to prepare graduates for the full scope of practice in nurse anesthesia in order that they be competitive in the marketplace by delivering the highest possible quality of care. Consequently, students will be involved in all aspects of anesthesia including general and regional techniques as well as cases involving conscious sedation and other ancillary services such as pain management, anesthesia for interventional radiology procedures and emergency airway management. Under close and immediate supervision, students will be responsible for the administration and management of virtually all specialty surgery categories and common invasive monitoring modalities for the full range of patient age and acuity levels.

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
Nurse practitioners work in a variety of clinical settings including outpatient clinics, ambulatory care settings, emergency departments, inpatient units, community health agencies, and private practice settings with other nurse practitioners, physicians and other health care providers.

Now is an opportune time to become a nurse practitioner. Not only is there an increased demand nationally for nurses, but there are new and abundant opportunities for nurse practitioners including demand for inpatient nurse practitioner care in “Express Care” clinics in retail outlets as well as a burgeoning need for providers to care for the uninsured.

DNP
The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program at Samuel Merritt University prepares students to practice at the highest level of advanced nursing practice, demonstrating leadership in a clinical or organizational specialty area, as well as a commitment to improving healthcare outcomes via practice, policy change, and practice scholarship. The DNP program is designed for advanced practice nurses (nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and clinical nurse specialists) and nurses in organizational leadership positions who have a Master of Science in Nursing degree. The program is designed to accommodate students who desire to continue working full or part time while pursuing doctoral study. Students are admitted to the DNP program as a cohort and are strongly advised to progress sequentially through the courses designated in each of the six semesters.

DPT
Our entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program is designed so graduates excel in serving patients and clients as generalist physical therapists capable of autonomous practice in the health care system. During this 34-month program students progressively build clinical reasoning skills with increasingly complex patient problems through a series of academic and clinical courses that are closely integrated in a uniquely designed curriculum.

Samuel Merritt University offers more clinical education experiences than the national average. Ten months of full-time clinical experiences totaling 1680 hours, compared to the national average of 1208 hours. In addition, small class sizes and faculty support contribute to the overall success of program.

DPM
The Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree consists of a comprehensive curriculum in the basic medical and clinical sciences. The didactic course work is completed during the first three years of the program. The California School of Podiatric Medicine is known for its hands-on early approach to clinical education. Clinical rotations begin at the start of the second academic year in May. During the summer months, second year students begin to participate in clinical rotations, which cover mechanical orthopedics, radiology, general and primary podiatric medicine. The majority of the third year and the entire fourth year are devoted to clinical rotations at inpatient and outpatient facilities, community practice clerkships, and outside clerkships at affiliated Bay Area medical centers and throughout the United states.

MPA
The Master Physician Assistant program at Samuel Merritt University prepares graduates for the practice of medicine in an ever changing clinical environment. Graduates possess the educational foundation for continued intellectual growth, in a shrinking world of diverse cultures. Graduates demonstrate the institutional values embodied in the nine Samuel Merritt Core Learning Competencies, including critical thinking, effective communication, clinical competence, and skill in scientific inquiry.

Our students have a first time pass rate of 97.88% on the Physician Assistant National Certification Examination (PANCE). The PA department admits an annual class of 36 students to provide small class size with extensive use of high fidelity medical simulation technology throughout the curriculum. PA students have the opportunity to participate in community health with under-served patients and international rotation experiences. The MPA program is committed to the education of highly skilled, knowledgeable physician assistants who contribute to the provision of high quality health care to all individuals in a wide variety of clinical settings.

MOT
The Master of Occupational Therapy consists of five consecutive semesters (including summers) plus a six-month internship. Classes are held during daytime hours and full-time study is required. The curriculum emphasizes treating the whole person while mastering specific skills and practices. Students will have clinical experiences throughout the program and a cumulative six-month internship experience.

OT students participate in three clinics that provide free services to individuals in the community. We believe this experience is why clinicians and employers in the field rate graduates of SMU Master of Occupational Therapy very high.
TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID
Financial aid is available at Samuel Merritt University and all students applying for admission are encouraged to apply for financial aid.

ON THE WEB
Please visit our website for additional information on our academic programs, financial aid opportunities and our Information Sessions. Our website is www.samuelmerritt.edu.

PREFERRED APPLICATION DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Preferred Application Date*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) (Transfer)*</td>
<td>September 1 for spring</td>
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<td>March 1 for fall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN)*</td>
<td>September 1 for an April start (San Mateo)</td>
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<td>September 1 for a May start (Oakland)</td>
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<td>September 1 for a June start (San Mateo)</td>
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<td>March 1 for a November start (San Mateo)</td>
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<td>July 1 for a January start (Sacramento)</td>
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<td>July 1 for a January start (San Mateo)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entry-Level Master of Science in Nursing (ELMSN)*</td>
<td>November 1 for a fall start (Oakland)</td>
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<td>July 1 for a spring start (Sacramento)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSN–CRNA*</td>
<td>November 1 for a fall start</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSN–FNP*</td>
<td>January 1 for a summer start (Oakland)</td>
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<td>January 1 for a fall start (Sacramento)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MSN–Case Management*</td>
<td>January 1 for fall</td>
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<td>October 1 for spring</td>
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<td>March 1 for summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Occupational Therapy*</td>
<td>November 1 for a fall start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master Physician Assistant</td>
<td>October 1 for a fall start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor of Nursing Practice*</td>
<td>August 1 for a spring start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor of Physical Therapy</td>
<td>October 1 for a fall start</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor of Podiatric Medicine*</td>
<td>The application filing period extends from the first week of August through June 30 for the next fall entering class. Applications received before April 1 will receive priority consideration.</td>
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*Deadlines are subject to change. It is possible that applications will be accepted after the preferred application date on a space available basis. Please check with the Office of Admission by visiting our website at www.samuelmerritt.edu.