

August 2017

On behalf of the Division of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education, welcome as you consider Shepherd University for your next degree. Shepherd University provides a wide range of degree and certificate options for consideration as students plan for education after their post-secondary/tertiary degree completion. Our campus is situated in the eastern panhandle of West Virginia where rural majesty meets urban technology. Shepherd provides the best of both worlds with resources on campus or in neighboring cities and communities.

Shepherd graduate students come from around the world to experience excellent teaching and strong practical experiences in each program. Faculty are dedicated teachers and advisors who work with students to ensure their success in their academic endeavors.

A brief description of our current doctoral and master’s programs at Shepherd University follow. Visit <http://www.shepherd.edu/graduate-studies> for information about certificate programs.

**Admissions Requirements and Application – Degree Programs**

[**Doctor of Nursing Practice**](http://www.shepherd.edu/dnp/)

An alternative to research-focused doctoral programs, the DNP advances professional nursing roles in clinical practice (Family Nurse Practitioner), and nursing leadership (administration).  The program is designed to produce leaders who embrace health care reform and are advocates for vulnerable populations. Graduates will integrate theory and practice in areas of health policy and law, administration, business, evaluation, systems, population health, and evidence based practices.

[**Master of Arts in College Student Development and Administration**](http://www.shepherd.edu/master-of-arts-in-college-student-development-and-administration/)

The Shepherd University Master of Arts in College Student Development and Administration prepares individuals who demonstrate interest in and commitment to college students and their development and learning as professional administrators in student affairs and enrollment management within post-secondary and tertiary education. Graduates of the program will demonstrate depth and breadth of knowledge of the profession through integrated coursework and supervised practice.

[**Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)**](http://www.shepherd.edu/master-of-arts-in-teaching/)

The Master of Arts in Teaching is a 39-credit hour program designed to provide initial teacher certification for those with bachelor’s degrees in selected fields. Students choose either an elementary or secondary content strand according to their area of emphasis.

**[Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction](http://www.shepherd.edu/master-of-arts-in-curriculum-and-instruction/)**

The Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction is designed to help teachers and professional educators enhance their professionalism, improve their quality of instruction, and better prepare them for leadership roles within their school districts. By integrating theory, practice, and research, the Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction provides teachers and professional educators with opportunities to enhance their levels of professional knowledge, discover innovative and effective approaches to teaching and learning, and at the same time gain greater competency within their disciplines. The primary purpose of the MACI program is to advance knowledge and increase skills for education professionals in instructional or leadership contexts.

[**Master of Business Administration**](http://www.shepherd.edu/master-of-business-administration/)

Graduates from M.B.A. programs are able to pursue a number of career pathways.  This skill set includes areas such as entrepreneurship, management, human resources, marketing, financial planning and analysis, accounting and economics.  These basic business skills and principles can be applied across disciplines and industries and can lead to careers in government, healthcare, commerce, information technology, leadership roles in the public, private and nonprofit sectors.

*Note: make sure you download Adobe XI (11.0.02) of Adobe Reader to fill in the form:* [*http://get.adobe.com/reader/*](http://get.adobe.com/reader/)

[**International Applicants**](http://www.shepherd.edu/international-graduate-admissions/) – Shepherd University welcomes students from around the world for graduate degree study. A test of language proficiency is required for international graduate students except in the case of a diploma or degree from an accredited college or university in which the primary language of instruction is in English.

In addition to these existing programs, I am happy to announce that Shepherd University will offer a brand new **Masters of Science in Data Analytics and Information Systems** and will begin enrolling students in fall 2017 pending final approvals by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission (WV-HEPC). Shepherd’s Data Analytics program is designed to develop students who have advanced capacity to derive knowledge from data and to communicate an understanding of that knowledge. It involves selection of and processing with appropriate methods, development and analysis of algorithms, and implementation in computer programming languages.

I hope these opportunities peak your interest in furthering your academic experiences with Shepherd University. Please contact me or a program coordinator for questions and/or additional information.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Stevens, Jr., Ph.D.

Acting Dean, Graduate Studies and Continuing Education

Shepherd Univeristy