

# SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY

PREMIER HEALTH SCIENCES SINCE 1909



# SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HEALTH SCIENCES INSTITUTION



SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY (SMU), formerly Samuel Merritt College founded in 1909, is an accredited, health sciences institution with campuses in Oakland, Sacramento, San Francisco, and San Mateo. On the occasion of its Centennial, the SMU Board of Regents announced that the institution had become a University.

SMU has been pioneering new academic programs and educating health science practitioners for 100 years.

The University has a strong reputation for personalized instruction with outstanding faculty who bring impressive academic and clinical backgrounds in support of student learning.

# Celebrating CENTENNIAL

1909-2009

## 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 is recognized as a premier health sciences institution. Expert faculty and staff shape an inclusive learning environment where students experience best teaching practices and state-of-the-art learning approaches. The University selects and supports students who flourish in its rigorous academic programs, learn to practice expertly, and pass licensure or certification examinations on first attempt.

## PHILOSOPHY OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

The philosophy of teaching and learning at Samuel Merritt University consists of a system of beliefs and values about the partnership between faculty and students in the teaching and learning process. The philosophy is directed toward the preparation of healthcare practitioners whose practice is planned and coordinated around the unique qualities of each person served. The philosophy requires that SMU graduates use sound reasoning which incorporates the current best evidence, clinical expertise, and the preferences of the people served.

Programs, curricula, and courses are designed to value active, experiential learning and collegial, scholarly, and effective interaction among students and faculty. We believe that clinical and practical applications, grounded in the basic sciences, social sciences, and humanities, provide a critical foundation for learning in the health professions.



## what students say

**“Samuel Merritt University offers wonderful programs** with outstanding professors who go above and beyond to provide the best for their students. I am grateful for the opportunity to attend and receive an education from one of the top health sciences institutions in California.”

**ELEASE PETERSON, BSN CLASS OF 2009**

**“Samuel Merritt University values the opinions** of the students, the school is relatively small, and the faculty and staff customize the learning experience. Its affiliation with so many hospitals and medical facilities make for good clinical practice. I am thankful for the financial aid office. The counselors have helped me find scholarships and keep my debt at a minimum.”

**CHRISTIANN GOEBEL, CSPM CLASS OF 2010**

**“Samuel Merritt University attracts students** who are interested in utilizing their intelligence and talents to give back to their community. We all share the goal of improving the future of health care and the education we receive here is top rate.”

**BENJAMIN CULLEN, CSPM, CLASS OF 2010**

**SMU Student Body Association** exists to empower students to be leaders in a student-centered environment through service and community involvement.



# SAMUEL MERRITT UNIVERSITY

TEACHING, LEARNING, AND INNOVATION



## INNOVATION

Samuel Merritt University incorporates instructional technology and innovative learning design across the curricula. In 2006 SMU opened a multi-million dollar state-of-the-art human simulation laboratory on the Oakland campus. The Health Sciences Simulation Center (HSSC) is a powerful educational environment where student achievement is transformed by integrated and reflective learning methods.

The Center promotes immersive learning for healthcare professionals in an environment where simulation-based education is purposefully integrated into programs. Through a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach SMU provides opportunities to acquire knowledge based on best practices and to positively transform the experience of learning.

The HSSC offers students the opportunity to learn with human-like mannequins, managed by highly sophisticated computer software, and are located within realistic environments. The learning opportunities focus not only on development of technical clinical skills, but on essential human interaction competencies such as teamwork, decision making, and communication.

The HSSC has been recognized as a Center of Educational Excellence (COEE) by Laerdal Medical Corporation for demonstrating excellence in educational philosophy and programs, simulation methodology, programs in life-saving medicine, multidimensional learning strategies, basic clinical skills excellence, community outreach, and curriculum development and integration.

**“Samuel Merritt University is a great place** to learn and grow.

As a student in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN) program I am very busy with constant exams, papers, and homework, but I am able to handle it well because of the special relationships I have built with my classmates.”

JENNIFER ESTEEN, ABSN CLASS OF 2009

**“Samuel Merritt University is a great institution** for learning and becoming a successful healthcare provider. The University offers challenging academic theory along with clinical experiences. The school offers professional counseling, peer tutoring, professor assistance, and academic assistance to ensure a successful transition from being a student to becoming a professional.”

MONIKEA THOMPSON, MOT CLASS OF 2010

**“I feel the University prepares me to think critically** and ethically and emphasizes producing the best and brightest individuals for the future of the healthcare system. SMU is providing its students with a well-rounded education that will fit in any healthcare system nationally and internationally.”

JUNER VALENCIA, BSN CLASS OF 2009



# ACADEMIC PORTFOLIO

EDUCATING STUDENTS TO TRANSFORM  
THE EXPERIENCE OF CARE IN DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

## PROGRAMS

The University offers nationally recognized educational programs in the following health care disciplines:

### BACHELOR'S DEGREES

- Nursing  
(in partnership with Holy Names University, Mills College, and Saint Mary's College of California)
- Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing (ABSN)

### MASTER'S DEGREES

- Nursing  
(case management, certified registered nurse anesthesia and family nurse practitioner)
- Occupational therapy
- Physician assistant

### DOCTORAL DEGREES

- Physical therapy
- Podiatric medicine

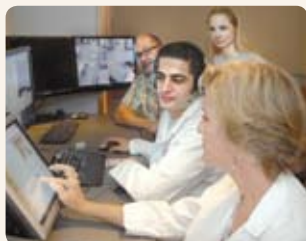


## STUDENT BODY COMPOSITION

SMU strives to reflect the community it serves by recruiting students with a variety of ethnic, cultural, and economic backgrounds. The current student enrollment is over 1,200 and will grow by an additional 400 students by the year 2015. Sixty percent of students are in graduate programs and seventy-six percent of the student body is female.

## OUTSTANDING PASS RATES

The University is the largest source of NCLEX (National Council Licensure Examination) eligible graduate nurses in the state of California, and the only provider of physical and occupational therapists, physician assistants and podiatric physicians in the greater East Bay. Because of its academic excellence, SMU graduates are in demand, having the highest rates of employment within one year of graduation.





SAMUEL MERRITT  
UNIVERSITY

370 Hawthorne Avenue · Oakland · CA 94609 :: [www.samuelmerritt.edu](http://www.samuelmerritt.edu)



### **ACCREDITATION**

SMU is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Senior Accrediting Commission. Professional programs are accredited by specialized accrediting agencies. A complete list can be found on the University website.

### **FINANCIAL AID**

The University works diligently to assist students make their educational experience affordable. More than 80 percent of students receive financial assistance. Financial aid advisors are available to meet with students to discuss resources and scholarships.

**Samuel Merritt University is an affiliate with Sutter Health and Alta Bates Summit Medical Center.**

For more information contact the Office of Admission. **PHONE 800.607.6377**