



# Testimonials



The SIU DMSc Program is ideal for the working PA. The Faculty are accommodating and invested in individual student success, facilitating robust discussions in a PA-dedicated learning environment. The flexibility and pace of the program allowed me to balance work, school and family, along with my duties as AAPA President, throughout. I highly recommend this program to any PA seeking to advance their career and the profession.

**Jennifer M. Orozco, DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA**  
AAPA President and Chair, BoD Rush University Medical Center  
*SIU Inaugural Class of 2022*



I highly recommend the SIU SOM DMSc program with its 1-year, fully online curriculum. The courses are relevant and build on current knowledge and skills. The scholarly project courses are well-designed and provide the foundational education that culminates in a project suitable for publication in a professional journal. This is precisely what I was looking for, as I needed a doctoral program that could fit into my already busy life.

**Matthew A. McQuillan, DMSc, PA-C, DFAAPA**  
Rutgers School of Health Professions  
*SIU Class of 2023*



The SIU DMSc experience has taught me to have a greater appreciation for research and impactful change. Much to my surprise, even my patients have even been cheering me on and have been excited to hear of my journey through this year-long journey. Since acquiring my DMSc I have been asked to be PI in three research studies and have been invited to speak at three conferences. The feel level of credibility I receive within my small subspecialty has is notably higher with this "expected" degree. I am grateful for the opportunities I know this endeavor will bring to my future.

**Andrea Fox, DMSc, PA-C, MHA, MMS, CCD**  
Stanford School of Medicine  
*SIU Class of 2023*



SIU DMSc has enhanced my practice by providing enrichment to subject matter that I previously had not been exposed to. The overall experience has been amazing and the faculty have been incredibly supportive. I am using my knowledge and experience gained in this program to take on a role as legislative committee chair for my state PA organization, and I have no doubts of the success I will achieve in that role.

**Matt Schneider, DMSc, PA-C**  
IAPA Legislative Chair  
*SIU Inaugural Class of 2022*



The design of the program has not only allowed me to continue to work while in the program, but it has allowed me to apply the coursework on almost a daily basis in my role as a PA educator. The courses not only cover the theory but provide practical hands-on experience. As a senior leadership member in PA education, I would know if hiring graduates of this program have received the education and knowledge needed to step immediately into an active role as a PA educator.

**James Van Rhee, DMSc, PA-C**  
Touro University  
*SIU Class of 2023*



Trepidation is how I would describe my feelings going into the DMSc program at SIU while also balancing my clinical practice, faculty responsibilities, family time, and military commitment in the National Guard. Was it hard? Yes. Was it doable? Definitely. Was it valuable in providing me with the skills and education to help me achieve my goals through career progression and help pave the way to work at the peak of my license in an increasingly competitive market? Absolutely! My goal going into SIU's DMSc program was to use the skills and education to progress my career. Upon graduation I already have multiple interviews lined up for director level positions. Completing this degree has put me in a position to be competitive for the career progression I envisioned for myself.

**James Chally, DMSc, PA-C**  
*SIU Class of 2023*

For more information please contact:

**Dr. Jacob Ribbing**  
Director of Doctoral Education  
Assistant Professor  
jribbing38@siumed.edu  
618-453-2664

**Staci Eakins, BS**  
Administrative Assistant  
Doctoral Education  
seakins76@siumed.edu  
618-453-5528

Applications are currently being accepted.  
Check our website for application deadlines.

**VISIT US**  
[siumed.edu/dmsc](http://siumed.edu/dmsc)

**APPLY TODAY!**  
[siumed.edu/fcm/dmsc/apply](http://siumed.edu/fcm/dmsc/apply)



Doctor of Medical Science  
SIU School of Medicine  
300 W. Oak Street, MC 6516  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
DMSc@siu.edu  
618-453-5528

# DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCE



# The SIU DMSc Degree is exclusive to PAs.

## SIU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE DOCTOR OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

### Our Program

The Doctor of Medical Science degree is offered by the School of Medicine Department of Family and Community Medicine Physician Assistant Program. The DMSc degree utilizes online learning activities and offers the choice of an education or clinical practicum. All of the courses in the DMSc degree are specific to PAs. Course activities are examined from the perspective of PAs in clinical practice and education.



The DMSc degree will prepare medical professionals to be leaders in health care, higher education, research and innovative industries, as well as public and private agencies. These PAs will be thoroughly grounded in knowledge-based research paradigms, practical applications, and the ethical/legal implications of their respective career paths. The DMSc degree will provide a balanced mix of theory, research and practical application in the areas of medical practice, education and leadership. PAs who complete the DMSc will be more prepared, adaptable, competitive and marketable in the ever-evolving health care landscape.

**We are by PAs, for PAs.**

### About

The DMSc degree curriculum aims to provide our students with the expertise and skills required to advance the profession by increasing Physician Assistant leadership, advocacy, and scholarship. We believe in professional parity and empowering PAs, positioning our DMSc graduates to be competitive for administrative, managerial, medical officer, legislative, and academic roles, while strengthening our students' clinical skills and confidence.

- The SIU Doctor of Medical Science (DMSc) Degree is a terminal degree exclusive to NCCPA certified PAs
- ALL ONLINE, 1-year or 2-year tracks offered.
- 3 cohorts are offered each year - a Spring 1-yr start or a Summer 1-yr or 2-yr start
- Deadline to apply is EIGHT (8) weeks prior to the start of each new cohort
- 37 credit hours, \$615 per credit hour + \$80 per credit hour technology fee
- EARN CATEGORY I CME – 1 credit per credit hour completed, 37 total hours
- Course work designed for the working PA, clinically or in PA education

### Enrollment Options

**SIU OFFERS THREE COHORTS PER YEAR.** A spring (January) start on the 1-year track; a summer (May/June) start on the 1-year track; or a summer (May/June) start on the 2-year track. Students choose either the Clinical or Educational Practicum at the start of the program. Currently, the Educational Practicum is only offered for a summer start. **THE PROGRAM IS COMPLETELY ONLINE.**

### Curriculum

Upon completion of a Master's degree from an ARC-PA accredited PA Program and NCCPA certification, applicants can pursue the DMSc program, consisting of five core courses, a longitudinal series dedicated to the development of a scholarly project, and a practicum based on their employment in a clinical or educational setting.

1-year track: 37 semester hours, 3 semesters, 5 units

2-year track: 37 semester hours, 6 semesters, 10 units

*(All courses are nine to ten weeks in duration with a one week break between units.)*

### DMSc Course Descriptions

#### CORE COURSES *(Required)*

##### 510 Organizational Behavior and Leadership

Concentrates on the development, organization, and maintenance of effective teams. Topics will include organizational change, roles, conflict, leadership styles and effective implementation strategies, with emphasis on health care and educational organizations.

##### 520 Healthcare Administration

Concentrates on practical approaches to improving health care within an ethical framework and management style. Topics include identifying and reviewing existing literature; critically examining existing programs, policies and structures; addressing the needs of patients, staff, board members, policymakers and other stakeholders.

##### 530 Healthcare Law

Introduction to the study of legal and policy issues in health care. The role of the PA within health care in the United States. Topics may include foundational and complex legal issues, leadership roles and professional relationships in the health care system, access issues, quality of health care and patient protections.

##### 540 Global Health

Concentrates on key infectious diseases, determinants of health, delivery structures and the PA's role in global health strategies. Topics include acute and chronic disease, infectious disease, maternal/child health and the effects of poverty on health and cultural issues, as well as established international models and case studies.

##### 550 Disaster Medicine

Provides students with an overview of the clinical aspects of disaster medicine. It will concentrate on the role of PAs in disaster medicine and established programs in this discipline. Topics include health issues, epidemiology and clinical research within disaster medicine, with emphasis on the leadership roles of PAs.

#### SCHOLARLY PROJECT *(Required)*

##### 560 Evidence-Based Research and Performance Improvement in Clinical Practice

Concentrates on scientific research and performance improvement in medical practice. Topics include research design, methodology, ethics and critical appraisal of the medical literature, with an emphasis on process improvement and quality performance to achieve patient-centered clinical outcomes. Develop the proposal of a scholarly project.

##### 561 Evidence-Based Research and Scholarly Project I

Concentrates on evidence-based research as it applies to the scholarly project. Topics include project development, the proposal process, revisions and submission of their scholarly project proposal. Approval of project is accomplished prior to completion of the course. Emphasis of the scholarly project is on clinical practice, the PA profession, or PA education.

##### 562 Evidence-Based Research and Scholarly Project II

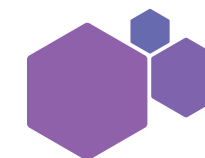
Concentrates on the application of concepts and methods from previous courses. Topics include synthesis of research, application of knowledge and writing for future publication or presentation at professional conferences as the student develops and works on their scholarly project.

##### 563 Evidence-Based Research and Scholarly Project III

Concentrates on finalizing the project for submission to the DMSc program. Topics include the requirements in content, research, format, and relevancy of the scholarly project, as well as preparing the project for submission for publication in a professional journal or presentation at a professional conference.

#### PRACTICUMS: CLINICAL TRACK OR EDUCATIONAL TRACK

*Students will select either the Clinical Practicum or the Educational Practicum. (The Educational Practicum is only offered for a Summer start.)*



#### CLINICAL PRACTICUM TRACK

This course series provides intensive clinical exposure in a chosen clinical specialty to further the student's clinical practice. Students will apply advanced and specialized medical knowledge beyond general practice, and will be asked to define and realize educational and professional milestones. The goal is to further re-enforce life-long learning principles, cultivate a growth mentality, encourage leadership in the workplace, and increase PA autonomy in the clinical setting. Didactic materials covered focus on SIU SOM mission and values, and are broadly applicable to all medical specialties.

##### 571 Advanced Clinical Practicum I

##### 572 Advanced Clinical Practicum II

##### 573 Advanced Clinical Practicum III

##### 574 Advanced Clinical Practicum VI

#### EDUCATIONAL PRACTICUM TRACK *(Summer start only)*

This course series provides opportunities for development as a faculty member and/or clinical preceptor. Students will explore adult learning theories, such as problem-based learning (PBL), social cognitive theory, reflective practice and transformative learning to improve an institution's student learning outcomes through the practicum experience. At the completion of the course, students will summarize their progress toward integrating learning theories and methods, student assessment, program evaluation, and their own development as academicians throughout the practicum experiences.

##### 581 PA Medical Education Practicum I - Learning Theories and Methodology

##### 582 PA Medical Education Practicum II - Student Assessment Essentials

##### 583 PA Medical Education Practicum III - Program Evaluation

##### 584 PA Medical Education Practicum VI - Professional Development and Scholarship