Welcome to Columbia University
Meet the Faculty.....

Dr. Michael Greco  
Program Director

Dr. Lyda Shambo  
Assistant Program Director

Dr. Lee Pohlman  
Faculty

Dr. Christian Cansino  
Faculty
Meet Our Students
What is a CRNA?
What is a Nurse Anesthetist?

- A nurse anesthetist is an RN who has additional education to provide comprehensive anesthesia services.

- A nurse anesthetist becomes “certified” by passing a national exam that is taken after completing a rigorous graduate degree program.

- After passing the exam, a nurse anesthetist is called a “Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist,” or simply “CRNA”.
What does a Nurse Anesthetist do?
Four Roles of a Nurse Anesthetist

• Clinical practice
• Educator
• Researcher
• Administrator
Why do you want to be a CRNA?
Places of Employment

- Business owner
- Ambulatory surgical centers
- Hospitals
- Locum tenens (temporary work assignments)

- Physician office/clinics
- Universities
- U.S. government agencies (VA)
- U.S. Military
Front Loaded Program

Are all classes taught in a classroom?
Benefits of Simulation

• Provides real time feedback allowing participants to assess current skills, analyze options for moving forward and measure results of past decisions and actions

• Interactive, dynamic, engaging and fun through design elements such as graphics, video, audio, storytelling, grounded learning and recognizable environments

• Provides a flexible user driven experience that provides motivation
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**Clinical Rotations**
Variety of Clinical Sites:

New York Presbyterian – Cornell Campus

Shock Trauma, Baltimore
Memorial Sloan Kettering

Long Island Jewish (LIJ)
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

SUNY Stony Brook
# Average Number of Cases

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<th>Low/High</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>Low/High</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cases</strong></td>
<td>703</td>
<td>593/918</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>585/909</td>
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<td><strong>Clinical Hours</strong></td>
<td>2110</td>
<td>1820/2260</td>
<td>2021</td>
<td>1794/2384</td>
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<td><strong>Total Anes Time</strong></td>
<td>1499</td>
<td>1800/2041</td>
<td>1483</td>
<td>1189/1689</td>
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<td><strong>Spinal/Epidural</strong></td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Spinal 39/108 Epidural 40/115</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>Spinal 19/111 Epidural 13/82</td>
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<td><strong>CVP Placement</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>10/72</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>9/60</td>
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<td><strong>Fiberoptic</strong></td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10/27</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6/62</td>
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Worth IT!

• Best investment you’ll ever make!
• Great name and great reputation
• Compensated well
• Only one patient @ a time!
• Clock ticks quickly
• Come hungry – Leave Happy!!
How Can I Prepare For A Graduate Nurse Anesthesia Program?
Graduate Nurse Anesthesia Programs build on...

– Undergraduate preparation in
  • nursing
  • basic sciences

– Critical Care Nursing Experience
  • Understanding of all content on the Adult CCRN Exam Blueprint is **expected**.
Critical Care Nursing Requirement

Why?

- Specialized Knowledge
- Clinical Reasoning Skills
- Technical Skills
- Professionalism
- Communication / Interpersonal Skills
More Similarities Than Differences…

• Administration Of Medications
• Monitoring Effects & Making Adjustments
• Concurrent Documentation
• Focus On Prevention & Safety

Except…

• **You** Will Make The Treatment Decisions / Plan
• **You** Will Initiate Techniques
• **You** Will Be Held Accountable

Nurses:
Diagnose
Intervene
Evaluate
Manage The Care Of:

– Complex
– Critically Ill Patients
• Within Your Capability

…Who Require:

– Mechanical Ventilation
– Vasoactive Infusions
– Invasive Monitoring Modalities
Review...

- Critical Care Nursing Essentials

  - I.e., Content Covered In The CCRN Exam (Adult)
    - Cardiac Rhythm Interpretation
    - Interpret Arterial Blood Gases / Hemodynamic Indices
    - Recognize & Treat Emergencies

  - A Review Book Is Recommended!
    - Full Adult CCRN Test Plan In Packet
      http://www.aacn.org/wd/certifications/content/newccrnfinalrevisions.pcms?menu=certification
Observe / Participate In:
- Arterial Line Placement
- Central Line Placement
- Intubation / Extubation
- Pain Management
- Patient Rounds

Become the IV Team Captain
- Place As Many IVs As You Can!
Practice At The Highest Level

– Critically Evaluate Published Research

– Use Research To Support Your Interventions

– Understand How Nursing & Medical Interventions Affect Patient Outcomes
Read:

What does Columbia University look for in their applicants?
Desired Attributes of Applicants

- Professional
- Knowledgeable
- Motivated
- Skillful
- Self-Aware
- Articulate
- Flexible
- Confident
- Humble
- Leader

Attributes of Graduates

- Professional
- Knowledgeable
- Motivated
- Skillful
- Self-Aware
- Articulate
- Flexible
- Confident
- Humble
- Leader
Begin Anesthesia Education With A Strong Foundation…
…So You Can Focus On Learning Advanced Concepts.
Global Health Opportunities
Remember....... 

Nothing good in life comes easy.........

Becoming a CRNA requires: 
Dedication 
Hard work 
Commitment 
Professionalism 
Commitment to life long learning
Also Remember......

Nothing in life is impossible!!
CRNA Week 2018
The Journey

• The road is winding, no direct path
• When you experience challenge or failure, pick yourself up and take the next step forward
• Learning happens one class, one day at a time
• You may not end up where you thought you would when your journey began
QUESTIONS