**WHAT IS PALLIATIVE CARE**

“Palliative care is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing problems associated with life-threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial, and spiritual.”

(WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION)

**ABOUT THE PROGRAM**

The online Master of Science in Palliative Care degree has been designed to meet the educational needs of individuals who are currently working in hospice and palliative care and want to gain a deeper understanding of the physical, psychological, spiritual, and social needs of patients and families affected by advanced illness, or health care professionals who wish to start working in this field. As such, the program will be of interest to a wide range of health care professionals, including but not limited to:

- Physicians
- Pharmacists
- Nurses
- Advanced Practice Nurses
- Physician Assistants
- Therapists
- Psychologists
- Administrators
- Social Workers
- Chaplains
- Counselors
- Bereavement Specialists
- Volunteer Coordinators
- Thanatologist

**FEATURES INCLUDE**

- Master of Science degree and Graduate Certificates
- Completely online – no need to travel
- Affordable tuition – in-state AND out-of-state
- Nationally recognized, interprofessional faculty
- Interprofessional learners
- 30 credit (10 courses) for Master of Science degree
- Five Graduate Certificate options (four courses each)
- International students welcome
- Flexible learning – can complete in five semesters or work at your own pace
- Four elective pathways – you choose what you want to learn (clinical, psychosocial/spiritual, administrative, thanatology)

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

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**“Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.”**

— Mahatma Gandhi

INDIAN PHILOSOPHER, (1869-1948)
Master of Science and Graduate Certificates in Palliative Care – University of Maryland Graduate School

COURSES

**CORE — Required**
- Principles and Practice of Hospice and Palliative Care
- Communication and Health Care Decision-Making
- Psychosocial, Cultural, and Spiritual Care
- Symptom Management in Advanced Illness

**CLINICAL TRACK**
- Advanced Pain Management and Opioid Dosing
- Advanced Non-Pain Symptom Management
- Advanced Disease State Management
- Clinical Management of Special Patient Populations

**PSYCHOSOCIAL/SPIRITUAL TRACK**
- Advanced Decision-Making and Communication Skills
- Advanced Spirituality and Psychosocial Skills
- Self-Care
- Principles and Practice of Palliative Care Education

**ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK**
- Hospice Leadership and Administration
- Palliative Care Leadership and Administration
- Practice Development and Strategic Planning
- Principles and Practice of Palliative Care Education

**GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF HOSPICE AND OF PALLIATIVE CARE**

**THANATOLOGY**
- Death and Dying: Ethical and Legal Considerations
- Palliative Care (Than)
- Caring for the Bereaved
- Psychosocial Perspectives in Aging

**GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN AGING AND APPLIED THANATOLOGY**

**GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION IN HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE**

**Choose four elective courses**

- Principles and Practice of Hospice and Palliative Care
- Communication and Health Care Decision-Making
- Psychosocial, Cultural, and Spiritual Care
- Symptom Management in Advanced Illness
- Research and Outcomes Assessment in Hospice and Palliative Care
- Advanced Team-Based Palliative Care
- Advanced Decision-Making and Communication Skills
- Advanced Spirituality and Psychosocial Skills
- Self-Care
- Principles and Practice of Palliative Care Education
- Hospice Leadership and Administration
- Palliative Care Leadership and Administration
- Practice Development and Strategic Planning
- Principles and Practice of Palliative Care Education
- Death and Dying: Ethical and Legal Considerations
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graduate.umaryland.edu/palliative