Nursing PhD

Through the Nursing PhD program, students begin a career and life of inquiry. Graduates of the program become scientists who conduct research in nursing and contribute to the development of knowledge in the nursing profession. They answer the "why" and "how" questions and pursue careers as academic faculty or clinical researchers. Through these positions, they continue to generate the knowledge base of the discipline.

The UCSF School of Nursing takes pride in its graduate programs, which represent a century of pioneering leadership that has produced many of the country’s and the world’s nursing leaders. Among schools of nursing nationwide, the UCSF School of Nursing is one of the top recipients of research funding from the National Institutes of Health. The School's graduate students have many opportunities to capitalize on the symbiotic relationship between the Nursing PhD, MS, and MEPN programs, and the basic, clinical, and social and populational science programs offered by the Graduate Division.

faculty
There are over 100 faculty members in the four School of Nursing departments. See a list of Nursing faculty research activities.

sub-disciplines
The Nursing PhD program offers three research focus areas: family health care nursing, community health systems, and physiological nursing. The School of Nursing also administers the Sociology program, which constitutes a separate, so-named PhD degree. See the Nursing PhD program website for full descriptions.

career outcomes
Nursing PhD graduates most often obtain academic positions in schools of nursing throughout the state and the nation.

The Nursing graduate programs are based at the Parnassus and Laurel Heights campuses. Visit the program website for more information.