# VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

# **D. HENRY WATTS SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

Allied Health is defined as the segment of the healthcare field "that delivers services involving the identification, evaluation and prevention of diseases and disorders; dietary and nutrition services; and rehabilitation and health systems management," according to the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions. Those in this field often work collaboratively with doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other medical specialists.

## **THE PROGRAM**

Allied Health Studies (AHS) will provide students a strong foundation of coursework and experience important for health care providers. The Allied Health Studies degree allows students the flexibility to obtain the skills and experience they need to seek an advanced degree in a vast number of allied health profession graduate programs.

# **THE MAJOR**

AHS majors pursue health care fields tangential to professional medical programs. Students seek careers that often involve working with people and helping to ensure the good health of patients. Majors in allied health professions often pursue advanced degrees in their field of interest and while some work in clinics and hospitals alongside doctors, others may work in rehabilitation or preventative care.

# **THE COURSES**

The Bachelor of Arts in Allied Health Studies comprises a varied curriculum that combines foundational biological and chemical knowledge, ethics, and a variety of applied topics, including statistics, social work, psychology, recreational therapy, sociology and public health.

### **INTERNSHIPS**

The required internship in allied health enhances a student's understanding of how to operate in a real world work environment. Students practice applying skills and knowledge learned in the classroom to real-world problems and have the opportunity to learn by working directly with allied health professionals. Additionally, internships provide an opportunity for students to explore different roles and programs in the allied health fields.

### **BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**

The B.A. in Allied Health Studies prepares students for a variety of advanced degree programs in the allied health professions, meeting most prerequisites for continued graduate studies in nutrition and dietetics, public health, entry-level master's in nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy assisting or health educator.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### Dr. Kevin Kittredge

Chair of Chemistry and Biochemistry Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Director of Nursing and Allied Health Studies kkittredge@vwu.edu



vwu.edu