

Carmen G. Vela, DNP, RN, CNE

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Biography

Dr. Carmen G. Vela has served as a Clinical Assistant Professor at Texas A&M University College of Nursing since 2018, teaching both undergraduate and graduate nursing courses. She earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) with a focus in Educational Leadership from American Sentinel University at Post University in 2018. Her capstone project, *“Comparing First-Time NCLEX-RN Pass Rates of Nursing Students Graduating from a Traditional Content-Based Versus a Competency-Concept Based Curriculum,”* reflects her commitment to advancing nursing education through evidence-based practice.

Dr. Vela is a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) and a recognized leader within the College of Nursing. She has played a pivotal role in transitioning the curriculum to a competency-based model and as Chair of the Faculty of the Whole. She has served as the College of Nursing Interim Assistant Dean in Round Rock, TX, and as the Director for Faculty and Preceptor Engagement with the office of Interprofessional Practice, Education, and Research. Her teaching emphasizes active, innovative, and conceptual learning strategies. In addition to her academic contributions, Dr. Vela is dedicated to mentoring new faculty and graduate students and actively participates in professional service and leadership. She is widely respected for her excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service.

Degrees

2018	Doctor of Nursing Practice, Educational Leadership, American Sentinel University College of Nursing at Post University, Aurora, Colorado, USA
2007	Master of Science in Nursing, Nursing Education, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, USA
2004	Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing, Lubbock Christian University, Lubbock, Texas, USA

Texas A&M - Rank and Promotion History

Effective Date of Rank	End Date of Rank	Faculty Title	Tenure Classification	Department	College
2/1/2018		Clinical Assistant Professor	Academic Professional Track	Nursing	College of Nursing

Career Work Experience

2024 – 2025	Director, Faculty & Preceptor Engagement, Texas A&M University, Health Office of Interprofessional Practice, Education & Research (IPER), College Station, Texas, United States
2023 – 2023	Interim Assistant Dean, Distant Site, Texas A&M University, College of Nursing, Round Rock, Texas, United States
2018 – ongoing	Clinical Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University, College of Nursing, Round Rock, Texas, United States
2009 – 2018	Academic Instructor and Clinical Faculty, Covenant School of Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, United States
2009 – 2011	Academic Faculty, Part-time, Lubbock Christian University, Nursing Department, Lubbock, Texas, United States
2007 – 2009	Academic Instructor, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, School of Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, United States
2005 – 2007	Admissions Nursing Career Counselor, Covenant School of Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, United States
2004 – 2005	Clinical Teaching Assistant, Covenant School of Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, United States
2002 – 2004	Recruiter, Covenant School of Nursing, Lubbock, Texas, United States
1997 – 2002	RN Case Manager, Unit Registered Nurse, Nurse Tech, Covenant Medical Center, Lubbock, Texas, United States

Texas A&M - Administrative Appointments

Start Date of Appointment	End Date of Appointment	Position Title	Department, Unit	Roles and/or Responsibilities
March 2024	May 2025	Director, Faculty & Preceptor Engagement	Texas A&M University Office of Interprofessional Practice, Education, & Research (IPER)	Establish programmatic goals, engage internal, external champions, and directors to design and implement continuing professional development, facilitate training/orientation for faculty groups, and update the

				faculty 101 Course for IPE.
May 2023	August 2023	Interim Assistant Dean	Nursing	Supervise faculty and staff, engage with clinical partners, chair a search committee, serve on the nursing leadership team, and lead the development and implementation of class and clinical schedules for faculty and students.

Texas A&M - University Distinguished Awards

2025 Nominee	Nominated for the AFS College-Level Distinguished Teaching Faculty Award
2024 Nominee	Nominated for the AFS University-Level Distinguished Teaching Faculty Award
2026 Recipient	2025-22026 Provost Academic Professional Track Teaching Excellence Award

Professional Licensures

Effective Date	Expiration Date	Title	Organization	License Number	Month-Year Recertification	State of Issue	Country (if international licensure)	Type	Description
July 1998	Current	Registered Nurse	Texas Board of Nursing	652972	December 2027	Texas	U.S.A.	Nursing	Nursing License

Professional Certifications

Effective Date	Expiration Date	Organization	Type	Board Certified	Board Eligible	Specialty	Sub-Specialty	Certification Number	Lifetime Board Certification
April 2024	Current	Association of Colleges and University Educators (ACUE)	Class	No	No	Teaching Practices	No	None	No
August 2022	August 2027	National League for Nursing	Test	No	No	Nurse Educator	No	561052	No

Teaching (Custom Section)

Course Title	Course	Credit Hours	Lab Hours	Instruction Mode	Lecture Hours	Student Credit Hours	Enrollment	If co-taught, % contributed to course	Descriptive	Semester	Multidisciplinary Collaboration Activities Included
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	TR	3		42	100%		Summer 2018	N
Health Assessment	NURS 314	3	3	TR	0		20	50%		Fall 2018	N
Nursing Fundamentals	NURS 313	5		TR	3		20	50%		Fall 2018	N
Nursing and the Aged	NURS 315	3		TR	3		27	100%		Fall 2018	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	TR	3		21	100%		Spring 2019	N
Nursing and the Aged	NURS 315	3		TR	3		22	100%		Spring 2019	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	TR	3		21	100%		Summer 2019	N

Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	TR	3		41	100%		Fall 2019	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	TR	3		24	100%		Spring 2020	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	WEB	3		41	100%		Summer 2020	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	WEB	3		54	100%		Fall 2020	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	WEB	3		49	100%		Fall 2020	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	WEB	3		70	100%		Spring 2021	N
HRN-NUR Dimensions & Informatics	NURS 305	3		WEB	3		6	30%		Spring 2021	N
Nursing Dimensions and Informatics	NURS 305	3		WEB	3		54	30%		Spring 2021	N
Nursing Dimensions and Informatics	NURS 305	3		WEB	3		65	30%		Spring 2021	N
Nursing Dimensions and Informatics	NURS 305	3		WEB	3		15	30%		Spring 2021	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	Dual	3		35	100%		Spring 2021	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	Mixed	3		16	100%		Summer 2021	N
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	Mixed	3		18	100%		Summer 2021	N
Adult Nursing II	NURS 420	6	3	TR	3		64	100%		Fall 2021	N
Health Promotion Across the Lifespan for RN	NURS 464	3		WEB	3		26	100%		Fall 2021	
Adult Nursing 1	NURS 320	6	3	TR	3		14	100%		Spring 2022	N

Care of Community Health Clients	NURS 421	5		TR	5		19	50%		Spring 2022	N
Adult Nursing II	NURS 420	6	3	TR	3		40	100%		Fall 2022	N
Care of Community Health Clients	NURS 421	5		TR	5		19	50%		Fall 2022	N
Adult Nursing II	NURS 420	6	3	TR	3		40	100%		Fall 2022	N
Transition to Professional Practice	NURS 430	5	2	TR	3	75	30	30%		Spring 2023	N
Nursing and the Aged	NURS 315	3		TR	3	60	40	100%		Spring 2023	N
Care of Community Health Clients	NURS 421	5		TR	5	90	20	50%		Spring 2023	N
HNR - Transition Into Professional Practice	NURS 430	5	2	NT	3	5	1	30%		Spring 2023	N
Nursing and the Aged	NURS 315	3		TR	3	60	43	100%		Summer 2023	N
Adult Nursing II	NURS 420	6	3	TR	3		32	100%		Fall 2023	N
Transition to Professional Practice	NURS 430	5	2	TR	3	75	37	30%		Fall 2023	N
Care of Community Health Clients	NURS 421	5		TR	5	90	32	100%		Fall 2023	N
Nursing and the Aged	NURS 315	3		TR	3	60	48	100%		Spring 2024	N
Care of Community Health Clients	NURS 421	5		TR	5	90	48	100%		Spring 2024	N
Care of Community Health Clients	NURS 421	5		TR	5	90	48	100%		Summer 2024	N
Care of Community Health Clients	NURS 421	5		TR	5	90	48	100%		Fall 2024	N

Professional Issues	NURS 424	2		WEB	2	92	46	100%		Fall 2024	N
Transition to Professional Practice	NURS 430	5	2	TR	3	70	38	30%		Fall 2024	N
Nursing and the Aged	NURS 315	3	1	TR	2	72	48	100%		Spring 2025	N
Evidence-Based Practice for Nurses	NURS 411	3		TR	3	51	17	30%		Spring 2025	N
Advanced Clinical Practicum & Project	NURS 638	3		WEB		39	13	50%		Spring 2025	N
Care of Community Health Clients	NURS 421	5		TR	5	90	48	100%		Fall 2025	N
Building Healthy Communities 1: Wellness and Health Promotion Across the Life Span	NURS 344	4		TR	4	45	24	50%		Fall 2025	N
Adult Nursing II	NURS 420	6	3	TR	3	135	10	50%		Fall 2025	N
Building Healthy Communities 1: Wellness and Health Promotion Across the Life Span	NURS 343	4		TR	4	45	49	100%		Spring 2026	N
Building Healthy Communities II: Fostering Healthcare Infrastructure	NURS 344	3	1	TR	2	45	45	100%		Spring 2026	N

Graduate Advising

Member

Fall 2024 – Ongoing

Status: AS - Graduated, Douglas, Pam (Deb O'Briant, Chair), Program: DNP-NUDDE, Degree: DNP, Major: NRPR [Role: Committee Member]

Status: AS – Graduated, Garcia, Rosario (Matthew Sorensen, Chair), Program: DNP-NUDDE, Degree: DNP, Major: NRPR [Role: Committee Member]

Status: AS – Active, Hernandez, Yesenia (Amanda Huang, Chair), Program: DNP-NUDDE, Degree: DNP, Major: NRPR [Committee Member]

Status: AS – Active, Broussard, Karen (Maria Olenick, Chair), Program: DNP-NUDDE, Degree: CNP, Major: NRPR [Committee Member]

Status: AD – Active, Markowsky, Megan (Carmen Vela, Chair), Program: DNP-NUDDE, Degree: DNP, Major: NRPR [Chair]

Professional Students/Interns/Residencies Advising

Fall 2019	Professional Mentee Name: Virginia Rojo, Department/Program: UT Tyler School of Nursing, Professional Mentee Position: MSN Professional Student
Spring 2020	Professional Mentee Name: Megan Cook, Department/Program: Texas A&M University School of Nursing, Professional Mentee Position: MSN Professional Student
Spring 2021	Professional Mentee Name: Luis Flores, Department/Program: Texas A&M University School of Nursing, Professional Mentee Position: MSN Professional Student
Spring2022	Professional Mentee Name: Eduardo Hernandez, Department/Program: Texas A&M University School of Nursing, Professional Mentee Position: MSN Professional Student

Faculty Mentoring (nonstudents)

Fall 2024-Spring 2025 Mentee Name: Renee Miller, Department: College of Nursing, Mentee
Position: Clinical Assistant Professor

Fall 2022-Spring 2023 Mentee Name: Victoria Hamilton, Department: College of Nursing, Mentee
Position: Lecturer

Publications, Conference Proceedings, Patents and Creative Products/Innovations Journal Article

Completed/Published

1. Dormire, S., Harlow, R., Shields, S., Wilkens, C., McLennon, S., **Vela, C.**, & Moffitt, C. (online 2025). A framework to (Re)design nursing undergraduate curriculum: One program's journey. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 2025, 64(1):27-33. Author 6
2. Mauldin, B., & **Vela, C.** (online 2025). Teaching Evidence-Based Practice Using a Whimsical Case Study Workshop. *Nurse Educator*. Author 2.
3. **Vela, C.**, & Bloom, R. (submitted). Evaluation of the podcasting as learning (PAL) project. *Teaching and Learning in Nursing*. Author 1.

Conference Proceedings

National Conference/Organization Presentations

*Bosenbark, M., Dormire, S., Doyel, M., Rosen, C., & **Vela, C.** (2020). *Simulation in the time of COVID: Re-imagining standardized patients while advancing nursing education*. Poster presentation The International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) Hybrid Conference, 2021, Denver, Colorado.

*Fabry, L. & **Vela, C.** (2012). *Development of the student retention committee at covenant school of nursing*. Poster presentation, Institute for Healthcare Improvement, 24th Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Healthcare Conference, Orlando, Florida.

State and Local Conference/Organization Presentations

Fabry, L. & **Vela, C. (2012). *Development of the student retention committee at covenant school of nursing*. Poster presentation Texas Rural Health Conference, Area Health Education Center, San Marcos, Texas.

****Vela, C.** & Mauldin, B. (2023). *Promoting role identity of a developing nursing professional through an innovative competency evaluation*. Podium presentation Transformational Teaching and Learning Conference 2023, Center for Teaching Excellence, Texas A&M University, Bryan, Texas.

** **Vela, C.** & Mauldin, B. (2023). *Reverse engineering case studies: Student as active designer/learner*. Poster presentation Texas Conference on Student Success, Texas A&M University, Bryan, Texas.

Service

2025 – present	Dean’s Executive Council, Member Faculty of the Whole, Chair Undergraduate Faculty Committee Student Policy and Scholarship Committee Employee Experience Work Task Force Team 2025 Annual College of Nursing Dean’s Awards Task Force
2023 – 2025	Dean’s Executive Council, Member Faculty of the Whole, Chair Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Member Student Handbook Update Task Force, Member 2025 Transformational Teaching and Learning Conference Steering Committee, Member
2023 – 2023	Dean’s Council, Member, Interim Assistant Dean Round Rock Dean’s Council, Member, Faculty of the Whole, Interim Chair Distant Site Assistant Dean Search Committee, Member Supplemental Instructor Interview Committee, Lead
2018 – 2023	Faculty Affairs Committee, Chair Nursing Program Redesign Committee, Member Executive Associate Dean Search Committee, Member Faculty Search Committee, Member Clinical Teaching Assistant Search Committee, Member 2024 Transformational Teaching and Learning Conference Steering Committee, Member
2021 – summer	Undergraduate Competencies Summer Work Group, Lead Personal Protective Equipment Competency Task Force, Lead
2020 – 2021	Total Program Evaluation Committee, Member Faculty Affairs Committee, Member
2020 – summer	Item Writing Summer Work Group, Member
2018 – 2020	Climate and Diversity, Member
2018 – 2019	Faculty Affairs Committee, Member

Professional Affiliations and Memberships

2006 – Present	American Nurses Association, Member
2006 – Present 2018 – Present 2006 – 2018	Texas Nurses Association, Member <ul style="list-style-type: none">• District 5, Member• District 18, Member<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2015 – 2018 Bylaws Committee Member• 2008 – 2010 Nominations Chair
2006 – Present	Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, Member <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating Healthy Work Environments 2025, Abstract Reviewer• International Research Conference 2025, Abstract Reviewer• Sigma North America Region 6 Coordinator (East Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas)
2019 – Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Phi Iota Chapter, Member<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2024 – Region 6 - 2025 Conference Planning Committee, Member• 2023 – 2025, Leadership Succession, Chair, and conference delegate 2024 and 2025• 2021 – 2023 President and conference delegate• 2019 – 2021 Counselor
2006 – Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Iota Mu<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2008 – 2010 Leadership Succession Chair
2007 – Present	American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), Member <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2025 Novice Faculty Teaching Award, Reviewer and Judge• 2025 Excellence and Innovation in Teaching Award, Reviewer and Judge• 2025 Excellence in Nursing Practice, DNP Project, Reviewer and Judge• 2025 Transform 2025 Conference, Abstract Reviewer
2024 – Present	National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Austin Chapter, Member
2025 – Present	American Society for Simulation and Healthcare, Member

Professional Development Activities

Sept 2024	2024 NLN Education Summit, National League for Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, 11.250 Contact Hours
Aug 2024	IAPER - Rapid Teaming in Experiential Learning Environments Certificate Course Online
Aug 2023 – May 2024	Faculty and Graduate Mentoring Academy, Texas A&M University, Online, College Station, Texas
Aug 2023 – May 2024	APT to Lead, 2024 Leadership Development, Texas A&M University, Online, College Station, Texas
Feb 2024	Nurse Talks Empowerment Series: COMPASSIONomics Framework for Managing Technostress and Well-Being in Healthcare, 1.0 Contact Hours
Jan 2025	Inaugural Conference “Educating Nurses: A Radical Transformation 2025,” 11.00 Continuing Education Hours
April 2025	TXIPE Consortium Annual Conference, Interprofessional Conference, Lubbock, TX, Faculty Development
2025	Creating Patient End of Life Medical Simulation Experiences to Develop Clinical Learner Empathy, online, 1.0 Contact Hour
2025	Streamlining Clinical Simulation Debriefing: A Standardized Script for Best Practices, online, 1.0 Contact Hour
2025	Using AI Voices to Standardize Clinical Simulation Pre-briefings, online, 1.0 Contact Hour
2025	Using Nursing Simulation to Illustrate Pain, online, 1.0 Contact Hour
2025	Sepsis Alliance Presents: Sepsis Fundamentals, online, 4.30 Contact Hours
2025	5 Reasons a Clinical Simulation Fails, online, 1.0 Contact Hour
2025	Graduate and Faculty Mentoring Academy, TAMUS, online, 10 hours
2025	Shaping the Future of Health Policy Through Social Accountability, online, 1 Contact hour
2025	Forging the Future of Nursing: A Discussion with Dr. Philip Dickison, CEO of NCSBN, online workshop

2025	Strategies that Stick: Active Learning that Drives Student Success, online, 1.0 Contact hour
2025	ATI Proctor Certification, online, 0.5 Contact hour
2025	Unlock Performance with Interprofessional Clinical Simulation Escape Rooms, online, 1.0 Contact hour
Aug 2025	Bridging the Gap Clinical Training, online
Nov 2025	Sigma Theta Tau 48 th Biennial Convention, Indianapolis, IN, 10.25 Contact hours

Grants & Contracts

Title	Collaborators	Funding Agency-Sponsor	Start Date	End Date	Total Funding	Status	% Effort Contributed	Internal / External	Research \$ attributed to faculty member
Podcasting as Learning (PAL): Content, Communication, and Collaboration	Dr. Rosaleen Bloom	Texas A&M University Health Science Center, Teaching Excellence Grant	2024-07-09	2025-08-31	\$6914.00	Funded	50.00	Internal	\$0