

## Bailey Buckner, Spanish and Nursing, Class of 2022

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Bailey Buckner is a native of Franklin, KY, but she is a Hilltopper that is set to graduate in Spring 2022. Although her major is in nursing (BSN), she also studies Spanish on the Hill (with a concentration in health sciences and health careers). WKU offers a wide variety of Spanish courses from conversation to composition, but also offers several pathways for students to maximize their Spanish skills in the area most applicable to their future career. In addition to Spanish and nursing, Buckner also has a minor in psychology and is a student of the Mahurin Honors College.



After graduation, Buckner plans to enroll in Vanderbilt University’s School of Nursing’s Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program. Buckner plans to maximize her studies of Spanish at WKU particularly because of her future career. She explains, “Ultimately, I hope that my language skills provide me with the opportunity to communicate better with future patient populations. In the nursing field, it is very important to provide holistic, patient-centered care. I believe that my language skills gained from my Spanish major will enhance my ability to provide the best care possible.”

Buckner has studied Spanish to ameliorate communication problems with her patients in the healthcare sector. Buckner is grateful to the Modern Languages department for providing her the opportunity to cultivate her Spanish skills and also grow outside of her comfort zone. She explains, “I gained all the knowledge I wanted to as a Modern Languages student—my main advice would be to listen to and follow your passion for language. It is absolutely worth it!”

