

**Annette Maruca, PhD, RN, PMH-BC, CNE, CCHP**  
**Associate Dean of Academic Affairs & Undergraduate Studies and Professor**  
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Dr. Maruca is the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Undergraduate Studies and Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. Dr. Maruca is ANCC Board Certified in psychiatric mental health nursing, NLN certified in nursing education, and NCCHC certified as a correctional health professional. Receiving her PhD in Nursing in 2014, her research evolved to incorporate justice involved persons with behavioral health issues and eventually to the addressing the growing concerns regarding the nursing workforce meeting the health care needs of the nation particularly underserved populations and concern for the wellbeing of the profession of nursing.

At the School of Nursing, Dr. Maruca provides leadership and oversight to the undergraduate programs ensuring teaching-learning excellence, professional development, pursuit of scholarship, and fostering a culture of caring, community, and creativity. Dr. Maruca has extensive experience in preparing undergraduate students for the health care workforce integrating health, wellness, mentorship, and social justice into nursing science for over 10 years. She serves as a leader in shaping innovative educational opportunities for aspiring and current nurses. Dr. Maruca's scholarship focuses on developing a healthcare workforce prepared to address professional wellness and health equity for the underserved. She is a founding member of the American Correctional Nurses Association and continues with leadership roles in several national and regional organizations. Dr. Maruca maintains her scholarship with international and national presentations and peer-reviewed publications.