



School of Nursing

Undergraduate and Graduate Student Handbook

2026-2027 Academic Year

Policies in this handbook apply to all graduate and undergraduate students in the School of Nursing

*Diversity: UNC System policy on “Equality Within the University of North Carolina” defines diversity as “the ways in which individuals vary, including, but not limited to, backgrounds, beliefs, viewpoints, abilities, cultures, and traditions that distinguish one individual from. another.”

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SCHOOL OF NURSING PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of the UNC Charlotte nursing programs is consistent with the mission statement of the University. The University and the College of Health and Human Services provide opportunities for each student to develop knowledge of self, understanding of human uniqueness, and competencies relevant to individual, societal, and professional goals.

Nursing is an applied discipline. Professional nursing practice is based on both interdisciplinary and discipline-specific knowledge and built on a foundation of liberal education. The discipline specific knowledge that guides nursing practice includes concepts of person, health, environment, and nursing and theories that describe their interrelationships. The philosophy of the School of Nursing is based on a pluralistic perspective of these central concepts. The teaching-learning process in a university-based nursing program requires faculty integration of research, scholarship, and service related to these concepts.

Professional nurses function as autonomous, accountable individuals in collaborative relationships with other health care providers and consumers. Minimum preparation for the professional practice of nursing is a baccalaureate education in nursing, utilizing nursing and other theories as the frameworks for nursing practice and building on knowledge from scientific and humanistic disciplines.

Learning is a life-long process that results in changes in beliefs and behaviors. This process occurs through self-discovery, critical thinking and intellectual inquiry and is facilitated through the learner's active, self-directed participation. Teaching is a creative, collaborative process that facilitates learning. Lifelong learning requires abilities to use a variety of resources, including print, audiovisual equipment, computers, and other technological media. A major component of students' learning experience is goal-directed clinical practice in which the cognitive, affective, and psychomotor domains are integrated.

Date of Implementation: 7/02

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

Program Outcomes

Entry-Level Program Outcomes	AACN Domain	Advanced-Level Program Outcomes
1. Provide and promote safe, compassionate , culturally humble, high quality person-centered care relevant to client needs across the life span.	D1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice D2: Person-Centered Care D3: Population Health D5: Quality and Safety	1.Design and lead advanced compassionate holistic person-centered and population-focused healthcare that is evidence-based , empathetic, and community responsive.
2. Demonstrate ethical comportment to identify barriers to health promotion and disease prevention which advocates for differing values, beliefs, and perspectives.	D3: Population Health D7: Systems-Based Practice D9: Professionalism	2.Utilize enhanced advocacy, communication, and ethical comportment to challenge and transform health policy at the systems- and population-levels.
3.Utilize system-based practice strategies in service to others that promotes health, leverages resources and collaborative teams , prevents and reduces risk of disease, and restores health in clients and populations	D5: Quality and Safety D6: Interprofessional Partnerships D7: Systems-Based Practice	3. Guide and direct nursing and interprofessional collaborative teams to create and adopt quality and safety initiatives for health and system outcomes improvement.
4.Apply clinical judgment in the assessment and management of illness and disease impact with an emphasis on restoring wellness holistically and enhancing quality of life for multiple populations.	D1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice D2: Person-Centered Care D3: Population Health D5: Quality and Safety	4.Utilize advanced clinical judgment and reasoning to promote high-quality comprehensive care for multiple populations.
5. Describe and integrate information systems technology in the application of safe, high quality care, communication in healthcare delivery, and implementation of clinical decision making.	D5: Quality and Safety D8: Informatics and Healthcare Technologies	5. Explore, analyze, and recommend information and technology integration across systems to improve the quality and safety of clinical decision making and healthcare delivery.
6.Integrate nursing scholarship in the coordination and management of care supported by health policy and evidence-based practice in collaboration with clients and interprofessional teams.	D1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice D4: Scholarship for Nursing Discipline D6: Interprofessional Partnerships	6.Create, translate, synthesize, and disseminate nursing research to scholarly practice across various health care systems.
7.Practice self-reflection and a spirit of inquiry to support personal well-being, life-long learning, professional nursing growth, and leadership development	D9: Professionalism D10: Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development	7.Model self-reflection and mentor others in personal health and well-being, cognitive flexibility, and leadership maturity to influence positive intentional change, promote lifelong learning, and expand nursing professional practice and service.

Date of origin: 04/25

Reviewed: 8/26

CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

The undergraduate and graduate nursing curricula are based on a framework synthesized from the central concepts presented in, *The Essentials of Nursing: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education* (AACN, 2021). Based on AACN's Essentials, there are 10 Domains of Nursing. The domains and their definitions follow.

Domain 1: Knowledge for Nursing Practice:

Integration, translation, and application of established and evolving disciplinary nursing knowledge and ways of knowing, as well as knowledge from other disciplines, including a foundation in liberal arts and natural and social sciences. This distinguishes the practice of professional nursing and forms the basis for clinical judgment and innovation in nursing practice.

Domain 2: Person-Centered Care:

Person-centered care focuses on the individual within multiple complicated contexts, including family and/or important others. Person-centered care is holistic, individualized, just, respectful, compassionate, coordinated, evidence-based, and developmentally appropriate. Person-centered care builds on a scientific body of knowledge that guides nursing practice regardless of specialty or functional area.

Domain 3: Population Health:

Population health spans the healthcare delivery continuum from public health prevention to disease management of populations and describes collaborative activities with both traditional and non-traditional partnerships from affected communities, public health, industry, academia, health care, local government entities, and others for the improvement of equitable population health outcomes.

Domain 4: Scholarship for Nursing Discipline:

The generation, synthesis, translation, application, and dissemination of nursing knowledge to improve health and transform health care.

Domain 5: Quality and Safety:

Employment of established and emerging principles of safety and improvement science. Quality and safety, as core values of nursing practice, enhance quality and minimize risk of harm to patients and providers through both system effectiveness and individual performance.

Domain 6: Interprofessional Partnerships:

Intentional collaboration across professions and with care team members, patients, families, communities, and other stakeholders to optimize care, enhance the healthcare experience, and strengthen outcomes.

Domain 7: Systems-Based Practice:

Responding to and leading within complex systems of health care. Nurses effectively and proactively coordinate resources to provide safe, quality, equitable care to diverse populations.

Domain 8: Informatics and Healthcare Technologies:

Information and communication technologies and informatics processes are used to provide care, gather data, form information to drive decision making, and support professionals as

they expand knowledge and wisdom for practice. Informatics processes and technologies are used to manage and improve the delivery of safe, high-quality, and efficient healthcare services in accordance with best practice and professional and regulatory standards.

Domain 9: Professionalism:

Formation and cultivation of a sustainable professional nursing identity, accountability, perspective, collaborative disposition, and comportment that reflects nursing's characteristics and values.

Domain 10: Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development:

Participation in activities and self-reflection that foster personal health, resilience, well-being, lifelong learning, and support the acquisition of nursing expertise and assertion of leadership.

Revised: 6/2025

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23,

8/24, 8/26

CIVILITY CHARTER

Goal: To foster and support an ethical, respectful, and professional academic work and learning environments for all members of the School of Nursing (SON).

Preamble: We, as Niner Nurses and members of the SON, pledge to uphold the [Noble Niner UNC Charlotte Honor Code](#), and [Provision 1.5 of the Code of Ethics for Nurses](#) with Interpretive Statements (2025), which states that all nurses are responsible for creating “an ethical environment and culture of civility and kindness.....’ any form of bullying, harassment, intimidation, manipulation, threats or violence are always morally unacceptable and will not be tolerated” (p.4).

Creed: To honor this pledge, all members of the SON commit to an environment that is free from racism and discrimination, promotes respect, *diversity, collegiality, professionalism, integrity, and productive discourse.

We pledge to abide by our vision, mission, values and co-created norms and to communicate and interact with civility, professionalism and respect. When we disagree, we will restrict our differences to the issue itself while continuing to respect the person with whom we disagree. To accomplish our commitment, we agree to abide by and be accountable for the following norms:

- Assume goodwill and best intentions;
- Be respectful in all interactions;
- Use direct communication and speak directly to the person involved;
- Role model professionalism, civility and ethical conduct;
- Listen carefully and with intention to understand;
- Honor and respect difference;
- Promote an environment which is free from discrimination;
- Be open to other points of view;
- Hold self and others accountable for abiding by co-created norms;
- Empower one another to create and sustain a more ethical and civil environment;
- Abstain from disparaging or acrimonious speech, in all interactions

Adopted: 8/17

Reviewed: 08/18, 8/19, 8/20, 8/21, 8/22, 8/2, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

IMPORTANT CHHS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Academic Advising Policy

Please refer to the College of Health and Human Services Student Handbook.

[UNC Charlotte Code of Academic Integrity](#)

[UNC Charlotte Code of Student Responsibility](#)

[UNC Charlotte Student Grievance Procedure](#)

[Grade Replacement Policy](#)

[Appeals of Final Course Grades](#)

Disability Accommodation

Students requesting accommodation should notify individual faculty and register with Disability services and follow the [Office of Disability](#) procedures.

Religious Accommodation

The School of Nursing recognizes and respects the diverse religions of our student body and acknowledges the associated celebrations. Students with sincerely held religious beliefs must notify faculty within one week of the first day of class of religious observances that may conflict with course attendance, participation, or exam schedules. Faculty will provide reasonable accommodations to students for planned absences for religious observances. Students will be responsible for course work, assignments, or exams that are missed. For further information on the University's policy related to [Religious accommodations](#).

Consent for Letter of Recommendation

Before requesting a reference from any faculty or staff member, at UNC Charlotte, students must complete a Consent for Letters of Recommendation/Evaluation form giving permission for an individual to divulge academic information to the person or agency requiring the reference (<https://legal.charlotte.edu/legal-topics/ferpa/consent-forms-release-student>).

Niner Nation Cares

The University maintains the website of [Niner Nation Cares](#) to provide the most current guidance related to the health of the University community. Please visit this site to review all current policies and guidelines related to safety, health protocols, and campus updates.

LINES OF COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS

Purpose: The primary purpose of the School of Nursing (SON) Lines of Communication Procedure is to encourage professional communication and outline the process for students to provide input related to issues that arise related to course or program implementation.

Students should follow the School, College and University policy and procedures related to final course grade appeals, academic petitions, grade replacements, grievances, and academic integrity violations.

Students have several vehicles for communication within the School of Nursing based on the nature of the issue(s).

1. Students who seek information related to their program of study or are experiencing specific personal issues they wish to discuss should direct this correspondence to their faculty mentor or CHHS advisor. The faculty mentor can provide guidance and resources available within the School of Nursing and the University to support the student needs. If the issue requires more guidance, the student and/or advisor may consult with the specific Graduate or Undergraduate Program Coordinator or Associate Director.
2. Students who have a concern about a particular course should follow the Lines of Communication Procedure when addressing concerns.
 - a. Level I: All course related feedback/concerns are directed to the individual course faculty. Most concerns can be resolved at this level.
 - b. If the student does not feel the resolution/response proposed is adequate, then the student should seek additional guidance from the lead faculty/coordinator; otherwise, level II guidance is suggested.
 - c. Level II: If an issue is not addressed to the satisfaction of the student at Level I, then the student should seek consultation and schedule an appointment with the specific Graduate or Undergraduate Program Associate Director.
 - d. Level III: If the student has followed the procedure and continues to seek additional guidance, then the student may request an appointment in writing to discuss the issue with the School of Nursing Director.

Students should be prepared to articulate the issue, the steps taken to resolve the issue at each level, and the desired resolution requested. The faculty, Associate Director and Director at each level will obtain input from the involved parties and make a recommendation.

Date of Origin: 8/18

Revised: 8/26

Reviewed 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25

ACADEMIC DISMISSAL POLICY

The faculty members of the UNC Charlotte School of Nursing have an academic, legal, and ethical responsibility to protect members of the public and of the health care community from unsafe or unprofessional nursing practices. The UNC Charlotte School of Nursing has adopted the American Nurses' Association (ANA, 2025) Code of Ethics for Nurses as its standard for ethical conduct by students and faculty. The Code is a key element of this policy:

Provision 1

The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person.

Provision 2

A nurse's primary commitment is to the recipient(s) of nursing care, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population.

Provision 3

The nurse establishes a trusting relationship and advocates for the rights, health, and safety of recipient(s) of nursing care.

Provision 4

Nurses have authority over nursing practice and are responsible and accountable for their practice consistent with their obligations to promote health, prevent illness, and provide optimal care.

Provision 5

The nurse has moral duties to self as a person of inherent dignity and worth including an expectation of a safe place to work that fosters flourishing, authenticity of self at work, and self-respect through integrity and professional competence.

Provision 6

Nurses, through individual and collective effort, establish, maintain, and improve the ethical environment of the work setting that affects nursing care and the well-being of nurses.

Provision 7

Nurses advance the profession through multiple approaches to knowledge development, professional standards, and the generation of policies for nursing, health, and social concerns.

Provision 8

Nurses build collaborative relationships and networks with nurses, other healthcare and non-healthcare disciplines, and the public to achieve greater ends.

Provision 9

Nurses and their professional organizations work to enact and resource practices, policies, and legislation to promote social justice, eliminate health inequities, and facilitate human flourishing.

Provision 10

Nursing, through organizations and associations, participates in the global nursing and health community to promote human and environmental health, well-being, and flourishing.

Source: American Nurses Association. (2025). *Code of Ethics for Nurses*, Washington, D.C.: American Nurses Publishing. <https://codeofethics.ana.org/home>.

1. The faculty members of the UNC Charlotte School of Nursing have an academic, legal, and ethical responsibility to protect members of the public and of the health care community from unsafe or unprofessional nursing practices. A violation of the guidelines set forth in the School of Nursing Course and Activities Behavior Guidelines may be grounds for removal from class or clinical.
2. **Standards:** A student may be removed from class or clinical if he or she:
 - a. Demonstrates behavior which conflicts with safety essential to nursing practice
 - b. Demonstrates physical or emotional impediments which conflict with safety essential to nursing practice and do not respond to appropriate treatment or counseling within a

- reasonable period of time
- c. Engages in conduct, which violates the North Carolina Nursing Practice Act
 - d. Engages in conduct, which violates the Code of Ethics for Nurses of the American Nurses' Association.
 - e. Engage is conduct that does not comply with UNC Charlotte policies and procedures.
 - f. Engages in nursing practice for which the student has not been authorized or for which the student has not been educated at the time of the incident.
 - g. Engages in conduct which threatens or has the potential to threaten the physical, emotional, mental, or environmental health or safety of a client, a client's family member or substitute familial person, another student, a faculty member, another health care provider, general public, or the student himself or herself.
 - h. Through verbal or written word compromises the integrity and/or reputation of the programs of the School of Nursing, the profession, or its affiliates
 - i. Fails to participate in or complete clinical work for any reason or fails to perform clinical work which is consistent with professional nursing practice, including satisfactory performance of all critical behaviors specified on the evaluation tool for each course
 - j. Fails to adhere to College, School and clinical site policies and procedures.

All students are regularly evaluated against the above standards in relation to clinical practice and may be removed from any course or from the nursing program upon violation of any of the stated standards, regardless of course grades.

3. **Action:** Where the Director of the School of Nursing or his/her designee determines that a student may have violated one or more of the standards defined in Section II, that administrator will determine whether the violation warrants program removal (Section IV) or should be addressed through warning and follow-up (Section V). The Director of the School of Nursing may temporarily suspend the student from further clinical activity pending the outcome of the procedure for removal (Section IV) or issuance of the written and oral warning (Section V).
4. **Program Removal:** Where the Director of the School of Nursing or designee determines that the procedure for removal from the program should be invoked, he or she will provide the student with a written statement of the facts upon which the proposal to remove is based. The unsafe or unprofessional behavior shall be corroborated by a second person, a staff member on the nursing unit, another faculty member, or by documentation of unsafe or unprofessional behavior in a prior course evaluation. The student will have the opportunity to appear before the Director of the School of Nursing and a panel of faculty members of the School of Nursing to refute the facts, offers other information, or makes any other statement concerning the proposed program removal. The Director of the School of Nursing and panel will consider that information together with the information upon which the proposal to remove was based and determine whether adequate cause for removal has been established. The Director of the School of Nursing will notify the student of the decision.

Warning: Where the Director of the School of Nursing or designee determines that violation of any of the standards should be addressed through warning and follow-up, the faculty member involved will provide the student with oral and written warnings outlining the exact nature of the

behavior and possible consequences. The unsafe or unprofessional behavior shall be corroborated by a second person, a staff member on the nursing unit, another faculty member, or by documentation of unsafe or unprofessional behavior in a prior course evaluation.

In appropriate circumstances the student may be afforded an opportunity to correct the behavior, as agreed upon by the faculty member, in consultation with the Director of the School of Nursing. Written evaluation of each clinical day's work by the student shall be carried out by the faculty member involved and shared with and signed by the student. Should the student subsequently fail to meet any of the academic standards stated, dismissal from the course with a failing grade and/or from the School of Nursing may be invoked.

The review of students' behaviors related to the above shall be carried out in a course team meeting.

5. **Post-Dismissal Procedure:** Upon dismissal from a course or from the School of Nursing, the student may invoke the "Academic Grievance Policy of the College of Health and Human Services." The written grievance must be submitted within seven (7) working days of receipt of the written dismissal and be sent to the Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs of the College of Health and Human Services.

Date of Origin: 12/85

Revised: 7/18, 5/25

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24

DEFINING FORMAL COMPLAINTS

Policy Statement

The School of Nursing strives to provide person(s) internal or external to the academic unit, the opportunity to openly share concerns which may be related to the application or interpretation of a work process, policy or procedure in the School of Nursing. This excludes academic integrity issues, which are managed according to the [Code of Student Academic Integrity](#).

Reason for the Policy

To provide a clear definition of what constitutes a formal complaint and to ensure understanding of established policies related to the reporting process. (Standard I, Key Element I.G, *Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs*, CCNE, 2018).

A. Informal Resolution

Students are strongly encouraged to use the School of Nursing's Lines of Communication policy to reach an informal resolution to any perceived conflict, concern or issue. Should it be necessary to file a formal complaint, prompt reporting is important to ensure a fair and accurate resolution; therefore, formal complaints should be submitted within fifteen (15) days of the alleged incident.

1. Before making a formal written complaint, students should seek resolution by raising concerns and discussing them informally with the relevant faculty member. **A concern can usually be resolved through open and honest communication.**
2. If, after discussing with the relevant faculty member, a student believes the complaint remains unresolved, the student should bring the concern to the appropriate Associate Director.
3. Complaints which remain unresolved may be submitted, as a formal complaint, to the Director of the School of Nursing.

B. Formal Complaint

Definition: The School of Nursing defines a formal complaint as an allegation by a currently enrolled student that there has been, in an individual case, an arbitrary or discriminatory application of, or failure to act pursuant to, School of Nursing policies, in relation to students. The complaint should be a written statement submitted by a student about a matter that requires formal consideration and resolution by the School of Nursing, in the terms set out in this policy.

Application and Scope

A formal complaint is a request for assistance with a problem, conflict, concern, or issue that negatively impacts a student that could not be addressed by informal resolution with the faculty of record, or staff member.

- Appropriate complaints are defined as a noted dissatisfaction with any application or interpretation of a work process, policy or procedure in the School of Nursing. Those for which a University process already exists (e.g., Final Grade Appeal, Academic Integrity, Title IX issues) will not be considered.
- Complaints which question the academic judgement of faculty will not be considered.
- No action will be taken on malicious or anonymous complaints.
- A complainant must be able to demonstrate that the complaint is brought without malice, that it is based on evidence and that the complainant honestly and reasonably believes to be substantially true.
- Those involved in resolving the complaint must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the complainant is protected against any subsequent recrimination.

Procedure:

- Students will submit a written, signed complaint to the Director of the School of Nursing within fifteen (15) days of the alleged incident.
- The Director (or designees) will respond to the complaint, in writing, within 10 business days of receipt.
- If resolution of the complaint cannot be achieved at the unit-level, the complaint will be addressed through additional University processes which will be provided in the Director's response.

External Stakeholders

4. External stakeholders (clinical agencies, providers, general public) are encouraged to submit concerns via email to the Director of the School of Nursing (nursing.uncc.edu/about us). The Director (or designee) will respond to the concern within ten (10) business days of receipt.
5. Guidelines under "Application and Scope," also apply to external stakeholders.

Date of Origin: 7/19

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR FORMAL PAPERS

Policy: All formal papers are to be written and presented in accordance with the current APA Publication Manual. Please refer to the Code of Student Academic Integrity policy regarding plagiarism.

Date of Origin: Fall/85

Revised: 06/10

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

SCHOOL OF NURSING LAPTOP POLICY

The School of Nursing follows the CHHS LAPTOP POLICY that all students, graduate and undergraduate, taking CHHS courses, are required to possess a laptop with webcam, a microphone and access to the internet. Courses may require a laptop or other compliant device for in-class assignments.

We recommend the following minimum hardware specifications: [Office of OneIT](#)

More information about technical and configuration recommendations are available at <https://oneit.charlotte.edu/laptop>

Students may avail themselves of loaned equipment through [Atkins Library](#), but should not rely on that option for all their computing needs.

This requirement extends to non-majors, pre-majors and post-baccalaureate students enrolling in any CHHS courses and to students enrolling in courses delivered by CHHS faculty under a designation or cross-list not associated with one of CHHS programs.

Students can download FREE Microsoft Office, antivirus software and more at charlotte.onthehub.com.

Date of Origin: 5/20

Revised: 8/25, 8/26

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR POLICY

All UNC Charlotte students have the responsibility to know and observe the University policies governing student conduct, which includes the UNC Charlotte Code of Student Academic Integrity and the UNC Charlotte Code of Student Responsibility. Professional behavior is expected in all course and clinical activities including classroom, simulation, and clinical experiences.

Nursing is a practice discipline. In addition to complying with university policies and regulations, students and faculty in the School of Nursing are responsible for protecting patients, clients, and affiliated agencies.

Nursing students are representatives of UNC Charlotte School of Nursing and must realize their behavior may positively and negatively affect the judgment of others about the School. Nursing students are expected to be thoughtful and professional when interacting with faculty and staff, clients and their families, other students, the public, and all members of the health care team. Professional behavior is required both on and off campus, in digital environments, and on social media.

Behaviors that will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the program by the UNC Charlotte School of Nursing include, but are not limited to:

1. Falsifying a patient/client record;
2. Disregarding or breaching patient/client or agency confidentiality or Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy standards;
3. Denying responsibility for one's own deviation from standard practice;
4. Engaging in actions that subject the patient/client, the patient's/client's family, peers/students, and faculty members to risk of harm;
5. Engaging in actions that subject the student, colleague, agency or University to unreasonable risk of harm or liability;
6. Engaging in abusive behavior toward patients, clients, patient's/client's family members, agency, staff, peers, or faculty.
7. Ignoring the need for obtaining essential information before conducting nursing intervention(s);
8. Misrepresenting one's role in the health care setting;
9. Personal cellphone (all personal electronic devices) use is not allowed in the nursing care areas of clinical agencies.
10. Audiotaping or videotaping classroom activities or anything in the clinical/simulation setting, via the use of camera, cell phone, iPad, or other electronic devices, without prior approval from the School of Nursing;
11. Using social media (YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) or other digital environments inappropriately such as: posting photos, audio or video recordings of classroom or clinical/simulation activities; commenting on other nursing students, faculty, staff, clinical agencies, and patients/clients. See Social Media policy.

Approved: 4/7/03 (SONFO), University Attorney's Office 4/21/03, 2/13/04, 8/20/12

Implemented: 8/1/04

Revised: 2/06, 7/18

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

The rapid growth of social media technologies combined with their ease of use and pervasiveness make them attractive channels of communication. However, these technologies also hold the possibility of a host of unintended consequences. The Guidelines presented are to help you recognize the implications of participation in social media and to identify and avoid potential issues.

General Guidelines

- **Maintain confidentiality:** Use good ethical judgment and follow HIPAA and (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines.
- **Maintain privacy:** Do not discuss a situation involving named or pictured individuals; do not post anything that you would not present in any public forum.
- **Do no harm:** To the SON, University or yourself.
- **Understand your personal responsibility** for the content that you post on Facebook or any other type of social media. Be mindful that what you publish will be public for a long time.
- **Be aware of liability:** You are responsible for what you post on your own site as well as others' sites.
- **Maintain transparency:** The line between professional and personal business is sometimes blurred. Be thoughtful about your content and potential audiences.
- **Correct mistakes:** If you make a mistake, admit it. Make it clear when you modify a previous posting.
- **Respect others:** Be constructive and respectful.
- **Think before you post:** There is no such thing as a "private" social media site. Comments can be forwarded and copied. Archival systems save information even if you delete a post. If you are frustrated, angry or passionate about something, delay a posting until you are calm and clear-headed.

Social Media Guidelines when Posting as an Individual

- **Be authentic:** Be honest with your identity. If you identify yourself as a UNC Charlotte faculty or student, be clear that you are sharing your personal views and are not speaking as a formal representative of UNC Charlotte. Ensure that your profile and related content are consistent with how you wish to present yourself to colleagues. A common practice among individuals who write about the industry in which they work (or study) is to include a disclaimer on their site, usually on their "About Me" page. If you discuss higher education on your own social media site, we suggest you include a sentence similar to this:

"The views expressed on this [blog, Web site] are mine alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the UNC Charlotte." This is particularly important if you could be perceived to be in a leadership role at UNC Charlotte.

- **Use a disclaimer:** If you publish content to any website outside of UNC Charlotte and it has something to do with the work you do or subjects associated with UNC

Charlotte, use a disclaimer such as the: “The postings on this site are my own and do not represent UNC Charlotte’s positions, strategies, or opinions.”

- Do not use the UNC Charlotte logo: Do not use any of the UNC Charlotte logos or images on your personal online sites. Do not use the UNC Charlotte name to promote or endorse any product, cause, political party or candidate. Be aware of the UNC Charlotte logo and trademark guidelines.
- Take the high ground: If you identify yourself with UNC Charlotte in your comments, readers may associate you with the University, even with the disclaimer that your views are your own. Remember that you are most likely to build a high-quality following if you discuss ideas and situations civilly. Do not pick fights online.
- Do not use pseudonyms: Never pretend to be someone else. Tracking tools enable supposedly anonymous posts to be traced back to the authors.
- Protect your identity: Do not provide personal information that scam artists or identity thieves could use. Do not list your home address or telephone numbers. It is a good idea to create a separate e-mail address that you use only with social media.
- Does it pass the publicity test? If the content of your message would not be acceptable for face-to-face conversation, over the phone, or in another medium, it will not be acceptable for a social networking site. Ask yourself, “Would I want to see this published in the newspaper or posted on a billboard tomorrow or ten years from now?”
- Respect your audience: Do not use ethnic slurs, personal insults, obscenity, or engage in any conduct that would not be acceptable in the UNC Charlotte community. Also show proper consideration for others’ privacy and for topics that may be considered sensitive, such as politics and religion.
- Monitor comments: While most people who maintain social media sites welcome comments (to build credibility and community), you may be able to set your site so that you can review and approve comments before they appear. This allows you to respond in a timely way to comments, to delete spam, and to block any individuals who repeatedly post offensive, insensitive, or frivolous comments.

Safety and Privacy Tips for Social Media Networking

The internet is open to a world-wide audience. When using social Media channels, ask yourself:

- Did I set my privacy setting to help control who can look at my profile, personal information and photos? You can limit access somewhat but not completely, and you have no control over what someone else may share.
- How much information do I want strangers to know about me? If I give them my cell phone number, address, email, class schedule, a list of possessions how might they use it? With whom will they share it? Not everyone will respect your personal or physical space.
- Is the image I am projecting by my materials and photos the one I want my current and future friends to know me by? What does my profile say to potential faculty members/advisors? Future graduate school/internship interviewers? Potential employers? Neighbors? Family? Parents? Which doors am I opening and which am I closing?

- What if I change my mind about what I post? For instance, what if I want to remove something I posted as a joke or to make a point? Have I read the social networking site's privacy and caching statements? Removing material from network caches can be difficult. Posted material can remain accessible on the internet until you've completed the prescribed process for removing information from the caching technology of one or multiple (potentially unknown) search engines.
- Have I asked permission to post someone else's image or information? Am I infringing on their privacy? Could I be hurting someone? Could I be subject to libel suits? Am I violating network use policy or FERPA or HIPAA privacy rules?
- Does my equipment have spyware and virus protection installed? Some sites collect profile information to SPAM you. Others contain links that can infect your equipment with viruses that potentially can destroy data and infect others with whom you communicate. Remember to back up your work on an external source in case of destructive attacks.

Source: University of Michigan. Voices of the Staff (2010). Guidelines for the Use of Social Media. The Regents of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. www.voices.umich.edu. Permission granted from Laurel Thomas Gnagey, University of Michigan, January 13, 2012.

Date of origin: 7/12

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

BSN CLINICAL AGENCY COMPLIANCE

Policy:

To achieve and maintain compliance with clinical agencies, students must complete each agency's clinical mandates. No clinical placement will occur and/or students will be removed from clinical unless compliance is verified. Please note that the Learning Resource Center (LRC) is considered a clinical site and ALL clinical policies apply when in the LRC.

Procedure(s):

The UNC Charlotte School of Nursing uses Certiphi Screening, Verified and My Clinical Exchange (MCE) as the primary means of ensuring compliance with School and clinical agency mandates. Clinical partners in the Charlotte area (Atrium, Novant and CaroMont) require Schools of Nursing to participate in the clinical rotation manager MCE to request and assign students and faculty to clinical rotations. Verified will house the compliance documents and this system links to MCE for clinical partner access to verify compliance and educational requirements. Compliance requirements include but are not limited to Criminal background checks, drug screens, immunizations, and specific agency education requirements. Additional mandates are communicated to students each semester and include, but are not limited to, (1) electronic health care record training, (2) completion of confidentiality statements, and (3) documentation requirements specific to additional community partners while enrolled in the program. Any additional forms required by other agencies, will be provided by the School of Nursing and should be submitted to faculty (BSN students) or the designated Administrative Assistant as directed. By submitting documents to Certiphi Screening and Verified, the student acknowledges that consent is being given for information to be released to the School of Nursing and to limited community partners who require access to ensure compliance.

These documents are updated annually; thus it is the student's responsibility to ensure that all forms are completed and submitted to Verified or the respective Administrative Assistant. No clinical placement will be completed until these documents are submitted.

Upon receipt of a "Conditional Letter of Acceptance," students are required to attend a mandatory 2-day orientation. During this orientation, students are provided with instructions related to the completion of clinical agency mandates. Additionally, instructions related to accessing Certiphi, Verified and MCE will be provided and may be found on the School of Nursing website under "Resources." Students will be notified via Verified, when a compliance mandate is about to expire.

Baccalaureate nursing students found to be out of compliance with clinical agency requirements will (1) be removed from clinical, (2) given an unsatisfactory grade for clinical, (3) not allowed to return to clinical until compliance is achieved, and (4) have holds placed on any further registration at UNC Charlotte. Note that clinical attendance is required to meet the objectives of clinical practicum courses. Missing more than 10% of a clinical experience, including time scheduled in the Learning Resource Center, may constitute a failure in that clinical.

Compliance Deadlines (BSN):

July 15th for Fall clinical placement and November 15th for Spring clinical placement.

Date of origin: 10/1/01 Revised: 8/21

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

MSN CLINICAL COMPLIANCE MEASURES POLICY

Policy:

1. Graduate students must meet all clinical compliance measures outlined in the CHHS handbook and the SON student handbook to participate in a clinical practicum. The SON utilizes Verified or the CHHS advising office to house all compliance documents. These measures must be met in a timely manner to facilitate clinical placement and communication with faculty and the clinical sites. These include the following but may include additional requirements based on clinical site.
 - a. All students must complete the Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening procedures using CHHS vendors.
 - b. Students must provide documentation of current CPR, BBP, Liability Insurance.
 - c. Students must complete HIPAA and other modules provided by clinical agencies.
 - d. Students must have all measures completed and documentation presented to the CHHS Dean's Office in Verified NO LATER THAN **August 1** of **each** academic year. These compliance measures are required for ALL clinical experiences at clinical agencies (observation included). All compliance measures must be valid through the end of clinical experiences.
 - e. Students are not allowed in ANY clinical agency/site if the compliance measures are incomplete.

Procedure:

1. The Major coordinators will send a list with all students scheduled for Clinical Placements to the CHHS Dean's Office.
2. The CHHS Dean's Office will notify the Major Coordinators when students have met all the compliance requirements.
3. Preceptor contracts will not be processed until the student has provided documentation of compliance with all agency requirements.

Nurse Anesthesia students complete all Clinical Agency Compliance forms at CMC as outlined in the Nurse Anesthesia Clinical Handbook.

Date of Origin: 2/06

Revised: 8/20, 8/21

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

CLINICAL OR AFFILIATED AGENCY REQUIREMENTS

All students are required to be in compliance with Clinical Health and Agency requirements. These requirements include at a minimum the following items. Others may be added by clinical agencies at any time and students must comply with those added mandates. Centralina Consortium for Clinical Education and Practice (3CEP) provides guidance on student compliance requirements can be found at [Centralina Consortium for Clinical Education and Practice \(3CEP\) – Student Passport Initiative \(southpiedmontahec.org\)](http://southpiedmontahec.org)

Medical and religious waivers will be considered on an individual basis by the agency through their established processes. Waivers are not automatic.

1. Immunizations
 - a. University-required immunizations for **ALL** students:
 - i. 2 MMR: measles, mumps, and rubella
 - ii. Polio vaccine
 - iii. TD: tetanus within 10 years after the age of 18 iv. 3 DPT: diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus
 - b. SON and agency requirements for **ALL** students
 - i. 2-step PPD within the last 12 months (2nd PPD administered 1-3 weeks after the 1st PPD is read) or a TB Blood Test with program admission or readmission.
 - ii. Students and faculty are required to complete the Annual TB Risk Assessment and Attestation Form. Students and faculty are no longer required to get annual TB skin tests unless there is a known exposure or ongoing transmission at a healthcare facility.
 - iii. Hepatitis B (3 doses), a positive antibody titer or a signed statement of declination. If titer is negative, evidence of a booster is sufficient.
 - iv. Varicella, a positive titer, vaccine or documentation of disease from provider.
 - v. Influenza vaccine is required **annually** (agency requirement).
2. Other required tests
 - a. Criminal background check
 - b. Drug screen
 - c. CPR – current American Heart **ONLY**
 - d. Blood borne pathogens – **annual**
 - e. Professional liability insurance – for RN-to-BSN, MSN, and DNP students **annually**
 - f. Must be licensed as a Registered Nurse – RN-to-BSN, MSN, and DNP students

Date of Origin: 7/08

Revised: 8/20, 8/21, 8/23

Reviewed: 8/20, 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Policy

CPR Certification is part of the compliance process. The only CPR certifications accepted by the School of Nursing are:

BLS (Basic Life Support) for Health Care Providers (American Heart Association)*

*Note: The School **does not** accept the American Heart Association's "Heart Saver"

BSN students must upload proof of CPR certification to Verified prior to the deadline for achieving compliance prior to the compliance deadline. Certification must be such that it will not expire prior to the end of the clinical experience in the semester for which the student is registered. **Students who do not provide proof of certification will (1) lose conditional acceptance into the upper-division or ABSN program option, thereby forfeiting his or her seat in the program or (2) if already enrolled in the program, the student will not be permitted to participate in any nursing courses.**

Student Liability Insurance

All School of Nursing students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate clinical nursing courses must have liability insurance.

1. BSN options: A charge per semester is automatically added to the University bill for pre-licensure undergraduate students registering for clinical courses.
2. RN-BSN and RN-MSN: Students must carry individual liability insurance of not less than \$1 million individual and \$3 million aggregate with the policy in effect for the duration of any course with a clinical component, including research activities.
3. MSN and DNP: Students must carry individual liability insurance of not less than \$1 million individual and \$3 million aggregate with the policy in effect for the duration of enrollment in all clinical graduate courses and any research activities.
4. Liability Insurance can be found at the following companies.

Liability Insurance Companies

- [NSO](#) –or call 1-800-247-1500
- [HPSO](#) –or call 1-800-982-9491
- [PROLIABILITY](#) (MARSH) – or call 1-800-621-3008

Licensed students are required to provide the CHHS Compliance Specialist as part of the agency requirements annual proof of liability insurance when taking clinical courses.

Date of Origin: 4/88

Revised: 8/20, 8/26

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 25

UNDERGRADUATE HEALTH HISTORY FORM

A completed health history form must be submitted to the School by the appropriate compliance date.
July 15th for Fall clinical placement December 15th for Spring clinical placement

Students who fail to submit updated health history information will lose conditional acceptance into the upper division or ABSN program option and forfeit their space in the class.

Date of Origin: 4/88

Revised: 2/06

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/25

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND AND DRUG SCREENING POLICIES

Criminal Background Check and Drug Screening Policy can be found on the CHHS website.

[Drug Screening and Criminal Background Check Procedure](#)

BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

Purpose:

The purpose of the School of Nursing Exposure Control Plan is to minimize or reduce student and faculty exposure to bloodborne pathogens. This plan is in accordance with OSHA Standard 29:CFR 1910.1030 Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens. This plan applies to all students and faculty participating in any clinical activity, including those in the Learning Resource Center. The School of Nursing (SON) is within the College of Health and Human Services of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, hereafter referred to as the “University”. Please refer to the University’s Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan [Bloodborne Pathogens | Environmental Health and Safety | UNC Charlotte](#)

Exposure Determination: Addresses OSHA item (c) (2)

All students and faculty of the School of Nursing, as a result of performing their learning and instructional duties, must engage in activities where exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials is reasonably anticipated. Students and faculty are therefore considered to have the potential for occupational exposure. This includes, but is not limited to, activities in both the clinical setting and labs within the school. Examples of potential exposure include, but are not limited to: invasive procedures, blood glucose monitoring, obtaining blood samples, starting IVs, exposure to urine, stool, amniotic and spinal fluid, and handling contaminated sharps or equipment.

Students and faculty take necessary precautions to avoid direct contact with fluids and shall not, except when absolutely necessary for the performance of duties, participate in activities nor enter areas that will require them to come in contact with body fluids, needles, or other instruments or surfaces that are contaminated with other potentially infectious materials. Any procedure that can be avoided is not to be undertaken. **The School of Nursing forbids the performance of invasive procedures by students or faculty on any other member of the healthcare team, including other students, faculty, or employees of clinical agencies.** Moreover, even in cases of occupational exposure (i.e. unavoidable contact with contaminated equipment or sharps), extreme caution must be observed.

Occupational Exposure is defined as any reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of the student’s or faculty member’s duties. This definition is without regard to the use of Personal Protective Equipment.

All students and clinical faculty are required to complete the SON Blood borne requirements annually. Students will be sent an email related to the University’s bloodborne pathogen training through the Learning and Development Portal.

Revised: 8/22, 8/23

Reviewed 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

POLICY FOR CARE OF CLIENTS WITH BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

The Code of Ethics for Nurses & ANA Position Statement states:

“The American Nurses Association believes that respect for the inherent dignity, worth, unique attributes, and human rights of all individuals is a fundamental principle (“Code of Ethics for Nurses”. American Nurses Association, 2025, p. 1]). Nurses establish relationships of trust and provide nursing services according to need, setting aside any bias or prejudice (ANA, 2025, p. 1). Please view the provisions of the ANA Code at <https://codeofethics.ana.org/provisions> (retrieved 6/2025).

Therefore:

- All students and faculty participating in any clinical activity, including those in the Learning Resource Center involved will be instructed in and expected to follow the Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control plan.
- Following instruction, students, under faculty supervision, and in compliance with agency policies, will care for clients with HIV, AIDS, Hepatitis and other bloodborne pathogens as part of their clinical experience.
- All faculty and students are professionally and ethically obligated to provide patient care with compassion and respect for human dignity. No faculty member or student may ethically refuse to care for a patient solely because the patient is at risk of contracting, or has, an infectious disease such as HBV, HIV or AIDS. Faculty and students will understand and follow rules of confidentiality. In cases when continuing clinical practice/research activities present more than a minimal risk, such as when a student is immunosuppressed, the student may be temporarily reassigned
- Students and faculty will follow the policies of local hospitals where assigned as to the role students play in the care of patients with infectious disease.

Revised 8/19

Reviewed 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

**SON Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan and
Hepatitis B Vaccine Declination – Student**

I understand that due to my (occupational/educational) exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials, I may be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection. I have been given the opportunity to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, at my own expense. However, I decline hepatitis B vaccination at this time. I understand that by declining this vaccine, I continue to be at risk of acquiring hepatitis B, a serious disease. *If in the future I continue to have occupational/educational exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials and I want to be vaccinated with hepatitis B vaccine, I can receive the vaccination series at my own expense.*

Student's Name (please print)

Student's Signature

Student Identification Number Signature of Witness

Date

Form approved by SAAC – 3/5/01

Revised 8/16

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

CLINICAL INCIDENT REPORT POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Policy:

Incident reports for patient care incidents occurring in student clinical practice situations shall be made in accord with the procedure as developed in collaboration with the University Safety Office and the University Attorney.

An incident is defined as any occurrence in the clinical setting that could potentially cause injury, illness or property damage. The involved parties may be students, faculty, clients or employees of the clinical agency. A reportable incident is any incident for which a written incident is filed at the clinical agency or any incident not reportable under clinical agency policy/procedures but which is perceived by faculty as having an actual or potential negative impact, outcome, or reaction.

Procedure:

1. A School of Nursing Clinical Incident Report Form or a copy of the agency's incident report form is completed and delivered (by hand or electronically) to the Director of the School of Nursing within 24 hours of the incident or on the first working day following the incident. If there is any doubt whether a UNC Charlotte incident report should be made, always resolve doubt in favor of submitting a report.
2. The Director of the School of Nursing will investigate the incident and forward to the appropriate University office.
3. Faculty members and students have no authority to make any oral or written statement to the patient or patient's family or representative which assumes any degree of liability, or promise, any treatment or payment on the part of the University or the members of its staff. Any such inquiries from the patient or otherwise should be directed to the university Office of General Counsel.
4. Avoid any discussion about the incident. If a situation arises which appears to require such discussion, contact the Director of the School of Nursing.

Date of Origin: 10/90

Revised: 7/03

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

SCHOOL OF NURSING CLINICAL INCIDENT REPORT FORM

Incident Date and Time:

Incident Location:

(Institution, Agency, City, Room Number, home, etc.)

Patient/Client's Name and Age: _____

SON Student, Faculty or Nursing Center for Health Promotion health care provider involved in incident:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

If the incident involves a student, SON faculty member responsible for student at time of incident:
Name: _____

Department: _____

Name(s) of all persons present at the time incident occurred and/or involved in incident:

Name: _____

Title: (in agency) or relationship to patient/client _____

Name: _____

Title: (in agency) or relationship to patient/client _____

Description of incident (give full facts but avoid placing blame or reaching conclusions about who is responsible or why the incident occurred):

Status of patient/client (diagnosis, treatment, etc.) at time of and following incident:
Prior to incident:

Following incident:

Make no copies of this report. Submit Original to the Director of the School of Nursing.

LATEX RESPONSE PLAN

As a student working in the clinical setting or nursing skills labs, you may be exposed to latex and other allergens.

Procedure:

For students with known sensitivity/allergy to latex or any other element in the lab or clinical environment, it is recommended that you:

- obtain consultation from your health care provider about your sensitivity/allergy, risks and treatment.
- inform the lab faculty and your clinical instructor of your sensitivity.
- Latex-free gloves can be provided. However, the lab environment and clinical facilities are not latex free.
- inform the faculty member of your plan to handle a reaction.

In case of a life-threatening reaction in a nursing lab, an ambulance will be summoned.

- Any faculty member or student may contact campus police through “LiveSafe” app or dial 911, state that you have a life threatening “Latex emergency” and need an ambulance. State the lab location: Skills Lab – CHHS 306 or Health Assessment Lab – CHHS 308. Epinephrine will be needed.
- Do not handle the victim with any latex products.
- Student/faculty member will be transferred to a local hospital by ambulance. It is helpful for the ambulance personnel to know the victim’s allergies, current medications and any medical conditions.
- Neither emergency transportation nor health care is provided at the Student Health Center.

Students with known sensitivities must inform the Director of Nursing Labs and other appropriate faculty.

If a student or faculty member has a reaction requiring medical attention, a SON Incident Report needs to be completed and forwarded to the Director of Nursing Labs.

Date of Origin: 7/02

Reviewed: 8/16

Revised: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

SCHOOL OF NURSING TECHNICAL STANDARDS

Technical standards define the attributes that are considered necessary for students to possess in order to complete their education and training and subsequently enter clinical practice. These technical standards are determined to be prerequisites for entrance to, continuation in, and graduation from a student's chosen program in the University of North Carolina at Charlotte College of Health and Human Services.

Students must possess aptitude, ability, and skills in four areas: Psychomotor (coordination/mobility); Senses (visual, auditory, tactile, olfactory); Communication (verbal, nonverbal, written); Behavioral/Social Attributes.

The technical standards described by a student's chosen program are critically important to the student and must be autonomously performed by the student. Contact specific programs for detailed technical standards. Reasonable accommodation for disability will be provided after the student notifies the program of the disability and appropriate professionals have documented the disability. Student must first consult with the [Office of Disability Services](#) and follow the instructions of that office for obtaining accommodations.

Standard	Definition
Psychomotor (Coordination/Mobility)	Physical ability sufficient to move within the client environment; gross and fine motor skills sufficient to provide safe & effective services.
Senses (Visual, auditory, tactile, olfactory)	Sensory ability necessary to observe and perform skills essential in providing safe & effective services
Communication	Communication involves abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form in classroom, lab and service settings.
Behavioral/Social Attributes	Ability to fulfill professional behavioral and social responsibilities in the role of a student, with faculty, professional staff, clients and peers.

*Date of Origin: 4/2000,
Revised: 8/02, 1/03, 3/2025
Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24,
8/26*

SON INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

There are times in which scheduled or unplanned interruptions to the Academic Schedule occur. Adverse weather is an example of such an interruption. The School of Nursing will abide by the university's decision to cancel or delay classes due to inclement weather. This includes any course related to the School of Nursing and any related clinical experiences. Please see University Policy 701 [Emergency Management | Office of Legal Affairs | UNC Charlotte](#) and the Emergency Management website [Winter Weather – Emergency Management \(charlotte.edu\)](#)

At times, classes will be held when road and weather conditions may vary across the area. The decision to travel to campus or clinical sites during inclement weather ultimately rests with the students and faculty members. Students are responsible for academic work they miss due to these absences. The make-up of the work will be individualized to the course as best determined by the course faculty. Please see the UNC Charlotte Academic Procedure: Schedule Interruption Guidelines. [UNC Charlotte Academic Procedure: Schedule Interruption Guidelines | Office of the Provost | UNC Charlotte](#)

Date of Origin and Approval: 4/7/03

Revised: 8/23

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/25

SON & UNIVERSITY HEALTH SAFETY PROCEDURES

The SON follows the policies set forth by the University for health protocols in place on campus. Please refer to the Niner Nation Cares website.

[Home | Niner Nation Cares | UNC Charlotte](#)

SON students in clinical agencies must also follow the health protocols set forth by that specific agency.

Date of Origin: 8/22

*Reviewed: 8/23, 8/24, 8/25,
8/26*

BSN STUDENT HANDBOOK

Additional policies in this portion of the handbook apply to students in the Bachelor of Science program options in the School of Nursing.

Prelicensure students include students in both the upper division traditional and accelerated Bachelor of Science (ABSN) program options.

RN to BSN students are students licensed as a Registered Nurse who have earned an Associate Degree in Nursing (AAS or ADN) and are in our BSN completion program.

SCHOOL OF NURSING HONORS PROGRAM FOCUS: SCHOLARSHIP & LEADERSHIP

The School of Nursing Academic Honors Program emphasizes scholarship and leadership in the profession of nursing. Learners will be involved in various activities through the program including identifying key issues impacting the nursing profession at the microsystem level, conducting a literature review to further define the issue, designing an evidence-based intervention with a strong theoretical foundation and disseminating findings through poster or podium presentation or other approved method.

The program is designed for nursing students who excel academically and are interested in challenging themselves academically and professionally. The honors program will also provide distinction in the field of nursing to students selected to participate. The program will position students to be better prepared to compete for national honors titles, enhance graduate education opportunities, and enable graduates to enter the nursing workforce prepared to be leaders and change agents.

Students must apply to the honors program and acceptance is competitive. All applicants must follow the application instructions and meet the established criteria to be considered. The SON Admissions Committee and/or SON Honors Committee will review all applications, and the committee will make admission decisions based on the application components, including GPA, project topics, and 500-word personal statement.

Overview of the Curriculum

The curriculum will consist of 2 courses; NURS 3700-H: Creating and Sustaining Change in Nursing and an honors section of NURS 4203-H Leadership and Informatics. Students will enroll in an additional course NURS 3700-H, in the second semester of the nursing curriculum. To progress in the honors program, students must earn a grade of B or better in NURS 3700. Students will work with designated faculty to complete their project during their final semester during NURS 4203. **Students must earn a grade of B or better in all NURS courses (One grade of C will be allowed) and maintain a preferred GPA of 3.7** to remain in the honors program. Students must also earn a grade of A in the change project to graduate with honors. Students must adhere to all School of Nursing and University Honors Program policies and procedures. To graduate with honors, students must complete a candidacy application in accordance with the Honors College policies.

Curriculum:

Junior Year- Second semester

NURS 3700-H. Creating and Sustaining Change in Nursing (2): This course will introduce students to the use of outcomes data to assess the need for change, allow students to explore state and national databases to evaluate organizational outcomes, provide an overview of nursing and change theories to guide the process of change, and introduce students to methods of overcoming resistance to change. Students will identify a change topic, conduct a review of the literature and initiate a plan for implementing a small test of change. Topics, literature review and plan framework must be approved by course faculty. (Prerequisite: Admission to the SON Honors Program and permission of the instructor.)

Senior Year

NURS 4203: Leadership and Informatics (3)

Course Description: Introduction to leadership focusing on healthcare systems and the nurses' role. Explore external and internal forces that affect the work environment and how to influence those forces. Discuss the work environment that best motivates people and creates an atmosphere that inspires, instills confidence and sustains individuals. Incorporate understanding of self to enhance beginning leadership.

Honors Requirement (NURS 4203-H). The Honors student will complete a small test of change plan, develop a unique question for a current or new research project, or complete a health promotion activity. Additional elements such as identification of stakeholders, driving and restraining forces, and a cost/benefit analysis will be included, along with findings, and conclusions. Students will be required to share their research- based findings through both written and oral means. (Prerequisite: NURS 3700-H and permission of the instructor).

Date of Origin: 2/19

Revised: 8/25

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

BSN COURSE GRADING SCALE

The following grading scale is used in all nursing courses that constitute the BSN program.

90% to 100%	A	Excellent
80% to 89.99%	B	Good
70% to 79.99%	C	Fair
60% to 69.99%	D	Failing
≤60	F	Failing

All grade calculations during the semester will be rounded to two decimal places (i.e. 93.589 – 93.59).

Extra credit will not be provided.

Date of Origin: 4/88

Revised: 7/18

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

UNDERGRADUATE PRE-LICENSURE PROGRAM TESTING GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

As stated in the University's Code of Student Academic Integrity, Statement of Principles, "faculty members are responsible for transmitting knowledge and the methods by which it is acquired. To do so, they must be able to examine and test student work. The faculty also sets academic standards, awards academic credit and confers degrees when the standards are met. To carry out these responsibilities, faculty members must ensure that student work submitted for academic credit is authentic as well as consistent with established academic standards. Therefore, the academic evaluation includes a judgment that the student's work is free from academic dishonesty of any type..." Also, "it is the duty of faculty members to take measures to preserve and transmit the values of the academic community...through the learning environment which they create for their students." (Office of Legal Affairs, n.d.). The learning environment includes the testing environment. To facilitate a testing environment that preserves academic integrity, to the highest extent possible, faculty will implement the following strategies during the creation and administration of tests and exams.

In taking course examinations, students will acknowledge, accept, and adhere to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Code of Student Academic Integrity as per University Policy: 407, specifically Chapter 6 Prohibited Academic Conduct with details provided here: <https://legal.charlotte.edu/policies/up-407>

Test Administration

These strategies will apply to in-person testing in the regular classroom. (Low-stake quizzes need not follow these guidelines.)

- A. Guidelines for both paper and in-class computer testing
 1. Students are expected to be present and on time for all testing. Students arriving more than 10 minutes late for an exam may not be allowed to take the test. An alternate form of the exam should be taken within one week of the original test date. While testing, all tabs should be closed on their laptop. Chrome browser is ideal for ATI testing.
 2. All student possessions must be left at the front or side of the room. Possessions include hats, coats, book bags, lip balm, satchels, iPads, phones, drinks/food, smart watches, smart glasses, etc.
 3. Assigned seating will be determined by individual course faculty. As much as the classroom allows, students should be seated at every other desk with an empty seat in between each 2 students.
 4. Students may only have a writing utensil, computer, and the honor code scratch paper. All students need to begin the exam at the same time once the proctor grants permission.
 5. The scratch paper is to be distributed only after students are seated and the proctor is ready to begin the exam. If a new scratch sheet is needed, the first sheet will be taken by the faculty. Students are to begin the exam before writing any information on their scratch sheet.
 6. There will be no communication or answering student questions during the examination. Students may write their questions on scratch paper provided and submit it with the exam for the faculty to respond to. No test item may be written out on the scratch paper—only the concept in question.
 7. Once a test/exam has begun, bathroom breaks should be discouraged. If an emergency break is needed, students should be escorted by a second proctor. Students should not re-enter the room once they complete the exam and exit.
 8. Two faculty proctors are preferred. Proctors should always uphold the academic integrity policy. They should closely monitor students' behaviors throughout the duration of the exam. Proctoring behaviors include, but are not limited to, going around the room during the examination, discreetly inspecting scratch papers (if provided) and other materials, and notifying students of any inappropriate or questionable testing behaviors.
 9. Students who are absent may be allowed to take an alternate form of the test/exam. Students must notify faculty within 24 hours of absence/ inability to sit for the exam due to extenuating circumstances. Not all circumstances are extenuating, and faculty may exercise discretion for

alternate testing. The student has up to one week to take the alternate form of the exam, unless otherwise directed by faculty.

B. Paper testing guidelines

1. The SON prefers online, computerized testing. In some instances, paper testing may be necessary.
2. Faculty must ensure that all copies of the test are turned in after the exam. This includes scratch papers and answer sheets.
3. Students are allowed to write or mark on the test paper.

C. In-class computer testing guidelines

1. Students must bring and use their own laptops. **Per CHHS Laptop Policy**, “ALL STUDENTS, graduate and undergraduate, taking CHHS courses, are required to possess a laptop with webcam and microphone. Our courses may require a laptop or other compliant device for in-class assignments. Please note that Chromebooks won't satisfy this policy. NinerTech offers compliant models at student discounted pricing that may represent a savings over regular commercial purchase. Students may avail themselves of loaner equipment such as that provided via [Atkins Library](#), but should not rely on that option for all of their computing needs. This requirement extends to non-majors, pre-majors and postbac students enrolling in any of our CHHS courses and to students enrolling in courses delivered by CHHS faculty under a designation or cross-list not associated with one of our programs.”.
2. Currently, the SON supports the use of Canvas or ATI for computer testing. There is an ATI troubleshooting guide in the UG Faculty Documents folder in Dropbox
3. Major tests/exams (unit tests, midterm exam, and final exam) are to be administered in the classrooms. Remote online testing is not permitted.
4. Randomized test items in Canvas - ATI does this automatically
5. Randomized item answers in Canvas - ATI does this automatically
6. Use a lock-down browser when testing in Canvas. If you desire to use Canvas, students must update the Lock Down Browser.
7. Proctors should monitor students' use of personal laptops. Remind students that browsers should be in “maximize” view. Accessing other browsers is strictly prohibited. Proctors should inspect students' laptop screens regularly. ATI provides specific alerts to faculty when students migrate from the testing platform.
8. Students should not be allowed behind the podium or within the proctoring space to protect grading anonymity during testing.
9. Students who are taking the online tests at the Disability Office should follow the procedure for requesting testing space and faculty should be aware of the policies of the Disability Office. Students are required to notify faculty of DS accommodations at the beginning of the semester prior to testing. The Honor Code Scratch paper should be uploaded with each student request to test in the DS Center. The DS Center will email faculty the student used Honor Code scratch paper once testing is completed.

Date of Origin: 8/14

Revised: 4/12/22

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

NURSE AIDE II LISTING ELIGIBILITY

As part of the upper division nursing curriculum at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, students will be eligible to apply for Nurse Aide II listing in the State of North Carolina.

Nurse Aide I: Upon admission to the upper division of the nursing curriculum, students must be listed as a Nurse Aide I on the North Carolina Nurse Aide I Registry with no substantiated findings of abuse, neglect, or misappropriation of property.

Students are not required to maintain NA I Certification while in the upper division major. However, students must maintain NA I Certification if opting to apply for NA II Certification.

Nurse Aide II: Educational Requirements

Level II nurse aide programs shall include a minimum of 80 hours of theory and 80 hours of supervised clinical instruction consistent with the legal scope of practice as defined by the Board of Nursing in Rule .0403(b). The Nurse Aide II Training Program shall consist of classroom, laboratory, and clinical components. The student must successfully complete all components to be eligible to apply for listing on the North Carolina Board of Nursing Nurse Aide II Registry. A list of content and tasks is available on the [State Board of Nursing](#) website.

At UNC Charlotte, students who have previously been listed as a Nurse Aide I and have successfully completed the following courses in the upper division or ABSN program options (NURS 3105, NURS 3425, NURS 3230, NURS 3430, NURS 3250, NURS 3260, and NURS 3440) are eligible to apply for Nurse Aide II.

Upon completion of these courses, students will be required to submit their name to the Associate Director for the Undergraduate Division in the School of Nursing. Names will be provided to the N.C. Board of Nursing CNA II, and verification of course completion submitted. Once names have been submitted, students will have 30 business days from the date of submission to submit their application for the CNA II credential.

To apply, students should go the [North Carolina Board of Nursing](#) website. Within the Licensure/Listing tab, students will see the links for Nurse Aide II (NA II). Click on *NA II Initial Listing Application*, read the instructions carefully and follow directions for applying.

Date of Origin: 7/02

Revised: 8/16

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

ESTIMATED COST INFORMATION

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Please see the University Website for explanation of University costs:

[Undergraduate Tuition & Fees](#) | [Niner Central](#) | [UNC Charlotte](#)

ESTIMATED COST FOR NURSING STUDENTS IN UPPER-DIVISION MAJOR **(Final 2 years ONLY)**

Year	Credit Hours	Tuition		University Fees	Book Estimates	ATI	Major Fees	*Miscellaneous
		Resident	Non-Resident					
Junior Year-Spring	14	\$1963.00	\$11009.00	\$1752.00	\$350.00 – 1200.00	\$230.00	\$125.00	\$950.00-\$1000.00 My clinical exchange (MCE) \$79.00 24 months
Junior Year-Spring	16	\$1963.00	\$11009.00	\$1752.00	\$320.00-415.00	\$230.00	\$125.00	
Senior Year-Spring	15	\$1963.00	\$11009.00	\$1752.00	\$300.00	\$230.00	\$125.00	My clinical exchange \$39.50
Senior Year-Spring	13	\$1963.00	\$11009.00	\$1752.00	\$260.00-490.00	\$210.00	\$125.00	\$688.00
<i>Estimated Totals</i>		\$7852.00	\$44036.00	\$7008.00	\$1230-2405.00	\$920.00	\$500.00	\$1756.50-1806.50

Book cost varies based on new book purchase price or Niner Course pack. ATI fees will be scheduled each semester with a specific due date. Information will be sent related to how to create your account and purchase. Fees per semester are included above but tend to be \$230 per semester. (Included in Books & ATI estimated cost)

ESTIMATED COST FOR NURSING STUDENTS in the ABSN program (4 semester nursing curriculum ONLY)

Year	Credit Hours	Tuition		University Fees	Book Estimates	ATI	Major Fees	*Miscellaneous
		Resident	Non-Resident					
Fall	17	\$1963.00	\$11009.00	\$1752.00	\$350.00-1340.00	\$230.00	125.00	\$950.00- \$1000.00 My clinical exchange (MCE) \$79.00 24 months
Spring	16	\$1963.00	\$11009.00	\$1752.00	\$320.00- 510.00	\$230.00	125.00	
Summer	13	\$2064.79	\$11009.00	\$1125.93	\$230.00- 260.00	\$230.00	125.00	My clinical exchange \$39.50
Fall	15	\$1963.00	\$11009.00	\$1752.00	\$115.00-300.00	\$230.00	125.00	\$688.00
<i>Estimated Totals</i>		\$7782.79	\$44036.00	\$6381.93	\$1015.00- 2410.00	\$920.00	\$500.00	\$1756.50-1806.50

Book cost varies based on new book purchase price or Niner Course pack. ATI fees will be scheduled each semester with a specific due date. Information will be sent related to how to create your account and purchase. Fees per semester are included above but tend to be \$230 per semester. (Included in Books & ATI estimated cost)

***MISCELLANEOUS for both program options:**

REQUIRED JUNIOR YEAR (FIRST SEMESTER)

Student ID	\$25.00	Verified Credentials (Drug Screen, Criminal Background Check, and Compliance Documentation)	\$100.00-125.00
Uniforms	\$120.00	My Clinical Exchange (Clinical Rotation Manager)	\$79.00 for 24 months
Lab coat	\$25.00	Vaccines	\$100-300.00 (price varies)
Watch w/second hand	\$30.00 (price	Eye Protection - Goggles	\$15.99
Nursing Shoes	\$60.00 (price	Physical	\$200.00 (price varies)
Stethoscope	\$60.00 (price		

*** Influenza vaccine is an annual requirement and therefore, all students will incur a cost for these each year.**

REQUIRED SENIOR YEAR

My Clinical Exchange (Clinical Rotation Manager)	\$39.50/ year
NCLEX-RN Live Review	\$350.00-400.00
NCLEX-RN Application Fee	\$75.00
NCLEX Criminal Background Fee for NCBON	\$38.00
NCLEX-RN Registration and Payment	\$200.00

OPTIONAL SENIOR YEAR

Nursing Pin	\$50-\$400.00
Senior Photo	Price varies

An explanation of University Fees may be found on the [Financial Services website](#).

BSN PRE-LICENSURE ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT PROGRAM

Policy: All students enrolled in the BSN Pre-Licensure program will participate in the School of Nursing's Academic Assessment and Support Program. As a part of the support program, the SON uses Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) Comprehensive Assessment and Review Program (CARP) which provides nationally standardized exams at various times during the nursing program. Participation is required of all students. The goal for the student is to achieve acceptable benchmark scores as established by ATI and the School of Nursing.

The School of Nursing has chosen to use Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI)'s Assessment-Driven Review program which is designed to provide students with various learning tools that assist them in reviewing course content, identifying strengths and weaknesses, improving test taking abilities, and ultimately successfully passing the NCLEX-RN for licensure. Research demonstrates that the use of ATI products is positively associated with passing the NCLEX- RN on the first attempt, as well as program success (ATI, 2024; Chen, 2014; Liu & Mills, 2017; Shoemake, Chavez, Keane, Butz, & Yowler, 2017). Additionally, ATI solutions layer in nursing knowledge, clinical judgment, and hundreds of Next Generation NCLEX (NGN) style items across the curriculum, from beginning to end (ATI, 2024).

An assessment of nursing knowledge is completed after core nursing courses and a comprehensive NCLEX- RN readiness examination is administered in the senior year, prior to graduation (see testing timeline). Results of the content-specific course examinations, administered after core nursing courses, are used to assess content mastery and to identify those students who individual course faculty will provide additional required support resources.

As part of the overall testing program, students receive ATI study resources in the content areas of fundamentals of nursing, pharmacology, medical/surgical nursing, maternal/ newborn nursing, nursing care of children, mental health, community health, and nursing leadership. Students have an opportunity to take the two-course specific non-proctored or practice tests as many times as they wish prior to taking the course specific proctored assessment test at the end of each course. **All students are required to complete each course specific proctored assessment test. Grades for each course assessment is based on 3 elements including the practice test, remediation, and proctored exam Level scoring.**

Feedback about test results is provided to the students as part of the overall program. Students receive a detailed assessment of their individual performance on each test and scores for mastery of nursing content areas, nursing process, critical thinking phases, therapeutic intervention, communication skills and cognitive levels.

ATI® proctored assessments will be included in objective testing measures for the following courses: (1) NURS 3105, *Concepts of Professional Nursing*, (2) NURS 3205, *Pharmacology*, (3) NURS 3250, *Nursing Care of the Childbearing Family*, (4) NURS 3260, *Nursing Care of Children*, (5) NURS 4120, *Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing*, (6) NURS 4130, *Complex Illness and Disease Management*, (7) NURS 4203 *Leadership and Informatics for Nursing Practice*, (8) NURS 4240, *Population Focused Nursing* and (9) NURS 4600, *Professional*

Nursing: Trends, Issues and Licensure.

The proctored ATI content-specific course exam grades will count for 10% of the final grade in each core course. ATI proctored and practice test grades may not be used as a substitute for a lower course grade or for the purpose of extra credit in a course. ATI content-specific course exam grades are not rounded.

ATI Practice Exam & Content Mastery Policy

Points will be awarded based on performance level and completion of required ATI practice exam and remediation. Students may earn up to 100 points total.

ATI Practice Exam (10 Points):

The ATI Practice Exam is designed to prepare students for the Content Mastery Exam and NCLEX success.

- **Completion of the ATI Practice Exam by the assigned deadline: 10 points**
- **Failure to complete the exam: 0 points**

Remediation Requirement (10 Points):

Students are required to complete and submit remediation before the ATI Content Mastery Exam. Collaboration among course faculty in each level of the curriculum will occur to determine the best activities for the specific course.

- **Completed remediation submitted by the deadline: 10 points**
- **Failure to submit remediation: 0 points**
- **Remediation must be completed prior to the exam**
- **Each faculty will determine the remediation**
- **Learning contract will no longer be necessary**

ATI Content Mastery Exam Scoring:

Students will earn points based on their ATI proficiency level as follows:

- **Below Level 1: 50 points**
- **Level 1: 60 points**
- **Level 2: 70 points**
- **Level 3: 80 points**

**Exception, NURS 4600 Professional Nursing: Trends, Issues and Licensure in which grade is based on predicted probability of passing NCLEX-RN.*

Criterion Referenced Proficiency Levels Guidelines

Performances on content-specific course mastery examinations are based on Criterion Referenced Proficiency Levels. The Criterion Referenced Proficiency Levels are as follows:

The student meeting the criterion established for Level 3 is:

- **Very likely to exceed NCLEX standards in this content area.**

- Able to demonstrate a higher than expected level of knowledge in this content area that confidently supports academic readiness for subsequent curricular content.
- Exceed most expectations for performance in this content area.
- Demonstrates achievement of a level of competence needed for professional nursing practice in this content area that exceeds most expectations.
- Meets benchmark and does not require additional academic support in the content area.

The student meeting the criterion established for Level 2 is:

- Fairly certain to meet NCLEX standards in this content area.
- Able to demonstrate a level of knowledge in this content area that more than adequately supports academic readiness for subsequent curricular content.
- Exceed minimum expectations for performance in this content area.
- Demonstrates achievement of a satisfactory level of competence needed for professional nursing practice in this content area.
- Meets benchmark and does not require additional academic support in the content area.

The student meeting the criterion established for Level 1 is:

- Likely to just meet NCLEX standards in this content area.
- Able to demonstrate the minimum level of knowledge in this content area required to support academic readiness for subsequent curricular content.
- Meets the absolute minimum expectations for performance in this content area.
- Demonstrates achievement of a minimum level of competence needed for professional nursing practice in this content area.
- Does not meet benchmark and requires mandatory academic support in the content area.

The student scoring below the Proficiency Level 1 recommended cut score did not meet the criterion established for Level 1.

- Does not meet benchmark and requires mandatory academic support in the content area.

Minimum scores for proficiency levels vary for each assessment in the RN Content Mastery Series. The National Standard Setting Study – ATI establishes each assessment score based on the NCLEX-RN® Test Plan.

Parameters for Additional Resources

Multiple factors will determine whether a student is considered for specialty unit placement in *NURS 4450, Design and Coordination of Care*. These factors include **students achieving a Level 2 or above on the NURS 4130 Proctored ATI exam**, scores on other proctored exams, student clinical performance, course grades, and other factors used to determine the best learning environment for the student. Specialty units are limited due to agency approval and thus not all students can be placed in a specialty unit.

Throughout the academic support process, a variety of learning resources may be used, including a review of the student's ATI Pulse, use of a case study approach to focus on critical thinking and application of the nursing process, selected components of ATI Content Mastery Series review modules, non-proctored online practice assessments,

course materials, simulations, and custom assessments. The School of Nursing Academic Success & Support Coordinator is responsible for organizing the academic support process. However, faculty members who are subject matter experts in select areas are expected to work with the Academic Success & Support Coordinator to enhance the remediation process.

ATI RN-Comprehensive Predictor Examination

The Comprehensive Predictor tests knowledge acquired throughout the nursing program and NCLEX- RN readiness. The examination will be given to students during the second semester of the senior year while enrolled in NURS 4600 (refer to testing timeline). Students who do not achieve a 90% predicted probability score or greater on the 1st exam are required to develop an academic support contract with the Course faculty, as part of NURS 4600 requirements, prior to taking the **2nd ATI® RN- Comprehensive Predictor at the end of the 12th week of the second semester** senior year. Students who achieve a 90% predicted probability score or higher on their 2nd attempt will have met the desired testing outcome for the ATI® RN-Comprehensive Predictor. The highest predicted probability of passing the NCLEX-RN achieved between the 1st and 2nd proctored **ATI® RN-Comprehensive Predictor** will be used to determine the NURS 4600 course exam grade (10%) (Probability and Expectancy Table, ATI 2023).

If, after 2 attempts, a student has not achieved a predicted probability score of at least 90%, he/she will be placed under contract with the Course faculty, for the remainder of the semester, to complete additional NCLEX-RN preparation activities. Students that fail to adhere to the learning contract will be referred to the Associate Director for the Undergraduate Programs for follow-up and contract revision which will include additional, on campus, face-to-face remediation sessions.

ATI RN-Comprehensive Predictor Examination-Testing Timeline

Administration of a practice ATI® RN-Comprehensive Predictor practice assessment will occur during **week #4** of NURS 4600. The **first administration** of the **proctored ATI® RN- Comprehensive Predictor** will occur during **week # 8 of the second semester senior year** in NURS 4600. Students who achieve a 90% predicted probability score or higher on the 1st exam will have met the desired testing outcome (benchmark) for the ATI® RN-Comprehensive Predictor. However, students achieving benchmark may opt to take the Comprehensive Predictor again, for additional practice, as an alternate version will be administered the 2nd time.

Date of Origin: 8/05

Revised: 8/19, 4/26

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25

ATI RN Comprehensive Predictor Probability of Passing Expectancy Table



RN Comprehensive Predictor Probability of Passing Expectancy Table

RN CP Individual Score	Predicted Probability of Passing the NCLEX-RN	RN CP Individual Score	Predicted Probability of Passing the NCLEX-RN	RN CP Individual Score	Predicted Probability of Passing the NCLEX-RN	RN CP Individual Score	Predicted Probability of Passing the NCLEX-RN
85.3% to 100%	99%	64.2% to 64.5%	75%	56.8% to 57%	50%	49.3% to 49.6%	25%
81.8% to 85.2%	98%	63.9% to 64.1%	74%	56.5% to 56.7%	49%	48.9% to 49.2%	24%
79.4% to 81.7%	97%	63.5% to 63.8%	73%	56.3% to 56.4%	48%	48.6% to 48.8%	23%
77.7% to 79.3%	96%	63.2% to 63.4%	72%	56% to 56.2%	47%	48.2% to 48.5%	22%
76.2% to 77.6%	95%	62.8% to 63.1%	71%	55.7% to 55.9%	46%	47.8% to 48.1%	21%
75% to 76.1%	94%	62.5% to 62.7%	70%	55.4% to 55.6%	45%	47.3% to 47.7%	20%
74% to 74.9%	93%	62.2% to 62.4%	69%	55.2% to 55.3%	44%	46.9% to 47.2%	19%
73.1% to 73.9%	92%	61.9% to 62.1%	68%	54.9% to 55.1%	43%	46.4% to 46.8%	18%
72.2% to 73%	91%	61.6% to 61.8%	67%	54.6% to 54.8%	42%	45.9% to 46.3%	17%
71.5% to 72.1%	90%	61.3% to 61.5%	66%	54.3% to 54.5%	41%	45.4% to 45.8%	16%
70.8% to 71.4%	89%	61% to 61.2%	65%	54% to 54.2%	40%	44.9% to 45.3%	15%
70.1% to 70.7%	88%	60.7% to 60.9%	64%	53.8% to 53.9%	39%	44.3% to 44.8%	14%
69.5% to 70%	87%	60.4% to 60.6%	63%	53.5% to 53.7%	38%	43.7% to 44.2%	13%
69% to 69.4%	86%	60.1% to 60.3%	62%	53.2% to 53.4%	37%	43.1% to 43.6%	12%
68.4% to 68.9%	85%	59.8% to 60%	61%	52.9% to 53.1%	36%	42.4% to 43%	11%
67.9% to 68.3%	84%	59.5% to 59.7%	60%	52.6% to 52.8%	35%	41.7% to 42.3%	10%

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RN Comprehensive Predictor Probability of Passing Expectancy Table

RN CP Individual Score	Predicted Probability of Passing the NCLEX-RN	RN CP Individual Score	Predicted Probability of Passing the NCLEX-RN	RN CP Individual Score	Predicted Probability of Passing the NCLEX-RN	RN CP Individual Score	Predicted Probability of Passing the NCLEX-RN
67.5% to 67.8%	83%	59.3% to 59.4%	59%	52.3% to 52.5%	34%	40.8% to 41.6%	9%
67% to 67.4%	82%	59% to 59.2%	58%	52% to 52.2%	33%	39.9% to 40.7%	8%
66.6% to 66.9%	81%	58.7% to 58.9%	57%	51.7% to 51.9%	32%	38.9% to 39.8%	7%
66.1% to 66.5%	80%	58.4% to 58.6%	56%	51.4% to 51.6%	31%	37.7% to 38.8%	6%
65.7% to 66%	79%	58.2% to 58.3%	55%	51% to 51.3%	30%	36.2% to 37.6%	5%
65.3% to 65.6%	78%	57.9% to 58.1%	54%	50.7% to 50.9%	29%	34.4% to 36.1%	4%
64.9% to 65.2%	77%	57.6% to 57.8%	53%	50.4% to 50.6%	28%	32.1% to 34.3%	3%
64.6% to 64.8%	76%	57.3% to 57.5%	52%	50% to 50.3%	27%	28.6% to 32%	2%
		57.1% to 57.2%	51%	49.7% to 49.9%	26%	0% to 28.5%	1%

STUDENT SUCCESS DEFINITION OF TERMS

Tutorials Nurse Logic:

This tutorial assists students in expanding their abilities in critical thinking and problem solving while also improving test taking skills. Students begin this tutorial during the first semester of their junior year.

RN Learning Systems: Provides pre-made practice tests that cover a broad range of nursing topics with flexible features, including rationales and optional scoring. Students are encouraged to use Learning Systems throughout the program to expand their understanding of select topics and to increase exposure to application level questions.

Practice Tests: Online Practice (Non-Proctored) Assessments.

Practice Tests: These are unsupervised, information assessments typically designed as a learning experience. Students may take practice tests as often as needed; however, prior to taking a proctored ATI exam, students will be required to achieve a 90 on the corresponding practice test, with 72 hours between attempts to improve test re-test reliability.

Focused Review: Allows students to remediate after each practice and/or proctored assessment. Faculty may include these reviews in subject specific proctored exams. In addition, it is highly recommended for every student after a proctored examination, regardless of score. Assists in the creation of a study plan and provides application exercises and media content.

Proctored Assessment:

Supervised or monitored standardized assessment that compares student performance to other students nationally. The assessment is administered on campus and monitored by faculty or designee. The results of the proctored assessment constitute 10% of a student's overall course grade.

Skills Modules:

Each module contains terminology, an accepted practice section, step-by-step video of proper skill performance, evidence-based research, practice challenges, a documentation guide and skills status progress report. These modules are assigned to correlate with topics covered in select classes.

Targeted Medical Surgical Practice Assessment Tests:

Provides an assessment of the student's basic comprehension and mastery of adult medical surgical topics. ATI Nursing identified content is based on the most current NCLEX-RN test plan and includes NGN items. These tests correlate with appropriate content and/or in the academic support plan.

Proficiency Levels:

Define performance on Content Mastery Series Proctored Assessments

Comprehensive Predictor:

Predicts students' probability of passing the NCLEX-RN on the first attempt

Live Review:

All-inclusive, live study session covering essential content aligned with the NCLEX-RN test plan. Required last semester senior year. Estimated cost for students is \$375.00.

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT PROGRAM				
Testing Timeline (Semester of study and completion of associated nursing course)	Assessment	Desired Testing Outcome	School of Nursing Interventions if Testing Outcome < Desired	Desired Program Outcome
During orientation to nursing program	Nurse Logic Achieve	Completion of Nurse Logic and Achieve Program	Required meeting Academic Success & Support Coordinator	Early introduction to test taking strategies and critical thinking in nursing.
First Semester – Junior 1	Content Mastery Series: Fundamentals of Nursing	Proficiency Level 2	Notification of individual students to establish remediation plan; feedback to faculty for possible course curricular modifications	NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate - minimum of 90% annually
First Semester – Junior2	Content Mastery Series: Pharmacology Nursing Care of Children Maternal Newborn	Proficiency Level 2	Notification of individual students to establish remediation plan; feedback to faculty for possible course curricular modifications	NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate - minimum of 90% annually
Second Semester – Senior 1	Content Mastery Series: Mental Health Adult Medical Surgical	Proficiency Level 2	Notification of individual students to establish remediation plan; feedback to faculty for possible course curricular modifications	NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate - minimum of 90% annually
Second Semester – Senior 2	Content Mastery Series: Leadership & Management Community Health Comprehensive Predictor	Proficiency Level 2	Notification of individual students to establish remediation plan; feedback to faculty for possible course curricular modifications	NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate - minimum of 90% annually
Weeks 6 and 10 (approximate) of Second Spring Semester –	Content Mastery Series: Comprehensive Predictor	Predictive probability score of 90% minimum	Notification of individual students to identify areas of weakness and establish remediation plan; feedback to faculty for possible course curricular modifications	NCLEX-RN first-time pass rate - minimum of 90% annually

**ABS N students will take the exams according to the course as outlined above, however, may be in a different semester based on their plan of study.*

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING

Students in the upper division traditional BSN and ABSN program options are assigned a Professional advisor in the CHHS Advising Center when they enter the University as a pre-nursing student. This advisor provides students with advising assistance throughout their course of study including but not limited to direct 1:1 advising of students, new student orientation, registration, and preparation of academic maps for lower division.

Students once they are admitted to upper division traditional BSN, ABSN, or RN to BSN options will be assigned a nursing faculty mentor. Faculty mentors will assist individual students with SON policies, nursing program progression and student success topics, referral to student success coordinator as needed, career counseling and progression policies related to academic maps, and other topics as needed.

Date of Origin: 8/25

Revised:

Reviewed: 8/26

BSN PROGRESSION POLICY Criteria for Progression in the Major

This policy outlines conditions and procedures for those students in both the Traditional Upper Division and Accelerated Program Options.

1. Students must earn a grade of C (2.0) or higher in all courses beginning with the NURS prefix.
2. Failure to earn a grade of C (2.0) or higher will result in course failure.
3. Only one (1) nursing course failure and one (1) repeat attempt to pass that nursing course will be permitted throughout the program.
4. Students will be required to repeat the failed nursing course during the next available offering on a space available basis.
5. Students must notify in writing to the Associate Director their intent to repeat the failed nursing course. Failure to submit this request will be considered withdrawn from the program. Priority is given to the first student who submits the request in writing.
6. Students achieving less than a C (2.0) in more than one nursing course are no longer eligible to continue in the UNC Charlotte School of Nursing's upper division major and will be advised to pursue other options both within and outside of the university.

Repeating a Failed Nursing Course

1. Students failing to achieve a C (2.0) in a course will meet with the Associate Director for the Undergraduate Division prior to enrolling to repeat the course.
2. Movement between program options is not recommended and will be individually determined based on a variety of factors including admission criteria, space, student success, time to degree, etc.
3. If a program option change is determined to be in the best interest of the student, the student can only move once and must remain in the new program option.

Failure to Repeat

1. Students who do not take the failed nursing course during the next available offering in their program option will be considered withdrawn from the program.
2. Any consideration for re-entry will be addressed on an individual basis in accordance with the University's appeal process.

Withdrawal

1. Withdrawals (grade of W or WE) from nursing courses will be issued to students wishing to withdraw from any or all courses in accordance with the University's withdrawal policies and procedures.
2. Withdrawal from any course requires withdrawal from the corresponding co-requisite courses (if applicable). Individual exceptions may be considered with approval from the Associate Director.
3. Students in a pre-licensure BSN program option who withdraw from a course without a "WE" designation acknowledge the withdrawal will count as a course attempt.
4. Students may request to return to the program once, following withdrawal, with the understanding that re-entry is on a space available basis. This request must be in writing to the Associate Director. Priority is given to the first student who submits the request in writing.
5. Students out of the program for more than 12 months must reapply for admission to UNC Charlotte

and to the School of Nursing through the competitive admission's process, for entry into the program's first semester.

Academic Integrity

1. Issues associated with academic integrity violations will be addressed in accordance with University policy 407, The Code of Student Conduct.

Violations of Ethics

The UNC Charlotte School of Nursing adheres to the American Nurses' Association Code of Ethics as its guiding framework for ethical practice. Students found to be in violation of one or more provisions of the ANA Code of Ethics will be ineligible to continue in the upper division major.

Unsafe Practice

The School of Nursing recognizes that making mistakes is a part of the learning process. However, we are also aware of nursing's responsibility to provide safe, timely, efficient, effective, equitable, patient-centered care (IOM, 2001; Barkell & Snyder, 2020; Vrbnjak, Denieffe, O'Gorman, & Pajnkihar, 2016).

On the occasion when a student has engaged in unsafe practice, faculty will evaluate the system for causative factors (Ross, 2013; Zieber & Williams, 2015; Hingham & Vincent, 2021). The student will be advised by faculty and appropriate measures to remediate the behavior will be taken. However, repeated unsafe behaviors will make the student ineligible to continue in the upper division major.

Date of Origin: 5/05

Revised: 8/19

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

BSN PRE-LICENSURE STUDENT TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR CLINICAL PRACTICE

The UNC Charlotte School of Nursing collaborates with its practice and community partners to provide students with high-quality clinical experiences that meet the educational needs of the student.

Therefore, students should be aware that clinical rotations may **occur any day or time of the week, including weekends and evenings**, and that the SON offers **no guarantee that travel to a clinical placement site will be constrained by mileage**.

In consideration of the opportunity for nursing practicum experiences provided by the University and its clinical affiliates, I accept and agree to the following terms and conditions for those experiences. Submission of the intent to enroll form upon admission, registration in nursing courses and acknowledgement of the SON Handbook in My Clinical Exchange includes acceptance of these terms and conditions.

1. I understand that to begin and remain enrolled in practicum courses, I must provide throughout my enrollment in the School of Nursing (SON) and at my own expense a current, completed Student Health History Form provided by the SON. I must also provide at my expense evidence of initial 2 step TB screening and annual attestations as outlined and American Heart Association CPR certification. I must complete Bloodborne Pathogen training and Agency Core Module orientation, annually, provided by the SON.
2. I understand that neither the clinical facilities to which I may be assigned, nor the University will, as a result of that assignment, be responsible for any costs of first aid, emergency treatment, or other treatment that I may receive which is provided by such clinical facilities, and that it is my responsibility to provide for these costs, whether by a program of private medical insurance or otherwise.
3. I hereby consent to disclose to any clinical facility to which I may be assigned personally identifiable information from my University educational records, including but not limited to the Student Health History Form, professional liability insurance, annual Bloodborne Pathogen training, CPR certification, Drug Testing results and results of a Criminal Background Check, as may be necessary to permit the University or the clinical facility to evaluate my fitness to begin or to continue in the clinical experience. Such disclosure will occur through enrollment in My Clinical Exchange (MCE).
4. I agree to disclose to my practicum instructor any medical, psychological or psychiatric conditions I have that may affect my ability to provide safe clinical care. These conditions could include, but are not limited to, infectious diseases, fractured limbs/limbs in casts or immobilizers, hospitalization for any reason, and pregnancy/postpartum (care of clients with certain conditions may be prohibited for pregnant care providers).
5. I agree to provide to my practicum instructor, upon request, a medical release statement from my health care provider, verifying that I am able to participate in clinical assignments in a way that is consistent with safe clinical practice and not pose a threat to the health and safety of others.
6. I understand that I am responsible for providing my own transportation to assigned clinical facilities at my own expense. Clinical sites are various and could be up to an hour from the University.
7. I understand the University, or the clinical facility may withdraw me from or reject me for further clinical practice if I demonstrate or engage in any unsafe or unprofessional behavior.

Date of Origin: 7/99

Revised: 8/20, 3/25

*Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24,
8/26*

Skills Undergraduate Students CANNOT Perform

Information from the State Board of Nursing:

The North Carolina Board of Nursing states:

“the faculty member and /or preceptor is responsible for ‘appropriate supervision and delegation’... It is up to each nurse to decide what activities can safely be assigned or delegated to another individual based upon the agency policies/procedures, the education/training of the individual, and the validated competency of the individual.”

Below are skills/care that students cannot perform in the clinical setting. You should also review your agency policy on students to determine if there are additional skills they cannot perform. There may be additional skills specific units in specific organizations will not allow.

Skills/Care that Nursing Students CANNOT Perform:

- **Students cannot** obtain written or verbal consent from patients/family members. They can observe the process.
- **Students cannot** receive verbal orders from providers or witness consent forms. They can observe the process.
- **Students cannot** initiate blood products/transfusions, including albumin. They can observe the procedure and assist with checking vital signs.
- **Students cannot** administer medications or treatments prescribed by standing orders without consultation with the preceptor.
- **Students cannot** inject medications or manipulate tubing of epidural catheters. Students cannot remove epidural catheters. They can observe the process.
- **Students cannot** interpret EKG readings, fetal heart monitoring, or epidural anesthesia level unless they have direct supervision by the preceptor.
- **Central venous catheter (CVC) care policies may vary.** When appropriate to facility policy, students under direct faculty oversight may change dressing, assess patency, flush, and administer non-vasoactive medications via central lines/ PICC lines. Students cannot remove central lines/ PICC lines. They can observe the process
- **Students cannot** change tubing, remove, or administer medications in arterial lines or specialized central venous access devices such as those that are used for dialysis or hemodynamic monitoring. . They may observe the process.
- **Students cannot** participate in the provision of care for patients in clinical trials.
- **Students cannot** conduct vaginal cervical exams. They can observe the process.
- Medication administration may be limited in specialty units, by course, and by agency.

Date of Origin: 2/18

Revised: 01/24, 8/25, 6/26

REQUEST FOR STUDENT EXCUSED ABSENCE for SPONSORED EVENTS

Overview: The University and SON support student engagement in professional activities. Therefore, students may request an excused absence to attend a university sponsored event or nursing conference.

Process: Students are to submit this form to the faculty for approval a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the absence. Any submissions after that time will not be approved. Students must delineate clearly how attending the event will enhance their nursing practice and support the learning objectives of the clinical and/or didactic course.

1. Describe the event you wish to attend by discussing the goals and objectives of the event and providing documentation such as a brochure related to the sponsorship of the event.

2. Complete the following related to the course or clinical activities you will miss.

Date _____

Course _____

3. Describe how the event will support the learning objectives of the course:

4. In consultation with the faculty, create a learning plan and evaluation method for how the student will demonstrate achievement of the course objectives. Examples may be a paper, project, learning activity or other mutually agreed upon activity.

Date Discussed with Faculty: _____

Student Signature: _____

Faculty Signature: _____

Date of Origin: 5/18

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

ANS Board Member Position Request Form

Student Name:

The Upper Division BSN student listed above is requesting nomination for an ANS Board Member position. The position in which the student above is requesting nomination is _____ . According to the ANS by-laws, ANS members who wish to run for a Board Member position must be in good academic standing within their current program of study (BSN).

In this case, good academic standing consists of the ability to progress through to the next semester of the BSN program according to the SON guidelines. Any student currently failing any of their upper division courses may not be allowed to run for an ANS Board Member position.

This position request form will only be submitted annually, in April, when ANS Board Members are nominated and elected. ANS Board Members will stay in elected positions for a period of one academic year. Board Members may choose to re-run for their current positions, assuming they are still in good academic standing and will not be graduating in the semester in which they are requesting nomination.

In order to ensure good academic standing, the above student must submit this form, signed by all of their current course faculty, indicating that they are currently in good academic standing and are eligible to run for an ANS Board Member position.

By signing this form, you are stating that the above student is currently in good academic standing; that they are currently passing your NURS course per the SON guidelines.

Course Name

Course Faculty Member

NURS _____

Faculty Signature: _____

NURS _____

Faculty Signature: _____

NURS _____

Faculty Signature: _____

NURS _____

Faculty Signature: _____

NURS _____

Faculty Signature: _____

Date of Origin: 5/18

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

BSN PRE-LICENSURE STUDENT UNIFORM & DRESS CODE POLICY

The official uniform of the UNC Charlotte School of Nursing is based on our major health systems policies plus an emphasis on safety and infection control. All students must adhere to the policy in clinical agencies and the Learning Resource Center (LRC). The policy includes the following:

Purchasing Uniforms

Uniforms (shirts, pants, and lab coats) **must be purchased** from the distributor selected by the School of Nursing. Substitutions will not be permitted. Maternity uniforms and skirts are available upon request.

Top-women: Hunter green women's tunic (V-neck; double pockets on lower front left and right).

The SON monogram is on the left chest area. Students may wear a white tee shirt under the uniform top to avoid breast cleavage exposure.

Top-men: Hunter green men's unisex scrub (v-neck; 1 pocket on left chest). SON monogram is on the left chest area above the pocket.

Pants-women: Hunter green cargo drawstring pants or Landau hunter green flare leg pants.

Pants-men: Hunter green cargo pants.

Footwear: White socks (no footies) or stockings. Shoes must be solid white, navy, or black.

They must be impermeable to liquids, with white soles and small white, navy or gray lettering (no brand logos).

No clogs, crocs, or open-toed shoes.

Identification: UNC Charlotte name tag or designated agency name tag must be worn. UNC

Charlotte logo, student's legal first and last name and the title "UNC Charlotte Nursing Student." **Agency-specific ID badge.** This ID will substitute for the UNC Charlotte name tag only at that agency.

Designated long sleeve lab coat/ warm-up jacket: for warmth in the clinical area: Hunter green warm-up jacket, with SON monogram on the left chest area for women and on the left chest pocket for men. Lab coats may be required. Check with the course instructor or syllabus.

Other Considerations

Uniforms are to be freshly laundered and neat in appearance. No waist or midriff skin is to show when standing, bending or reaching.

If needed for warmth, students may wear a long-sleeve white tee shirt under the uniform top. Acrylic and knit sweaters are not to be worn in clinical areas.

If permitted by agency policy, students may wear their lab coats on the unit but not while providing direct care to patients.

Exceptions

For certain courses and experiences in clinical courses, students will be required to wear street clothes. Street clothes, including shoes, are to be professional in appearance and what is referred to as

“business casual.” For women, business casual means tailored slacks or skirts and tailored shirts, blouses or knit sweaters, or dresses. For men business casual is defined as slacks and either a long-sleeved button-down shirt or a nice short-sleeved polo shirt. Men should wear socks with their slacks. Other considerations include:

- Pants or slacks must reach the ankle/shoe.
- Dresses and/or skirts must reach the knee when standing and cover the thighs when sitting.
- Blouses, shirts, sweaters must not be tight-fitting and must avoid plunging neckline with breast cleavage exposure
- The following are NOT permitted:
 - o Jeans, denim, or sheer material
 - o Shorts
 - o Halters
 - o Sleeveless/ spaghetti strapped shirts and camisoles
 - o Open-toe shoes, sandals, flip-flops, clogs or crocs
 - o Items with logos

Accessories

Jewelry must be minimal due to safety and infection control practices per all agencies. Jewelry must not interfere in the provision of safe nursing care.

Jewelry is restricted to one wedding ring and no more than two (2) pairs of small post earrings (no dangling or loop earrings).

Jewelry should be minimized in other visible areas of the body, such as, but not limited to, the nose, lip, eyebrow, tongue, etc. Small studs are recommended. Facial body piercings should use clear piercing fillers as needed. Agencies may request students wear masks to conceal visual body piercings.

No necklaces may be worn with the uniform.

Tattoos with profanity or are reasonably determined to be offensive to any group of persons must be completely covered.

Cosmetics should be simple.

Body odor that is offensive to others should be avoided. No perfume, cologne, or scents are to be worn.

Chewing gum, chewing tobacco, vaping, and smoking cigarettes/cigars are not permitted while students are in uniform for a course/clinical experience. Many clinical facilities are Smoke-free Environments and do not allow smoking anywhere on their campuses, including parking decks. Students will be held accountable to such restrictions.

Hair, Beards, and Nails

Hair should be worn in a simple style, off of the face and shoulders and without decoration.

Shoulder-length or longer hair, for women and men, must be pulled back and off the shoulders.

Beards should be short and neatly trimmed.

Nails should be clean, short, neatly trimmed, and with no nail polish. Acrylic and artificial nails are not permitted in the clinical setting.

Other

The logo displayed on the UNC Charlotte School of Nursing student uniform or other items is the property of the School of Nursing. Unauthorized use, distribution, sale, or alteration of the uniform or other items including the logo is considered a trademark violation. Uniforms or other items including the logo may not be donated, loaned, or sold to anyone unaffiliated with the School of Nursing without written permission from the Director/ Associate Director of the School of Nursing. Please report lost, stolen, or misused uniforms or other items including the logo to the Director/ Associate Director of the School of Nursing.

Facilities may have additional dress code requirements that students must meet. Students will be held accountable to the most restrictive guidelines.

Faculty may dismiss students from the clinical area with an unexcused absence for the day when this policy is not followed.

Date of Origin: 4/91

Revised: 7/07, 8/23, 4/25

*Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23,
8/24, 8/26*

RN-to-BSN STUDENT HANDBOOK

Additional Policies in this portion of the handbook are for all RN-to-BSN students in the School of Nursing

RN-TO-BSN CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING General Statement

1. RN-to-BSN undergraduate students will be given credit only for those courses in which they attain a grade of C or better.
2. Credit for prior learning for RN-to-BSN students:
 - a. RN-to-BSN students will receive credit for prior learning upon completion of NURN 3103, Concepts of Professional Nursing Science, the bridge course in the RN-to-BSN curriculum.
 - b. Thirty-nine (39) semester credit hours will be awarded.

Rationale

RN-to-BSN students are already licensed as professional nurses, and by passing the NCLEX Licensure Exam have demonstrated competency regarding the material covered in the courses for which they will be given credit.

Revised: 4/88, 10/95

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

RN-TO-BSN CLINICAL COURSES

There are two clinical courses in the RN-to-BSN curriculum, NURN 4440 Community Health and NURN 4450 Design and Coordination of Care. Clinical courses are competency based and assignments will be based on activities where students engage with clients, families and the public in the community or in an acute care clinical environment. In the third semester of the program, NURN 4450 requires you to have access to a “clinical environment”. Your work site (regardless of type) is a clinical environment. The program decides whether to allow students to engage in clinical practice experiences at their place of work. However, if students are permitted to engage in clinical practice experiences at their workplace, such experiences must provide the opportunity for students to integrate new knowledge into practice and the experiences must be appropriate to the expected student learning and program outcomes. Clinical experiences and learning activities are expected to be completed outside one's normal working hours.

If you are NOT working as a Registered Nurse, please contact the RN-to-BSN Coordinator as soon as possible as we will need to find you a preceptor to complete the clinical components of the course. If you live outside the Charlotte area and are NOT working, we will need to discuss the availability of preceptors in your area, or you may need to travel to the Charlotte area to complete clinical requirements. If you do not notify the program of your status, or any change of status during the program, your progression in the program may be jeopardized or delayed. If you need to have a preceptor, students will be required to complete all mandatory education and compliance required by the agency, including and not limited to drug screening and criminal background check, blood borne pathogen training, immunization and health history forms, and individual agency policy education. Please see the [Clinical Agency Requirements](#) outlined on our website and/or contact the Associate Director, Undergraduate Programs.

Date of Origin: 6-8-15

Revised: 8/19, 8/24

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/25,

8/26

RN-TO-BSN PROGRESSION, RE-ENTRY, AND READMISSION POLICY

Criteria for Progression in the Major

1. Students must earn a grade of C (2.0) or higher in all courses beginning with the NURN prefix.
2. Failure to earn a grade of C (2.0) or higher in any course, with the NURN prefix will result in course failure.
3. Students will be required to repeat the failed nursing course prior to progressing in the program.
4. Students achieving less than a C (2.0) on more than one nursing course are no longer eligible to continue in the UNC Charlotte School of Nursing's RN to BSN program and will be advised to pursue other options both within and outside of the university.
5. Exceptions to continuation may be pursued through the University's Academic Petition process. Inquiry should be directed to the Associate Director for Undergraduate Programs.

Re-entry after Withdrawal or Failure

1. Students failing to achieve a C (2.0) in a course are required to meet with the Associate Director prior to repeating the course.
2. Re-entry is on a space available basis.

Priority for Re-entry of Students who Fail or Withdraw

1. First Priority: Those students who have been out of the program for the longest period of time (based on withdrawal date)
2. Second Priority: Highest nursing GPA based on all courses with NURN prefix
3. Third Priority: For two or more students having identical nursing GPAs, the student with the highest cumulative GPA for all courses required to meet graduation requirements for nursing at UNC Charlotte will receive priority.

Withdrawal

1. Withdrawals (grade of W or WE) from nursing courses will be issued to students wishing to withdraw from any or all courses in accordance with the University's [withdrawal policies and procedures](#).
2. Withdrawal from any course requires withdrawal from the corresponding co-requisite courses (if applicable).
3. Students may request to return to the program once, following withdrawal, with the understanding that re-entry is on a space available basis.
4. Students out of the program for more than 12 months must reapply for admission to the University and to the RN-to-BSN program, through the competitive admission's process.

Academic Integrity

1. Issues associated with academic integrity violations will be addressed in accordance with University policy 407, [The Code of Student Conduct](#).

Violation of Ethics

The UNC Charlotte School of Nursing adheres to the American Nurses' Association Code of Ethics as its guiding framework for ethical practice. Students found to be in violation of one or more provisions of the [ANA Code of Ethics](#), will be ineligible to continue in the upper division major.

Unsafe Practice

The School of Nursing recognizes that making mistakes is a part of the learning process. However, we

are also aware of nursing's responsibility to provide safe, timely, efficient, effective, equitable, patient-centered care (IOM, 2001; Barkell & Snyder, 2020; Vrbnjak, Denieffe, O'Gorman, & Pajnikihar, 2016).

On the occasion when a student has engaged in unsafe practice, faculty will evaluate the system for causative factors (Ross, 2013; Zieber & Williams, 2015; Hingham & Vincent, 2021). The student will be advised by faculty and appropriate measures to remediate the behavior will be taken. However, repeated unsafe behaviors will make the student ineligible to continue in the upper division major.

Date of Origin: 5/05

Revised: 8/16

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

Additional policies in this portion of the handbook are for all Graduate students in the School of Nursing.

Nurse Anesthesia DNP students are provided an additional Atrium Health/UNC Charlotte Nurse Anesthesia Student Handbook. Students are responsible for policies in this handbook in addition to the policies provided by the College and School of Nursing.

DNP Students provided with an additional Handbook are responsible for the policies in both.

GRADING SCALE FOR SON GRADUATE COURSES

The following grading scale is used throughout the graduate nursing courses and is consistent with the graduate grading scale of UNC Charlotte's Graduate School*. In adherence with the Graduate School Policy, a grade of U (unsatisfactory) will result in suspension. Specific programs may have stricter requirements for clinically related coursework. See Graduate Student Progression Policy in this handbook.

90% to 100%	A	
80% to 89.9%	B	
70% to 79.9%	C	
≤ 69.9%	U	Unsatisfactory

*Nurse Anesthesia Students: Please refer to the Nurse Anesthesia Student Handbook for grading policies related to NUAN courses.

Reviewed 8/22, 8/23, 8/24, 8/25, 8/26

ADVISING

When students are admitted to the Graduate Program, they are assigned to a faculty advisor and given a Plan of Study outlining the sequence of courses and projected graduation date. It is important for students to maintain contact with their advisors throughout the program. If the need arises for change in the Plan of Study, students must contact their advisor to ensure a new Plan of Study is developed, approved, and placed in the students' file.

The role of the faculty advisor is to:

1. Answer questions related to course sequence, academic expectations, graduation, etc.
2. Guide students through curricular processes when needed such as changing majors, submitting academic petitions, taking a leave of absence, modifying the plan of study.
3. Provide career guidance.
4. Refer students to campus resources as needed.

As a student if you find yourself struggling with courses, needing to take a semester off, or needing to modify your Plan of Study, you must contact your academic advisor first. Any changes may alter your projected graduation date and your advisor can help minimize any delays.

Created 8/25

Reviewed: 8/26

GRADUATE STUDENT PROGRESSION POLICY

All students must meet Graduate School progression requirements of maintaining an overall GPA of 3.0, not exceeding more than two C grades, and completion of MS degree within 7 years and the DNP degree within 6 years of enrolling in the first course. A grade of U or not meeting any of the above criteria will result in suspension by the Graduate School. Additional progression requirements for graduate students enrolled in specific majors in the School of Nursing are listed below.

DNP Students:

Please refer to the Nurse Anesthesia Student Handbook or the Post-Master's DNP Student Handbook for progression policies.

Nurse Practitioner Students (FNP and AGACNP):

1. Successful completion of a minimum 600 hours of supervised clinical experience as a Nurse Practitioner student is required.
2. A grade of B or higher is required in all NUNP courses. If the student receives a grade of C or below in any NUNP course, enrollment may be suspended by the Graduate School. In addition, receiving a C grade in any of the following NURS courses may result in having to repeat the course.
 - a. NURS 6274 Advanced Human Pathophysiology (3)
 - b. NURS 6220 Pharmacotherapeutics in Advanced Nursing Practice (3)
 - c. NURS 6230 Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning for Advanced Practice (3)
 - d. NURS 6430 Advanced Health Assessment Practicum (1)

Nurse Educator Students:

1. A total of 360 clinical hours is required to complete the program.
2. Students will follow the Graduate School's Progression Policy.

Community/Public Health Nursing Students:

1. A total of 360 clinical hours is required to complete the program.
2. Students will follow the Graduate School's Progression Policy.

Nurse Administrator Students:

1. A total of 180 clinical hours is required to complete the program.
2. Students will follow the Graduate School's Progression Policy.

Revised: 8/23

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/24, 8/25

APPEAL PROCEDURE FOR PROGRESSION POLICY

Student progression in the program may be halted in several ways. Students may miss deadlines, perform unsatisfactorily in a course or courses, or a student may be suspended from clinical activities based on performance feedback from preceptors or course faculty. The following identifies appeal procedures for the following situations.

Missed dates and deadlines.

Students are held to add/drop and withdraw dates posted in the UNCC academic calendar. Students can petition to the Graduate School for exceptions using the Academic Petition process outlined at the [Graduate School](#).

Suspension and Termination Appeals

Students who do not meet the Program or Graduate Schools progression policy of the GPA dropping below 3.0, accruing Cs, or receiving a U as outlined in graduate catalog program description will be suspended or terminated by the Graduate School. Students wishing to appeal suspension or termination decisions are to follow the process outlined by [the Graduate School](#).

Dismissal from Clinical or Courses

Students dismissed from clinical, courses, or the program for reasons such as safety, behavioral, or ethical reasons outlined elsewhere in this handbook should follow the Academic Dismissal Policy in the general information section of this document. Students in the Nurse Anesthesia program will follow the procedure presented in the Nurse Anesthesia Handbook. Behaviors that are threatening to other students or faculty will be referred to the Dean of Student's Office and will be addressed in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.

Academic Integrity

Students charged with violations of the UNCC Academic Integrity Code are to follow the procedures outlined by the University. Issues associated with academic integrity violations will be addressed in accordance with University Policy 407, [Code of Student Academic Integrity](#).

Date of Origin: 5/83

Revised: 7/13

Reviewed: 8/22, 8/23, 8/25, 8/26

STANDARDIZED TESTING IN APRN PROGRAMS (NEW)

It is the policy of the APRN programs that students complete a series of standardized testing that provides assessment of is predictive of certification success.

Policy: All APRN students are required to participate in the standardized testing related to their program of study. The goal for the student is to achieve acceptable benchmark scores as established by the APRN program. Details, scheduling, and benchmarks for testing will be conducted during scheduled courses. Testing information related to the Nurse Anesthesia program is detailed in the Nurse Anesthesia Student Handbook. Students in the NP program are expected to score 80% or higher. Lower scores will result in a remediation plan.

Created: 7/25

Reviewed: 8/26

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION TO CLINICAL SITES (NEW)

The UNC Charlotte School of Nursing collaborates with its practice and community partners to provide students with high-quality clinical experiences that meet the educational needs of the student. Therefore, students should be aware that clinical rotations may occur any day or time of the week, including weekends and evenings, and that the SON offers no guarantee that travel to a clinical placement site will be constrained by mileage. All graduate students are responsible for transportation to and from their clinical practicum.

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CLINICAL DRESS POLICY FOR NURSE PRACTITIONERS AND NURSING GRADUATE STUDENTS

All nursing graduate students are expected to show good professional judgment in personal attire and hygiene while at clinical sites. All clothing should be clean and in good repair. Business casual with a white lab coat and name tag is the standard dress. Students are expected to conform to the dress standards of the clinical agency where they are completing clinical hours.

General guidelines are as follows. For female students, business casual means tailored slacks or skirts, tailored shirts, blouses or knit sweaters, or dresses. For male students, business casual is defined as slacks and either a button-down shirt or a short-sleeved polo shirt. Male students should wear socks with their slacks.

Other considerations include:

1. Pants or slacks must reach the ankle/top of shoe. (No Capri's)
2. Dresses or skirts must not be any higher than one inch above the knee and must cover the thighs when sitting.
3. Blouses, shirts, sweaters must not be tight-fitting.
4. Clothing should not expose the bare-midriff or display cleavage.
5. Undergarments should not be visible.
6. Shoes must have a solid top surface and be closed toe.
7. Denim clothing is not acceptable.
8. The use of jewelry and other accessories should be conservative. The following guidelines should be followed:
 - a. Earrings should not exceed 1 ½ inches diameter in size and should not extend more than 1 ½ inches below the edge of the ear.
 - b. Maximum of 3 rings total for both hands.
 - c. No jewelry that will dangle into the patient's care space—bracelets or necklaces.
 - d. Dental jewelry should not be worn while in the clinical setting.
9. Personal hygiene is important as well. Please follow these recommendations:
 - a. Cosmetics should be simple.
 - b. No perfume, cologne, or scents are to be worn.
 - c. Students should not have any recognizable odor of tobacco while in the clinical setting.
 - d. Nails should be clean and neatly trimmed.
 - e. Nail colors should be neutral. No acrylic nails are allowed.
10. Body art and jewelry must be minimal due to safety and infection control practices per all agencies.
 - a. Jewelry must not interfere in the provision of safe nursing care.
 - b. Jewelry should be minimized in other visible areas of the body, such as, but not limited to, the nose, lip, eyebrow, tongue, etc. Small studs are recommended. Facial body piercings should use clear piercing fillers as needed. Agencies may request students wear masks to conceal visual body piercings.
 - c. Tattoos with profanity or are reasonably determined to be offensive to any group of persons must be completely covered.
11. UNCC School of Nursing nametag (clinical course faculty will discuss how to order nametags)

12. Lab coat when required.

13. Other dress code policies required by the clinical agencies.

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CLINICAL SITE AND PRECEPTOR SELECTION

Clinical internships are an important part of nursing education and advancing your career. The following provides guidelines and procedures for selecting and securing clinical sites and preceptors.

It is the responsibility of the student to assist in the identification of clinical sites and preceptors. Once a potential site has been identified please complete the preceptor form and return it to the course faculty or the program coordinator. In the NP programs there is a clinical site coordinator. Please begin this process early and follow the faculty's suggestions and timelines. If UNC Charlotte does not have an Affiliation Agreement with the clinical site one will have to be completed before a student can use the site. This process may take 8 weeks or longer to complete.

Preceptors must meet certain criteria.

For NP programs

1. The preceptor must have a graduate degree
2. The preceptor must have a current license as an MD, NP, PA, or OD and see patients
3. The preceptor must have been in practice in that advanced role a minimum of 2 years

For Systems (DE) programs

1. The preceptor must have a graduate degree
2. The preceptor must have a current RN license and practice in the role in which the student's program focuses.
3. The preceptor must have been in practice in that advanced role for a minimum of 1 year.
4. There can be a wide variation in educational preparation and licensure.
Exceptions will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

In addition, students must complete all compliance requirements of the School of Nursing and the clinical agency PRIOR to starting their practicum experience.

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GUIDELINES ON NP STUDENTS AND INVASIVE PROCEDURES

Graduate nurse practitioner students (both MSN and Post-Master's Certificate) are permitted to perform invasive procedures on patients under the direct supervision of a credentialed preceptor.

Graduate-level students in the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) program have had formal didactic instruction on central line insertion, arterial line insertion, endotracheal intubation, bronchoscopy, and the use of ultrasound. Didactic instruction includes sterile technique, proper draping, and comprehensive pre-, during-, and post-procedural patient care.

Graduate-level students in the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) program have had formal didactic instruction on Papanicolaou (PAP) test, toenail removal, punch biopsy, suturing, and incision and drainage (I&D) procedures.

Nurse Practitioner students may serve as an assistant to the preceptor who is performing an invasive procedure. The level of student participation is determined by the preceptor based on student competency, institutional policy, and patient safety considerations.

Students may perform invasive procedures only when:

- The procedure is within the scope and policies of the clinical site.
- The preceptor is credentialed and authorized by the agency to perform the procedure.
- The preceptor provides direct supervision, defined as being physically present and immediately available during the procedure.

Violation of this policy or failure to follow agency guidelines may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from the nurse practitioner program.

Use the following considerations:

- Health systems and practice sites maintain policies outlining qualifications, privileging, and credentialing requirements for invasive procedures. Students must adhere to all site-specific policies and procedures.
- Preceptors must be appropriately credentialed to perform the invasive procedure and to directly supervise students during the procedure.

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ADDITIONAL HANDBOOKS FOR DNP NURSE ANESTHESIA STUDENT AND POST-MASTERS DNP PROGRAMS

In addition to the on-line handbooks provided by the College of Health and Human Services, and the School of Nursing, Nurse Anesthesia students are provided with a Carolinas Healthcare System/UNC Charlotte Nurse Anesthesia Student Handbook, and the Post-Masters DNP students are provided with the Post-Masters DNP Handbook. Students are responsible for policies in this handbook in addition to the policies provided by the university.

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DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE GRADUATION INFORMATION

Degree Works: The UNC Charlotte School of Nursing uses Degree Works to assist students in monitoring progress towards degree completion. Students are encouraged to frequently check Degree Works. While not a substitution for consultation with your academic advisor, Degree Works does provide a visual, web-based platform to track program progress.

Students may access Degree Works through their MY UNC CHARLOTTE page.

Graduation Information: Before any graduate student can receive his/her degree, they must complete an Application for Degree and/or Certificate. Application must be completed online and is accessible through Degree Works. Students who have added a certificate to their MSN program must graduate with both at the same time. Graduates cannot walk in the UNCC Commencement Ceremony until they have completed all program requirements. Students can participate in the graduation ceremony at the completion of their program – fall, spring, or summer sessions.

Graduation announcements may be ordered through the campus bookstore. Caps, gowns, and hoods may either be rented or purchased through the campus bookstore.

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