Department of Nursing
Millersville University

Master of Science in Nursing
Handbook
2014-2015

Millersville University Department of Nursing is accredited through 2018 by:
Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, INC (ACEN)
3343 Peachtree Road, NE
Suite # 850
Atlanta, Georgia 30326
404.975.5000
# INDEX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WELCOME</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHILOSOPHY</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORGANIZING FRAMEWORK</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRADUATE PROGRAM OUTCOMES</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROGRAM OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAMILY (INDIVIDUAL ACROSS THE LIFESPAN) NURSE PRACTITIONER OPTION</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORE COURSES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUGGESTED SEQUENCE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURSING EDUCATION OPTION</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORE COURSES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUGGESTED SEQUENCE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLICIES AND PROCEDURES</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFORMATION RELATED TO CLINICAL PRACTICE</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 698 SCHOLARLY PROJECT</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROJECT INFORMATION AND SUGGESTIONS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETION OF PAPER</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACULTY RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERTISE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEPARTMENT OF NURSING FACULTY</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS A CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONER</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMPORTANT STUDENT LINKS</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Welcome to the MSN program of Millersville University. Your decision to pursue a Master’s Degree in nursing marks an important step in your career as a professional nurse. The faculty of the Department of Nursing has developed programs which build upon your previous experiences in nursing practice in an effort to enhance your attainment of the knowledge and skills to practice autonomously as a Nurse Practitioner or Nurse Educator. The MSN program was developed using the American Association of College of Nursing (AACN) *Essentials of Masters Education in Nursing*. The National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NONPF) *Domains & Competencies* were utilized to develop the Family Nurse Practitioner option, in addition to the *Essentials*. The National League for Nursing (NLN) *Core Competencies of Nurse Educators* was used in the development of the Nursing Education MSN option. We hope your experiences at Millersville University will be both challenging and rewarding.

This Student Handbook contains specific policies of the Department of Nursing. The handbook supplements the Millersville University Student Handbook (http://www.millersville.edu/~handbook/) and the Millersville University Graduate Catalog (http://www.millersville.edu/~gcatalog/).

Best wishes for success and happiness,

The Faculty of the Department of Nursing
MU Department of Nursing

Philosophy

The Department of Nursing, situated within the School of Science and Mathematics, is an integral part of Millersville University of Pennsylvania. As such, it is in concert with the mission statement of the University in the provision of undergraduate and graduate programs in nursing that achieve the highest standards of liberal arts education.

The MU Department of Nursing faculty embrace nursing as a professional discipline with both academic and practice dimensions. The unique body of nursing knowledge is derived from the humanities, physical, biological, psychological, social sciences, and nursing science.

As a practice profession, nursing is considered integral to healthcare delivery, providing both direct and indirect care to individuals, families, and community at local, state, national and global settings. Nursing practice is guided by theory and continually improved based on evidence. The practice of nursing focuses on holistic, relationship-centered care that facilitates health and healing. Nursing is committed to ensuring quality health care. Professional nurses engage in advocacy and political leadership to improve health and healthcare of the society.

As an academic discipline responsible for knowledge generation, nursing is committed to the following:

- Examining and analyzing knowledge of human experiences of health, illness, healing; human/technology interface; environmental contexts of health care; and quality cost effective outcomes
- Exerting positive influence on organizational contexts of health and health care
- Promoting quality and cost effective outcomes of nursing care
- Facilitating collaborative interdisciplinary communication among health care groups, as well as among nursing practice, education and research
- Utilizing research findings and evidence to promote quality and improved care
- Developing a questioning mind and spirit of inquiry receptive to new ideas and approaches that contribute to advance nursing knowledge

As an academic profession, the MU Department Nursing faculty believe that higher education in nursing is responsible for preparing nurses through a competency-based curriculum emphasizing practice that is relational, reflective, responsive, respectful, and caring.

The faculty believe in education’s responsibility to prepare nurses who advocate for social justice and are responsive to changing health care environments. The Nursing faculty are committed to promoting reflective practice and leadership for social change all educational programs.

Nursing begins with a foundation in arts and sciences and continues with nursing discipline knowledge relating to care in the human health experience across lifespan. The Nursing faculty believes nursing is a continual learning process, in both formal and informal learning venues. In conclusion, the MU Department of Nursing faculty believes the nursing profession is firmly rooted in both practice and academia, with a commitment to lifelong education and quality improvement.
The integrative framework reflects the philosophy, competencies and outcomes for the undergraduate and graduate programs in nursing at MU.

- The faculty believes that the major core values of caring, holism, diversity, excellence and integrity are identified across the levels and throughout the curriculum. The value of ethics is inherent within all. These values are intrinsic to nursing practice and are an integral part of the curriculum to serve as a foundation for competency development. These values are intertwined within each level and utilized throughout the content in all programs.
- The integrated concepts are embedded in the curriculum that flow from less to more complex building upon previous content to ensure development of depth at different levels within the educational process or levels of the program. Reflective practice occurs within the contexts which represents the fundamental phenomena of the professional discipline. These integrated concepts include: organizational context; relationship-centered care; evidence based practice; professional development; and quality and safety.

- Organizational context is health promotion/disease prevention, chronic disease management through complex health care systems. Additionally, the organizational effectiveness as it relates to the health care context encompasses the leadership, patient characteristics, safety climate, ethical climate, teamwork and continuous quality improvement.
- Relationship-centered care is about relationships formed by nurses to facilitate the delivery of care and the promotion of health. Relationships developed with patient, family, community, colleagues are focused on the human interaction, not the disease process. Within this concept is caring, within both therapeutic & professional relationships with members of the health care team and reflects respect & dignity for the uniqueness of others, valuing their diversity, as well as, empathy, mutual trust, and empowerment.
- Evidence-based practice engages nurses in reflecting on existing knowledge and science in nursing/other disciplines to shape practice. Inherent in evidence-based practice is the need to continuously engage in a spirit of inquiry to enhance nursing knowledge and innovation.
- Professional development incorporates the value of lifelong process of learning, refining and integrating values/behaviors consistent with the profession in order to most effective in their role and as members of the profession. The process of refining and integrating these abilities and attributes is professional development. Embedded within this concept is effective communication, therapeutic & professional, as in an interdisciplinary team or formal professional presentation and leadership which promote innovation and creativity.
- Quality & safety requires an emphasis on system effectiveness in today health care environment, economic climate and regulatory demands. This emphasis within the organizational structure on developing a culture of safety in health care requires nurses minimize risk of harm through both system effectiveness and individual performance while increase the likelihood of desired health outcome. Effective application of informatics, technology, communication and ethics are instrumental to developing a culture of quality and safety in healthcare.

In summary, the faculty believe these integrative concepts weave a curricular (Celtic knot) framework that guides program outcomes. The following four outcomes are a result of all the learning experiences during the program which lead to the mastery of essential nursing practice competencies. These program outcomes include competencies in human flourishing, nursing judgment, professional identity, and the spirit of inquiry.
MU Nursing Program Outcomes

1. **Human flourishing** is defined as an effort to achieve self-actualization and fulfillment within the context of a larger community of individual. The process is lifelong existential journey of hope, regret, loss, illness, suffering and achievement which encompasses the uniqueness, dignity, diversity, freedom and holistic well-being of the individual within the larger family or community. The nurse role is to assist in efforts to reclaim or develop new pathways toward human flourishing.

Competencies- The graduate
- **MSN**: Functions as leader and change agent in practice to create systems that promote human flourishing.

2. **Nursing Judgment** encompasses three processes: critical thinking, clinical judgment, and integration of best evidence into practice. Nurse role is to employ this process to make decisions about clinical care, the development and application of research and dissemination of insights and research findings to the community.

Competencies- The graduate can
- **MSN**: Make judgments in practice that reflect a scholarly critique of current evidence and the ability to identify gaps in knowledge so to formulate research questions.

3. **Professional Identity** involves the internalization of core values and perspectives recognized as integral to the art and science of nursing. The core values become self evident as the nurse learns, gains experience, and grows in the profession. The nurse embraces these values in every aspect of practice while working to improve patient outcomes and promote the ideals of the nursing profession.

Competencies – The graduate will
- **MSN**: Implement my advanced practice role in ways that foster best practice, promote the personal and professional growth of oneself, demonstrate leadership, promote positive change in people and systems and advance the profession.

4. **Spirit of Inquiry** is a persistent sense of curiosity that informs both learning and practice. The nurse infused with the spirit of inquiry will raise questions, challenge traditional and existing practices and seek creative approaches to problems. A spirit of inquiry in nursing engenders innovative thinking and extends possibilities for discovering novel solutions in ambiguous, uncertain, and unpredictable situations.

Competencies – The graduate will
- **MSN**: Contribute to science of nursing in practice by analyzing underlying disparities in knowledge or evidence; formulating research questions; and systematically evaluating the impact on quality when evidence-based solutions to nursing problems are implemented.

2013 NLN Outcomes/Competencies
2012 November, Approved MU Nursing
In order to evaluate the effectiveness of curricular offerings and in compliance with the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission, the Department of Nursing has embarked upon a program of outcomes assessment. Students will formally participate in assessment endeavors at numerous times throughout their matriculation at Millersville University. Graduates of the program are required to participate in formal evaluation experiences at one and three years following graduation from the program.

The Department of Nursing considers outcomes assessment to be a vital and significant endeavor and encourages all students and graduates to participate conscientiously in assessment measurements. The following outcomes have been selected for periodic measurement and achievement of Student Learning Outcomes:

- **Professional Development (PD)**: A developmental process that advances both the profession of nursing and the nurse’s own commitment to the profession. It is comprised of four levels:
  - Professional awareness
  - Professional identification
  - Professional maturation
  - Professional mastery

- **Program Satisfaction (PS)**: Fulfillment of a need, want, expectation and/or positive evaluation from constituent groups. May include employers, alumni, and students enrolled in classes and as participants on departmental committees, and advisory board members.

- **Patterns of Employment (PE)**: Number MSN graduates employed and number of graduates (MSN, Post-Master’s Certificate) employed as nurse practitioners or nurse educators within one year of graduation.

- **Graduation Rates (GR)**: The number of students who have been admitted to and graduated from the program and the average length of time from admission to graduation.

- **Certification Exam (CE)**: National certification exam passage by MSN and Post Master’s Certificate FNP graduates and Nursing Education graduates.

Assessment of these outcomes occurs as a part of fulfillment of course requirements at the time of graduation and after graduation, as well as at one and three year intervals. Outcome-based activities/assignments are listed on each course syllabus. In addition, the following standardized measurements are taken:

- Professional Development Self-Assessment Matrix
  - Entrance - NURS 503
  - Exit - Scheduled upon completion of application for graduation
  - One year Alumni Survey

Revised 2014
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS: MSN students take N501, N502, N503, N511, N512, N513, N514, N698 & option core

NURS 501: 3 theory hours/week
Theoretical Foundation of Advanced Practice
This course provides the learner with the opportunity to critically analyze existing nursing theories, change theories, learning theories and systems theory. Emphasis is on expanding knowledge of theories and their application to advanced nursing practice. Offered Fall.

NURS 502: 3 theory hours/week
Research Methodology
Advanced research in nursing builds on previous knowledge of research and statistics to develop a research-oriented approach to practice. The learner will analyze methods and techniques of research and interpret their usefulness for application in practice. Theory and practice will be used in defining nursing problems and in development of a research proposal. Offered Spring. Prereq/Coreq: NURS 501

NURS 503: 3 theory hours/week
Advanced Practice Professional Issues and Health Policy
This course will provide an in-depth analysis of the issues impacting the practice of advanced nursing by focusing on the historical, social and political forces which impact advanced nursing practice. The advanced nurse’s roles and responsibilities in understanding and shaping health policy are considered. Offered Fall.

NURS 504: 3 theory hours/week; ONLINE
Nursing Informatics and Healthcare Technology
Discussion of the ways in which information and technology influence practice and decision-making in various aspects and specialties of nursing practice, such as clinical, education, leadership and research, is the major focus of the course. Advances in technology that support and enhance the delivery of care and interdisciplinary communication are addressed. The legal, ethical, cultural, economic and social factors affecting healthcare information technology are also explored. Offered summer only.

NURS 511: 3 theory hours/week
Pathophysiology for Advanced Practice
Advanced physiology and pathophysiology at the cellular, organic and systemic level will be the focus of this course. Interdependence of organ systems in health and disease will be emphasized as a basis for clinical assessment and management. Offered Spring.

NURS 512: 2 theory hours; 3 lab hours/week
Health Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation for Advanced Nursing Practice
This clinical course provides the framework for diagnosis and clinical decision making for the advanced practice nurse. Assessment skills and procedures for individuals across the life cycle will be developed. Information gathered in the assessment process will provide a basis for the evaluation of the health status of individuals. An analysis of an individual's response to wellness and illness will include examination of concepts of cultural influences, health seeking behaviors, and stress and adaptation. Offered Fall.
**NURS 513**: 3 theory hours/week  
**Pharmacology and Alternative Therapeutics in Nursing Practice**  
Principles of pharmacology are applied to the therapeutic management of the individual and the family. Emphasis is placed on prescribing and monitoring pharmacology and alternative therapeutic regimens. Adverse drug reactions and multiple drug interactions are included.  
*Prereq: N511. Offered Fall.*  

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**CORE FAMILY (INDIVIDUAL ACROSS THE LIFESPAN) NURSE PRACTITIONER COURSES**

**NURS 521**: 3 theory hours; 16 clinical hours/week  
**Clinical Management of the Young Family**  
This course provides the family nurse practitioner student with the necessary knowledge and clinical experience to assist young families with health promotion and chronic and acute health problems. The biophysical, cognitive, and psychosocial development of members of the young family is explored. A focus on women's health issues is incorporated in the course content. The role of the family (Individual Across the Lifespan) nurse practitioner in caring for the young family is identified.  
*Offered spring.*  
*Prereq: NURS 501, 502, 503, 511, 512, 513*

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**NURS 522**: 3 theory hours; 16 clinical hours/week  
**Clinical Management of the Mature and Aging Families**  
This course provides the family (Individual Across the Lifespan) nurse practitioner student with the necessary knowledge and clinical experience to assist mature and aging families with health promotion and chronic and acute health problems. The biophysical, cognitive, and psychosocial development of members of the mature and aging families is explored. A focus on women's health issues is incorporated in the course content. The role of the family (Individual Across the Lifespan) nurse practitioner in caring for the mature and aging families is identified.  
*Offered Fall.*  
*Prereq: NURS 521*

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**NURS 523**: 1 theory hour; 16 clinical hours/week  
**Family (Individual Across the Lifespan) Nurse Practitioner Internship**  
This course provides an opportunity to integrate theory and practice through an intensive internship experience. Focus is on the domains and competencies of the nurse practitioner as direct provider of primary health care. Biweekly seminars will be conducted to discuss current topics. The student will be guided in the practicum by nursing practitioners and physician preceptors in a variety of settings.  
*Offered Spring.*  
*Prereq: 522*

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**CORE NURSING EDUCATION COURSES**

**NURS 630** 3 Credits (3 theory hours/week) 100% ONLINE  
**Effective Teaching: Theories and Methods in Nursing Education**  
Educational theories and methods are explored in this course. The advantages and challenges of technology-based teaching and learning are presented. Past and future trends in education...
are discussed. Theory and research findings about the learning process, the nature of the learner and the goals of instruction are discussed. Offered Fall.

**NURS 631** 3 Credits (3 theory hours/week) 100% ONLINE
**Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education**
This course introduces the student to the concepts of measurement and evaluation. Techniques in designing instructional objectives and test items are developed. Grading methods and test analysis are explored. The purpose of program evaluation is emphasized. Offered Summer.

**NURS 632** 3 Credits (3 theory hours/week) 100% ONLINE
**Nursing Curriculum and Program Design**
This course focuses on curriculum foundations, principles, and issues. Synthesis of knowledge is attained by development of a curriculum/program project. Offered Spring.

**NURS 633** 3 Credits (1 theory hour ONLINE; 8 clinical hours/week)
**Nursing Education Internship**
This course provides an opportunity to integrate theory and practice through an intensive internship experience. Focus is on the role of the nurse educator and the learning environment. Seminars will be conducted to discuss current topics related to nursing education. The students will be guided in the internship by nurses who are nurse educators. Offered Spring.

*Prereq: N630, N631, N632*

**Scholarly Project Required of Both Options for MSN**

**NURS 698:** 3 s.h.
**Scholarly Project**
Scholarly project is intended to be innovative, scholarly and relevant to advanced nursing practice. It is completed under the supervision of an individual faculty member. Offered Spring.

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<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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### MSN PROGRAM
**FAMILY (INDIVIDUAL ACROSS THE LIFESPAN) NURSE PRACTITIONER**

#### POST-MASTER’S CERTIFICATE

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The Post-Master’s Certificate Option is designed to provide individuals who already hold a Master of Science in Nursing degree with the core courses and clinical experiences necessary for eligibility for family nurse practitioner certification. Selected courses from a previous MSN program may meet requirements for the Post-Master’s Family (Individual Across the Lifespan) Nurse Practitioner Certificate.
## FAMILY (INDIVIDUAL ACROSS THE LIFESPAN) NURSE PRACTITIONER
### SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING

#### PART-TIME STUDENT

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<td>N 513: Pharmacology (3)</td>
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# MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING
## NURSING EDUCATION

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<td>Nursing Curriculum &amp; Program Design</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N 633</td>
<td>Nursing Education Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N 698</td>
<td>Scholarly Project</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>36</strong></td>
<td><strong>495</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>112</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### MSN PROGRAM
**NURSING EDUCATION OPTION**
**SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCING**

#### Part-time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
<th>SUMMER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N501 Theories (3)</td>
<td>N502 Research (3)</td>
<td>N514 Family (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>N 503 Issues (3)</td>
<td>N511 Pathophys (3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Year 2 | N 512 Health Assessment (3) | N630 Effective Teaching (3) | N632 Curr/Design (3) |
|        | N631 Meas/Eval (3)          |                           |                      |

| Year 3 | N 513 (Pharmacology) (3) | N633 Internship (3)       | N698 Scholarly Project (3) |
|        |                          |                          |                          |

* Subject to change based on student enrollments and faculty schedules.

Approved by DON Curriculum Committee March 20, 2008
Approved by DON Faculty Committee April 15, 2008

#### MSN PROGRAM
**NURSING EDUCATION CERTIFICATE OPTION – POST-MASTERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Student Credits</th>
<th>Theory Hours</th>
<th>Total Theory Hours</th>
<th>Clinical Hours/Week</th>
<th>Total Clinical Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N 502</td>
<td>Research Methodology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N504</td>
<td>Nursing Informatics and Healthcare Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N 630</td>
<td>Effective Teaching: Theories &amp; Methods in Nursing Education</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N 631</td>
<td>Measurement &amp; Evaluation in Nursing Education</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N 632</td>
<td>Nursing Curriculum &amp; Program Design</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N 633</td>
<td>Nursing Education Internship</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total credits for Post Master’s certificate =18.
INTRODUCTION: This section of the handbook provides information on specific policies regarding the nursing major and other sources for information about general academic policies of particular interest to the nursing student.

ADMISSION POLICIES

General Information on Admission
Admission information may be found in the Graduate Catalog (http://www.millersville.edu/~gcatalog/)

Registered Nurse Licensure Policy**
Students must present evidence of current licensure as a Registered Nurse in Pennsylvania.

** IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN A CURRENT FILE OF PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION IN THE NURSING DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

PROGRESSION POLICIES

General Information
There are many general University policies that are important to registered nurses enrolled in the nursing programs. All of them cannot be addressed in this handbook. Please refer to the University Catalog: http://www.millersville.edu/~gcatalog/ or to the Millersville University Student Handbook for these policies: www.millersville.edu/~handbook

Grading Policy
The grading policy at Millersville University is determined by each faculty member; however, the nursing faculty has agreed on the following graduate program scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
<th>QUALITY POINT EQUIVALENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduate degree students are required to maintain a B grade average. A student who fails to meet the scholarship requirements may be dismissed from the program. If a student falls below a 3.0 average, he/she will be placed on academic probation. Failure to raise the grade average
will result in dismissal from graduate studies at Millersville University. (Summer is considered a semester.) Graduate students, who earn two grades of C+, C, or C-, or any combination thereof, will receive an academic warning, regardless of GPA. This includes any courses which have been repeated and replaced with a higher grade. A C+, C, or C- grade earned at Millersville University may not be made up at another institution of higher learning for the same course.

**Grading Policy for the Courses with Clinical components**

- Students must pass both the laboratory/clinical component as well as the didactic portion of the course to receive a passing grade for NURS 512, NURS 521, NURS 522, NURS 523, and NURS 633
- Students who fail the clinical component of any of the above course will fail the course. A failure of the clinical component will result in immediate course failure
- Students who demonstrate impairment behaviors and/or for whom a report of impairment behaviors is received from a clinical site will be dismissed from the clinical area and will fail the clinical component of the course and consequently, will fail the course.

**Guidelines for failure of clinical** will be based on the following criteria:

- Preceptor identification of a “fail” on any of the clinical outcomes/competencies
- Preceptor and/or faculty identification of unsafe or incompetent care in the clinical setting

Upon report/receipt of any of the above, the faculty supervisor and preceptor will discuss the issuance of a “fail” on the clinical evaluation tool. The MU faculty member will make the final decision on failure of the clinical component of the course.

**Procedure to Request for Off-Campus Course**

Once admitted to the MSN program, permission of the graduate coordinator, Department of Nursing Curriculum Committee, and the Graduate Studies Dean is required to take a course off campus. Unless permission is granted form the Dean’s Office before registering at another college, credit will not be accepted. Students must have permission before starting the off-campus course. Submit the Request for Transfer of Credit Back to MU form (found at http://www.millersville.edu/gps/studentlife/formscenter.php), along with the following information, to the Department of Nursing Curriculum Committee(Chair) no later than March 30th for summer/fall course or by October 30th for a spring course:

1. A request to the Chair, DON Curriculum Committee identifying the course to be transferred and its equivalent MU nursing course. This request must consist of a compelling justification for taking the course off-campus.
2. A current syllabus of the transfer course, including a course description, course faculty, course and/or clinical objectives, method of evaluation, outline of course content, and title and author of instructional text(s); and the method of course delivery (for example online, face-to-face or blended).

Upon completion of the course off-campus, it is the responsibility of the student to have the official transcripts submitted to the Graduate office.
**Attendance Policy**
Students are expected to attend all classes. It is the student’s responsibility to complete all course requirements even if a class is missed. If a student misses class for an officially excused reason, then he/she is entitled to make up the missed work, but only at the convenience of the faculty member. Responsibility for material presented in, assignments made for, and tests/quizzes given in regularly scheduled classes, lies solely with the student.

The University policy is that faculty will excuse absences for the following reasons:
- personal illness,
- death or critical illness in the family,
- participation in a University-sponsored activity,
- jury duty,
- military duties, or
- religious holidays.

Faculty judge the validity of student absences from class within the University’s approved guidelines and may require documentation for excused absences. Faculty will evaluate any reason, other than those listed above, for a student missing class and determine whether the absence is justified. In these circumstances, a student may make up missed work at the discretion of the instructor. Any unauthorized absence from a class can result in a final grade of ‘F’.

**Email**
Only email originating from a Millersville account will be acknowledged by faculty.

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES**
While electronic devices have become an important part of our lives, these devices can be significant distractions in the classroom. The Department of Nursing recognizes the value of taking notes on such devices and even periodically looking up information to share with the class. However, use of phones, tablets, laptops for non-academic purposes in the classroom is not acceptable. Texting, game play, emailing, etc during class is prohibited. Further, in the event a student is using an electronic device to take notes in class, it is under the purview of the faculty member to request an emailed copy of these notes within 10 minutes of the completion of class. If the faculty member deems the quantity of notes is not congruent with the volume of typing/screen attention of the student, the student will not be permitted to use electronic devices to take notes in the future.

**Graduate Programs Written Assignments**
Students must obtain and use the 6th edition of the American Psychological Association’s Style Manual in completing ALL written assignments.

Please use great care when completing any written assignment. This includes literature review papers, research papers, scholarly projects, case studies, on-line assignment, and any other material composed for completion of course work.

**PLAGIARISM** is defined as the act of using or closely imitating the written words of another source or individual without permission or citation. Student work will be submitted to TurnItIn
(a plagiarism detection program). Any incidence of plagiarism may result in a grade of 0 for the assignment and may result in a failing grade for the course. Check course syllabus. All appropriate University policies related to cheating and academic dishonesty will be followed. See *Millersville University Graduate Studies Catalog* for disciplinary action as provided in the *Student Code of Conduct*.

**Academic Honesty/Dishonesty Policy and Student Code of Conduct**
Please review the “Academic Honesty/Dishonesty Policy” in the MU Graduate Catalog (p.21-22) as well as the “Student Code of Conduct” in the MU Student Handbook.

**Appeal of Department Policies**
Students who have a problem with a department policy may petition the department, through their advisor, for consideration of their concern at the Department of Nursing meeting.

**Graduate Nursing Bulletin Board**
This is located in the hallway of the Nursing Department in Caputo Hall. It is the student’s responsibility to check this board frequently. Communication from the department and other nursing students is mainly through notices placed on this bulletin board.

**Millersville University Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International**
Xi Chi Chapter membership will be open to qualified graduate nursing students. Students are invited to join February based on their academic record. Induction is in April.

**Graduate Assistantships**
The graduate assistantship in nursing is designed for highly motivated individuals who have a desire for engaging in teaching and research. Students should have good-to-excellent physical assessment skills and well-developed computer skills. Students can apply for an assistantship through the Office of Graduate Studies.

**MSN Graduate Pins**
Graduate students may purchase a MSN Pin.(see bulletin board) For more information please contact Darlene Hunsberger at 872.3268 or email dhunsberger@ssi.millersville.edu or visit the MU Bookstore to order a MSN MU pin.

**Change of Name, Address, and Telephone Number**
The student must complete the Name or Address Change Form in order to officially change his/her name, address or telephone number. The Name or Address Change Form is also available in the Registrar’s Office. The student must also notify the Department of Nursing secretary (872-3410) if there is a change of name, address, or telephone number. The student’s timely completion of the form and notification of the Department of Nursing office will insure ongoing communication from the University and the Department of Nursing with the student.

**Graduation Policy**
Students who plan to graduate at the end of any semester must complete an application for graduation which can be found at
http://www.millersville.edu/commencement/gradapplication.pdf by the deadline printed in the registration information each semester. A $30 graduation fee is charged. A student who applies for graduation but does not complete degree requirements by the anticipated date must reapply in the semester when he/she does expect to graduate. Students are billed by the bursar for the graduation fee. Additional details and appropriate forms are available on the Millersville commencement web page at http://www.millersville.edu/commencement/.

**Post Master’s Certificate** students in the PM-FNP or PM-NE must complete the application for certificate completion and submit to the department secretary in the beginning of their last semester. Forms can be found in the Department of Nursing.

**Outcomes Assessment**
Students must complete all outcomes assessment requirements established by the Department (p.6).

**Alumni Services**
At intervals of one and three year’s post-graduation, alumni will receive a survey which they will be asked to complete. The surveys will evaluate student satisfaction with the nursing program and subsequent personal and professional development. The surveys are used to evaluate and modify the nursing program in order to better meet the needs of the students and the community. Therefore, it is extremely important for alumni to return their surveys in a timely manner. Please be sure to update a change of address and/or e-mail with Alumni Services.

**Graduate Program Advisement**
The Nursing Department views the http://www.millersville.edu/advisement/manual/index.php advisee/advisor relationship as a critical aspect of graduate education and preparation. The graduate students in MSN-FNP or PM-FNP are advised by Dr. Deborah Castellucci and Dr. Ruth Davis. Dr. Kuhns advises all MSN-NUED and PM NUED students.

Your advisor is your primary contact with the Nursing Department. You are strongly encouraged to develop a close working relationship with your advisor. Areas for discussion include, but are not limited to: course selection, adjustment to graduate life, deficiencies in preparation, clinical competency, and administrative affairs. Advisor list posted on board outside Caputo 128.

Each graduate student MUST meet with your advisor at least once a semester to discuss academic work and course selection. Office hours are planned around the graduate student’s class schedule, and should be ample to meet the needs of all students. Occasionally, these times and days may not be convenient to the needs of the student. Each student is encouraged to make an appointment to discuss issues of a critical nature or that need an extended period of time to resolve. Last, the graduate student is encouraged to make use of the vast number of resources that each member of the Nursing Department has available.

**Degree Candidacy**
Degree Candidacy is an opportunity for the graduate student to insure his/her progress within the graduate program. This process is initiated by the graduate office through the DON graduate program coordinator.
Course Evaluation

The Master’s of Science in Nursing degree, with preparation as a Family (Individual Across the Lifespan) Nurse Practitioner or Nursing Educator, is scholarly and clinical in focus. Scholarly development includes appreciation of and review of pertinent current research and topic development. Appreciation of research is a vital component of the graduate program.

The clinical component is meant to aid the student in the development of new skills, refinement of established skills, as well as to help the student identify areas of learning needs. The clinical component also aids the student in formulating and developing a new clinical role, that of the family (Individual Across the Lifespan) nurse practitioner or nurse educator. Although the clinical component enables the student to satisfy clinical outcomes of the curriculum, the student should not feel that a “finished product” is the result of the completion of the program. As the role of the advanced practice nurse is a challenging one, students will discover that role development and skill competency continues after graduation.

Graduate education is a critical component of developing professionalism. Although the student is entitled to the highest quality education that the faculty can provide, the sole responsibility for the preparation rests with the student. This preparation includes, but it not limited to, arriving at class with a substantial understanding of class readings, investigation of current literature and research, and review of deficit areas of knowledge. The student should plan on spending a minimum of three (3) hours per week per credit hour reading and researching topics for class. For example, a three credit course should entail a minimum of 9 hours of preparation per week.

Grades are awarded based on the student’s performance in the course. Of the courses to be completed toward to Master’s of Science in Nursing, several contain a clinical component. For these courses, the theory grade in addition to the clinical (Pass/Fail) comprises the final grade of the course.

Self-evaluation

Self-evaluation is a critical way for students to gain information about self-growth. The student will be asked to perform self-evaluations throughout the graduate program. These written self-evaluations are used in conjunction with other forms of evaluation in many courses. Important, the student should view self-evaluation as a way to gain insight into strengths, limitations and areas of improvement.

Ethical Responsibilities

The graduate student will be assigned to a clinical area that is deemed to provide the student with a valid learning experience. It is the responsibility of the student at all times to act in a professionally prescribed manner during interactions with preceptors, personnel, and clients. Importantly, no discriminatory, judgmental, and racist remarks or behaviors targeted towards any individual will be tolerated by the faculty. This pertains to persons who belong to various ethnic or cultural groups as well as persons belonging to various socio-economic groups. The student is strongly urged by the Professional Mandates of the State Board of Nursing of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for pertinent professional behaviors. Any student who cannot understand or behave in a non-discriminatory manner is subject to dismissal of the program.
**Equipment for Clinical Courses**

Students will be responsible for obtaining their own clinical equipment. The following list contains the most important materials the student may wish to obtain. This equipment will be necessary before NURS 512 begins:

- a good stethoscope
- lab-coat
- reflex hammer
- pen-light
- caliper for reading EKG
- small ruler (marked in mm and cm)
- medical measuring tape

**INFORMATION RELATED TO CLINICAL PRACTICE**

All clinical agencies require that students show evidence of the credentials listed below prior to participating in a clinical experience. Students must submit the credentialing documents prior to the start of a course containing a laboratory (NURS 512) or clinical experience takes place, and every year thereafter in the program. A record of these credentials will be maintained in the student’s file in the Department Office. **NO STUDENT WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CLINICAL AREA WITHOUT CURRENT RECORDS ON FILE.**

The Graduate courses containing a clinical or clinical lab component are NURS, 512, 521, 522, 523, 633. Therefore, all of the following credentials must be validated and on file in the Nursing Department office for all students enrolled in the above named courses. Students are encouraged to keep a file of their own records and to note expiration dates. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of the active, current status of their file of credentials, and to submit updated professional information to the Department of Nursing office. Forms may be obtained from the secretary at any time.

Clinical rotation and fieldwork sites may require a drug screening in order to permit participation in the clinical experience, rotation, or fieldwork. Millersville University Department of Nursing requires credentials including background checks, and drug screening (if required by clinical site) for completion of all required clinical coursework in a degree or certificate program for graduation. Individuals who have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor may be denied certification or licensure as a health professional. All nursing programs have some coursework that involves patient contact. Due to this contact, all students, prior to practicing in any health care facility interfacing with any patients individually or collectively for a course, will need to have all of the required credentials on file with the Department.

The following are the minimum requirements needed for participation in clinical or laboratory experiences, to be provided to the Department for N512 Health Assessment:

**Clinical Credentials:**

1. Current Pennsylvania RN license
2. Malpractice Insurance Limits: $1,000,000 / $3,000,000 aggregate (FNP option students need to obtain the Nurse Practitioner student malpractice insurance; NUED option students need general RN malpractice).

3. Current yearly Statement of Health ("Infectious Disease Summary") which includes:
   a. Positive antibody titre to rubella or record of current immunization to MMR
   b. Positive antibody titre to rubeola or record of current immunization to MMR
   c. Statement of current varicella exposure status either by confirmed diagnosis or antibody laboratory screen
   d. Current immunization to Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio, and Hepatitis B*
   e. TB test by mantoux within one year of matriculation. If positive, a copy of x-ray and documented treatment is required.
   f. Signature of Physician/NP acknowledging examination and no health risks.
   * If Hepatitis B is declined, you must sign a waiver form (see nursing home page “resources” for form).

4. Current CPR Certification for the Health Care Provider, i.e., American Heart Assoc. - Basic Life Support (BLS) or American Red Cross - CPR/AED Professional Rescuer.

5. Background checks (see “Background Check Instructions” in this handbook). Recent legislation and policy changes of partnering clinical agencies aimed at protecting the public have made it necessary to require a full background check for all individuals applying for admission to Millersville University nursing programs* to be updated yearly. This background check includes:
   - PA Act 34: Child Abuse Clearance
   - PA Act 151: Criminal Background History Check
   - Act 114: Federal fingerprinting process
   * Violations identified through the Child Abuse Clearance, Criminal Background History Check and fingerprinting process will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by PASSHE legal counsel initiated by the Department of Nursing.

6. Some agencies are requiring flu shots of not only employees but also students. Please check with your clinical agency.

   The costs for all components of the background check process are the responsibility of the applicant or student. Please see “Applying for Background Checks” page.

Nursing file:
1. Release of Information form (signed by student)
2. Important Information form (signed by student)

Clinical Laboratory Policies
1. The following courses: N521, N522, N523, N633 have a clinical component. These clinical hours DO NOT begin until after the first class meeting. NURS 512 has a lab component which does NOT meet the first week. Students should report at the scheduled lecture times.

2. Clinical Experiences
   a. Students will be assigned to a variety of agencies for clinical experience.
b. Students must provide their own transportation.

c. Students must wear MU ID with credentials at all times.

d. The university will provide necessary physical assessment equipment.

e. Students must be at the agency **ten minutes before scheduled time.**

f. If a student cannot keep assigned clinical time at an agency, the agency and instructor must be notified immediately. The instructor will determine whether missed experiences must be made up.

g. Students are to wear appropriate dress to clinical experience. Jeans are not allowed. No uniforms are required. Some agencies may request a lab coat. Long hair should be pulled back. No body piercings. Men should wear a shirt & tie (and shave).

3. **Name Tags are your MU ID badges:**
   ID badges are required for all clinical nursing courses. We provide holders.

   Example: Sally Doe, BSN, RN

4. **Equipment Use Policy**
   Students will be held responsible for the damage and/or loss of any University owned equipment, which they borrow for use during a semester. Students using University owned equipment are required to sign a form for this equipment. When the equipment and videotapes are returned, it is the responsibility of the borrower to notify the faculty member from whom they borrowed the equipment. All equipment and videotapes need to be returned by the end of the semester for inventory.

5. **Universal Precautions**
   Students are responsible for becoming familiar with and using universal precautions at the clinical agencies in which they are assigned.


6. **Clinical Placements**
   Students will not be assigned to the particular unit in which they are employed within an institution. Students are responsible for completing any application and/or orientation materials required by clinical agencies to which they have been assigned.

7. **Nursing Service Regulations**
   Students shall be subject to the rules and policies of the Nursing Service Department of the agency in relation to client care.

8. **Grading Policy for the Courses with Clinical components**
   - Students must **pass both the laboratory/clinical component** as well as the didactic portion of the course **to receive a passing grade** for NURS 512, NURS 521, NURS 522, NURS 523, and NURS 633
   - Students who fail the clinical component of any of the above course will fail the course. A failure of the clinical component will result in **immediate** course failure.
Students who demonstrate impairment behaviors and/or for whom a report of impairment behaviors is received from a clinical site will be dismissed from the clinical area and will fail the clinical component of the course and consequently, will fail the course. The State Board of Nursing requirements for reporting suspected impaired behavior will be followed.

Guidelines for failure of clinical will be based on the following criteria:

- Preceptor identification of a “fail” on any of the clinical outcomes/competencies
- Preceptor and/or faculty identification of unsafe or incompetent care in the clinical setting

Upon report/receipt of any of the above, the faculty supervisor and preceptor will discuss the issuance of a “fail” on the clinical evaluation tool. The MU faculty member will make the final decision on failure of the clinical component of the course.

9. Alternate Clinical Time

Students may not function in a clinical facility on a day or at a time other than planned for clinical experience without the permission and knowledge of the nursing faculty and institution.
APPLYING FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS

Please read all instructions carefully

PA STATE CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD (Act 34) – fee $10

To request online with credit card: https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp
- Once you submit all of your information and a screen will come up indicating “no record” or “under review”. If it indicates “no record, you need to click on ‘Certification form’ to obtain the actual clearance. If you see “under review” you will need to wait for the actual clearance to come in the mail
- Processing time – immediate if “no record” or up to 4 weeks if “under review”

To submit a paper form:

From the web site above, click on “help” and select SP4-164 form
- Print legibly in ink, or type
- Requestor – Your name and permanent address
- Requestor identification – check “individual”
- Reason for request – check “other” and list ‘education’
- Fee - $10 money order or certified check, payable to Commonwealth of PA
- Send to PA State Police address on the right near the bottom of the form
- Processing time – up to 4 weeks; if you do not receive your clearance in 4 weeks, call (717) 783-9144

PA CHILD ABUSE HISTORY CLEARANCE (Act 151) – fee $10

To submit, you must complete the form found at http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/Resources/Documents/Pdf/FillInForms/DPWchildabuse.pdf
- Print legibly in ink, or type
- Use your permanent address
- Purpose of clearance – check “school”
- Fee - $10 money order, payable to Department of Public Welfare
- Send to Childline and Abuse Registry address in the upper left of the form
- Processing time – approximately 6 weeks; if you do not receive your clearance after 6 weeks call (717) 783-6211 #5

FEDERAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD (FBI-Act 114) – Enacted, April 2007

Register online at www.pa.cogentid.com or call 1-888-439-2486. M-F, 8 am to 6 pm
- Must register prior to going to the fingerprint site:
  ***Note: upon entering the cogent web site, you will be prompted to choose a state system, choose PA; and also a choice of who you want the clearance from: All degree nursing students would choose DPW.
- Fee – $36 ($2 processing fee for paper copy) credit card online; or money order, paid at the fingerprinting site, payable to Cogent Systems
- Processing time – approximately eight weeks; if longer than eight weeks, call (717) 783-6211 #6
NURSING SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

In February the Department of Nursing faculty selects recipients who meet the criteria for University endowments. These awards are presented at Spring Convocation with the award being available for the following academic year. In order to be considered for such scholarships/awards, a scholarship application and FAFSA must be on file with financial aid. A new form will be required each August to be considered throughout the coming Academic year.

1. **Nursing Department Scholarships**: Funds are available for students demonstrating academic excellence. The following scholarships are available:

   a. The Forty Et Eight Scholarship requires academic potential and demonstrated financial need.

   b. The Margaret K. Shenk Scholarship is available to students who successfully completed two semesters of the nursing degree program. Financial need is considered.

   c. Information regarding the **Lancaster Osteopathic Health Foundation Scholarship**: Applicants must be enrolled in a nursing program at time of application for BSN or MSN, show evidence of financial need by completing a FAFSA form, agree to work in nursing in Lancaster County for each year of scholarship support, and show willingness to speak to high school students and others about careers in nursing and the scholarship program. Essay, references, and face to face interviews for finalists are required. (applications sent January)

2. **Nursing Awards**

   Nursing faculty selects students for awards presented at the annual Honors and Awards Convocation held each spring.

   a. **D. Joan Godfrey Award** - This award is granted to graduating students on the basis of participation in the nursing program along with other campus activities, involvement in the nursing profession, and academic standing.

   b. **Lt. Col. Jo Ann Cashman** - This is awarded annually to a student enrolled in the Nursing curriculum who is in good academic standing. Preference may be given, but is not limited to, students who are in financial need.

   c. **Fontes Health Professions Award (Nursing)** - Selection of the recipients shall be based on overall QPA and QPA in the student’s major area of study while at Millersville University. Consideration shall also be given to letters of recommendation from at least one, and not more than three, faculty members from any department of Millersville University.

Applications must be submitted annually. Forms are available online at [www.millersville.edu/nursing](http://www.millersville.edu/nursing) under “Resources”.  

27
NURS 698 SCHOLARLY PROJECT

The SCHOLARLY project is intended to serve as a culminating scholarly endeavor integrating the theoretical and practical knowledge gained in your advanced nursing practice education.

Students:

1. Make arrangements with an individual faculty person to serve as advisor for N698.

2. Students should meet with faculty in person to discuss the project they envision. This is to ensure that the student’s interest and that of the faculty are consistent in ideology.

3. Obtain the Special Study form from the department secretary for Nurs 698. This form must be completely filled out by the student and signed by the faculty advisor for N 698, and the individual who agrees to serve as the student’s faculty advisor. It then must be forwarded to the Department Chair, who will sign it and forward it to the Dean.

4. Students do NOT have to register for N698 at registration time—completion of the Independent Study form registers you.

5. Students should be able to begin actual work on their projects as directed by their advisor.

NURS 698
SUGGESTIONS FOR PROJECTS

The following projects are to be considered as suggestions only. It is envisioned that the student will be as creative as possible in designing and following through on a project deemed to be scholarly.

A. Needs Assessment:
   A detailed investigation of a clinic, a population, or a community, i.e., to investigate the need for classes on breast cancer. This “survey” can be completed via phone, mail, in person, in the clinic, or in the community. A needs assessment is much like a probability study without any statistical analysis or scientific grounding.

B. Teaching Project:
   This could entail the development of a teaching program for resident physicians, physicians, registered nurses, patients, community individuals, or a “whole community.” It could be an in-depth pursuit of providing knowledge and skills on a particular topic to colleagues or it could be a broad-based approach regarding a significant health concern, in a way that is unique, theory-based, and innovative.

C. Integrative Review:
   Systematic process to analyze the state of current research on a particular topic.

NURS 698: Scholarly Project
Guidelines for Completion of Paper

The following are guidelines only to be used in completion of the paper portion of the Scholarly Project. Please Note: Graduate students should consult with the professor supervising their projects for more detailed information related to specific projects.

Use the American Psychological Association’s (6th ed.) 2010 style manual for the completion of papers. It is critical that the graduate student follow this manual for all style and grammar concerns.
Paper length: As this paper is the written summary of the scholarly project, it is envisioned that the student should complete a minimum of 20+ pages of text [12 pt. Font]. This is in exclusion of the title page, abstract, reference list, and appendices. Students are encouraged to let the project guide the length of the paper. For example, some papers may lend themselves to a length of 20 pages, while others may necessitate 30 or more.

Paper Sections:

1. Title Page: see attached
2. Abstract
3. Body of Paper: Include the following sections:
   I. Introduction:
      Introductory statements/paragraphs regarding the project and/or significance
   II. Literature Review
   III. Methodology [research- needs assessment]
   IV. Findings [research or needs assessment]
   V. Discussion [advance practice focus]
   VI. Summary
4. References
5. Appendices [as needed]: this section should contain any teaching materials developed, tools, patient information handouts, etc.

Students must submit one bound and an electronic copy to the faculty advisor 1-2 weeks prior to presentation. Faculty advisor must have approved the final draft of the paper.

Guidelines for Presentations

All students completing N698 will present their projects at the Scholarly Symposium held in late Spring semester. Students will submit a final, advisor approved abstract by March 1st. The faculty will conduct a blind review of all the abstracts and select 8 graduate students to complete a 15 minute formal oral presentation of their topic. See Guidelines below-p.4

The remaining graduate students will create a large format poster of their NURS 698 projects. The students presenting in the poster session must be prepared to discuss and defend their work during the Scholarly Symposium. The MU Department of Nursing will assist students with printing large format posters. Templates for large format PowerPoint posters can be found online.

- All posters should be on a white background with black print, using color and art only as it adds to the content.
- Faculty advisors will approve all posters before printing to ensure that clip art, etc are used appropriately.
THIS IS THE TITLE

OF THE

PAPER

Presented to the faculty of the

Graduate School of Millersville University

In partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Science in Nursing

By

Mary Susan Jones

May, 2014
Deborah Castellucci, PhD, CRNP-BC:

Research Interests: Post stroke depression among elderly, ethincal issues regarding elder care; impact of urinary incontinence and the use of behavioral interventions to reduce symptomatology.

Areas of Expertise: Elderly population affected by stroke and the resulting effect on autonomy; urinary incontinence and the resulting impact on quality of life in the older population; nursing education.

Professional Interests: Nurse practitioner practice issues; nurse-managed health centers; nursing issues related to elder autonomy.

Ruth E. Davis, D.Ed., RNC, CRNP, NP-C:

Research Interests: Ethnic women’s health beliefs and practices; domestic violence; under-served populations; international health.

Areas of Expertise: Women’s health issues, genetic counseling and testing; global health concerns; adolescent pregnancy; phenomenology; chronic illness; adult education theory; community needs assessment.

Professional Interests: Virology and immunology; infectious diseases, intercollegiate networking; nurse practitioner practice issues.

Kelly Kuhns, PhD, RN:

Research Interests: Online education; interaction in online learning; teaching strategies; nursing professionalism and advocacy.

Areas of Expertise: Adult health; nursing professional/staff development; nursing political advocacy; nursing continuing education; case management.

Professional Interests: Health care reform; genomics; environmental health;

Jenny Monn, MSN, CRNP-BC

Research Interests: Young adult health; health promotion & prevention; education of Prevention & adherence; college student health status; women’s health

Areas of Expertise: Family Nurse Practitioner; college health; women’s health; Professional Interest: college health; women’s reproductive health; patient education

Barbara Zimmerman, PhD, CNS, RN, FNASN:

Research Interests: Education; case study teaching methods; learning styles; critical thinking; rehabilitation; school age youth.

Areas of Expertise: Pediatrics; prematurity in the newborn; school nursing; chronic illness; rehabilitation; coping styles and skills; case management.
Professional Interests: School Nursing- nationally; school age youth health needs; pediatric rehab.

Part-Time Faculty

Margaret Davitt-Harris, PhD, CRNP-BC

Research Interests: Oncology care and education.
Areas of Expertise: Family nurse practitioner; emergency triage; oncology: Oncology teams, transition, program development;
Professional Interests: Health care reform; preventative & health promotion; oncology
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

FULL-TIME FACULTY

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Kelly A. Kuhns, PhD, RN
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B.S.in Nursing, Pennsylvania State University, 1974; M.S.in Nursing, University of Delaware, 1985; PhD, Widener University, 1996.
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TEMPORARY PART-TIME FACULTY

Margaret Davitt-Harris, PhD, CRNP, NP-C
B.S. N, College Misericordia, Dallas, PA, 1977.; M.S.N. University of Pennsylvania, 1980., Adult Health and Illness and Clinical Concentration in Oncology; PM-FNP Penn State University, 1995; PhD, PSU, 2008.

Leslie Dean, MSN, RN

Susan Hopkins, MSN, RN, JD
B.S., Albright College, 1978; M.S.N., University of Pennsylvania, Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing; Juris Doctor, Temple University School of Law, 1989

Andrea S. Petrokonis, MSN, RNC, CRNP

Anne Pryzbylkowski, MSN, CRNP

Cindy Blevins, MSN, CRNP
Bachelor Education, Baptist Bible College East, MA, 1981; ADN, County College of Morris, NJ, 1982; Med, University Delaware, 1988; BSN, Millersville University, 1997; MSN in Adult Cardiopulmonary CNS/NP, University of Delaware, 2000; Post Master’s Family Nurse Practitioner, University of Delaware, 2003.

Kim Wilson, MSN, CRNP
BSN, Millersville University, 1992; MSN, FNP, Millersville University, 2011.
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS A CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONER

Applications for the State Board for designation as a CRNP are submitted to the State Board of Nursing by the student after completion of the program and successful passing of a national certification exam. The importance of the State Board authorized is as follows:

“A graduate of a nurse practitioner program may not practice as a CRNP unless authorized to do so by the Board. Board authorization is equivalent to receipt of a CRNP number. While the CRNP application is pending, the applicant may not be employed as a CRNP.” [Refer to CRNP Rules and Regulations Section 21.261 (b).] www.dos.state.pa.us/nurse

National Certification: Competency-based examinations are offered from The American Nurses’ Association and through the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners in cooperation with the Professional Examination Service.

Graduates of nurse practitioner programs in Pennsylvania are required to sit for and pass a national certification examination before they are permitted to practice as a CRNP in Pennsylvania.

It is the graduate’s responsibility to notify the University of satisfactory completion of the examination.

Review course materials are available for graduates to use in preparation for the examination.

Application for Certification as RNP:
http://www.dos.state.pa.us/bpoa/lib/bpoa/20/nurs_board/scanned_crnlp_application_graduates_of_pa_programs101003.pdf

Application for Prescriptive authority:
http://www.dos.state.pa.us/bpoa/lib/bpoa/20/nurs_board/crnlp_application_for_prescriptive_authority.pdf
GRADUATE PROGRAM: DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
CRITERIA FOR PENNSYLVANIA:
CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONER

It is critically important that the following criteria must be met explicitly in order that your application can be processed by the State. Without the following, your application could take a great deal longer to process.

A National Certification exam (FNP) must be passed before applying to the State.

1. Complete the ANCC or AANP application and order official MU transcripts from Registrar’s Office. Sealed transcripts and fee are required along with the ANCC or AANP-FNP application for certification exam.

2. In addition to the above, order an initial verification form online from www.nursecredentialing.org/cert/verify1.html This allows for verification of your successful completion to be submitted to the PA State Board.

3. When you receive your certification number from ANCC, submit both the application to the State Board for PA CRNP certification (make sure you complete question #9) and the Verification of Advanced Pharmacology.

   • Your name on your RN license and your name on the CRNP application must match exactly. If you have changed your name since the last renewal of your license, you need to make sure that the State has this information.

   • Your address on the application and your address that the State currently holds for the RN license must be the same.

   • You must have a current PA license. If you have not sent in your renewal, the CRNP cannot be granted.

   • No application can be sent to the State without the application fee. Please make the check out to the Commonwealth of PA.

   • No application can be sent before the program has been completed. No exceptions can be made, as this is an offense prosecutable by the State.

   • You are responsible for mailing the completed CRNP form to the State with a check for the amount requested.

4. When PA State Board receives all your information and reviews same, they will send you confirmation and your CRNP licensure.
MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Important Student links:

Millersville University Mission Statement
http://www.millersville.edu/about/administration/missionstatement.php

Academic Honest/Dishonesty Policy

Student Code of Conduct
http://www.millersville.edu/studentaffairs/files/StudentCodeConduct.pdf

Student Handbook (University)
http://www.millersville.edu/~handbook/

Services available to students
http://www.millersville.edu/~handbook/services.php
http://www.millersville.edu/~handbook/cservices.php

Campus map and directions
http://www.millersville.edu/directions/
http://www.millersville.edu/directions/files/CampusMap3.08.pdf

MU Alert – Emergency procedure:
https://mualert.millersville.edu/index.php?CCheck=1

Emergency Response Guide
http://www.millersville.edu/hr/ehs/ehs%20forms/Emergency_Communication_At_MU_Brochure.pdf
http://www.millersville.edu/hr/ehs/ehs%20forms/Emergency_Procedures_Card_Yellow.pdf

Graduate Catalog
http://www.millersville.edu/~gcatalog/

Sigma Theta Tau International, Xi Chi Chapter (site and bylaws)
http://www.millersville.edu/~xichi/
http://www.millersville.edu/~xichi/blaws.html

MU Student forms:
http://www.millersville.edu/gps/graduatestudentresources/formscenter.php

Including, but not limited to:
Add/Drop form
Address Update/Emergency contact
Exception to Graduation Requirements
Leave of Absence
Permission to Enroll........
Transcript Request
Withdrawal from class/MU

Nurse Practitioners of Central Pennsylvania Membership Application
http://www.npcp.org/index.html