

Undergraduate Student Handbook

2025-2026 Academic Year

Processes and guidelines may be revised or updated as needed to meet program needs. Students may be notified via: UVU email, U.S. Mail, in-person announcements, postings in the Department of Nursing, on the Nursing Department webpage, or in the current Learning Management System. See section *Disseminating Program Information to Students*.

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Utah Valley University Information

UVU Mission

Utah Valley University is an integrated university and community college that educates every student for success in work and life through excellence in engaged teaching, services, and scholarship.

UVU Values

UVU's culture supports our mission of student success. Student success encompasses both terminal degrees and the holistic education of students, and we believe that we can fulfill this mission best in an environment that allows all individuals to thrive personally and professionally. To this end, UVU operates in accordance with three core values: exceptional care, exceptional accountability, and exceptional results.

Exceptional Care

We invite people to "come as you are" and let them know that "UVU has a place for you." Care means that we strive always to "see" the person in front of us—their strengths and weaknesses, struggles and triumphs, past and potential, and inherent dignity and worth. This does not mean that we set low expectations or make excuses for poor efforts. Instead, our commitment to exceptional care means that we set the bar high and provide challenging, honest conversations and feedback because we are deeply invested in seeing every member of our community succeed.

Exceptional Accountability

We are strongly committed to working ethically and effectively. We approach each situation from a position of integrity, knowing that everything we do can help or hinder a positive student experience. We honor the resources and mandates we have been entrusted with and strive always to do our best to honor that trust. We respect each member of our community, seek to understand and fulfill our responsibilities, and recognize both individual and collective successes.

Exceptional Results

We are committed to creating opportunity systematically for as many people as possible. Our engaged curricula, programs, and partnerships address the intellectual and practical needs of our service area and the larger community. We seek to prepare our students to thrive in a rapidly changing economy and an interdependent, complex world. We aspire to greatness in all that we do, while also measuring progress against rigorous metrics that show our students are becoming competent and ethical professionals, lifelong learners, and engaged citizens.

UVU Vision

UVU will be students' first choice for accessible, relevant, high-quality education.

We believe every individual has unlimited potential and deserves the transforming benefits of a high-quality education. Student success is at the heart of UVU's mission. UVU meets and supports students where they are, welcoming all who seek learning at every level of preparation through individualized, flexible programs and services. Priority initiatives follow:

Include:

- Increase accessibility to and flexibility of education through a coordinated physical and digital presence
- Strengthen campus inclusivity and grow the enrollment and completion rate of historically underrepresented students
- Sustain our commitment to affordability, value, and return on investment

Engage:

- Expand engaged learning and community engagement opportunities for students, faculty, and staff
- Enhance engagement with community and industry to meet workforce needs and improve student job- and life-readiness
- Strengthen the foundation for ongoing giving, support, and engagement for UVU's students, programs, and priorities

Achieve:

- Increase completion through comprehensively designed, stackable curricula, and appropriate credit for prior learning (CPL)
- Support completion through excellence in teaching, scholarship, and creative activities

• Improve completion through seamless processes, comprehensive services, and excellent staff Reference: <u>Vision 2030 | Utah Valley University (uvu.edu)</u>; <u>https://www.uvu.edu/vision2030/include.html</u>

UVU Essential Student Learning Outcomes

The Essential Learning Outcomes (ELOs) are a comprehensive set of learning goals that are fostered and developed across a student's educational experience at UVU. They reflect the foundational skills and competencies needed to meet the challenges of an ever-changing and complex world. The ELOs are introduced in General Education (GE) courses and then reinforced and expanded in Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and Course Learning Objectives (CLOs).

Communication: Communicate facts and ideas.

To demonstrate competence in communication, students will appraise the needs of their audience; use sound evidence and reasoning in constructing arguments; and clearly and effectively communicate.

Critical Thinking: Analyze ideas, information, and problems.

To demonstrate competence in critical thinking, students will question assumptions; evaluate ideas and problems in a systematic way; and appraise arguments for importance, logic, relevance, and strength.

Digital Literacy: Use digital technologies.

To demonstrate competence in digital literacy, students will leverage digital technologies to accomplish goals; engage effectively and ethically in a digital environment; and adapt to new and emerging technologies.

Ethical Reasoning: Recognize and consider the ethical dimension of behavior.

To demonstrate competence in ethical reasoning, students will apply ethical principles and approaches; consider alternative courses of action and consequences; and evaluate and articulate their own ethical values.

Inclusion: Understand and apply the principles of diversity, inclusion, and equity.

To demonstrate competence in inclusion, students will show cultural understanding; recognize issues of diversity, inclusion, and equity; and understand the importance of creating diverse and inclusive environments for all.

Information Literacy: Collect, evaluate, organize, and use information.

To demonstrate competence in information literacy, students will find appropriate information to address need; evaluate it for relevance and validity; and use it to draw conclusions and generate solutions.

Quantitative Literacy: Understand and work with numbers.

To demonstrate competence in quantitative literacy, students will solve problems using basic calculations; make judgements about and draw conclusions from quantitative evidence; and use quantitative strategies to support a position.

Scientific Literacy: Understand scientific concepts and methods.

To demonstrate competence in scientific literacy, students will have a basic understanding of major scientific concepts and methods; apply scientific knowledge to daily life; and express scientifically informed positions.

The full document of essential learning outcomes can be found at: <u>https://www.uvu.edu/gened/docs/ushe-uvu-essential-learning-outcomes.pdf</u>

Nursing Accreditation Endorsement

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)

Mission: The ACEN supports the interests of nursing education, nursing practice, and the public by the functions of accreditation. Accreditation is a voluntary, self-regulatory process by which non-governmental associations recognize educational institutions or programs that have been found to meet or exceed standards and criteria for educational quality. Accreditation also assists in the further improvement of the institutions or programs as related to resources invested, processes followed, and results achieved. The monitoring of certificate, diploma, and degree offerings is tied closely to state examination and licensing rules, and to the oversight of preparation for work in the profession.

Purpose: The purpose of the ACEN is to provide specialized accreditation for all types of nursing programs, including clinical doctorate, master's/post-master's certificate, baccalaureate, associate, diploma, and practical nursing programs. The ACEN accredits nursing programs in secondary, postsecondary, and hospital-based governing organizations that offer certificates, diplomas, or degrees.

Goals: The goals of the ACEN are to:

- Promulgate a common core of standards and criteria for the accreditation of nursing education programs.
- Strengthen educational quality through assistance to associated nursing education units by evaluation processes, functions, publications, and research.
- Advocate self-regulation in nursing education.
- Promote peer review.
- Foster educational equity, access, opportunity, mobility, and preparation for employment based upon type of nursing education.
- Serve as gatekeeper to Title IV-HEA programs for which the ACEN is the accrediting agency. (These include some practical nursing and all hospital-based diploma programs eligible to participate in programs administered by the United States Department of Education or other federal agencies.)

ACEN Contact Information

3390 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 1400

Atlanta, GA 30326 Phone: (404) 975-5000

Students with Accessibility Needs

Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 require that reasonable and appropriate accommodation be made for all individuals with disabilities in accessing an education. To be eligible for such accommodation at UVU, students are responsible to provide relevant medical and/or psychological evidence of their disabilities. This documentation is kept by the UVU Accessibility Services Office, and appropriate accommodations should be arranged in coordination and consultation with that office.

Faculty members should provide information to students (preferably via class syllabi) regarding students' rights to access appropriate accommodations.

"Students needing accommodations due to a disability including temporary and pregnancy accommodations may contact the UVU <u>Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu</u> or 801-863-8747. Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in LC 312. Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers should contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted <u>at DHHservices@uvu.edu</u>. DHH is located on the Orem Campus in LC 312." <u>https://www.uvu.edu/accessibility-services/</u>

Student Code of Conduct

Students are expected to know and uphold their rights and responsibilities as UVU students. For more information: <u>https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/5bedd0ef7b23736d542192e3</u>

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs

Utah Valley University is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students and employees. UVU's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program (DAAPP) seeks to provide students and employees support regarding the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol.

UVU maintains an alcohol- and drug-free workplace consistent with its Code of Conduct and in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations. Unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on UVU property or as part of UVU activities is strictly prohibited. UVU has a Safe Harbor program that affords students protection from penalty if a student, in good faith, self-reports their own addiction or substance misuse to the appropriate university officials before the threat of drug testing and/or discipline. Students seeking safe harbor should contact <u>Student Rights and Accountability</u>. For more information see: https://www.uvu.edu/wellness/drug-and-alcohol-prevention/index.html. For specific Department of Nursing drug screening requirements, refer to that section in this handbook.

Ombuds Office

Within the UVU community, misunderstandings and disagreements needing resolution occur. The UVU Ombuds office personnel are familiar with campus policies, student rights and responsibilities, and can help find useful options within these guidelines. In order to serve as a mediator, as opposed to an advocate, the Ombuds personnel neutrally and objectively listen to all problems. We hope you use this office as a resource for a variety of difficult situations you may encounter.

The Ombuds personnel do not keep any official records and listen with a neutral and impartial

stance, although they are mandatory reports of Title IX violations and any serious threat to harm self or others. If a matter becomes a formal action, you cannot request the Ombuds personnel to advocate against, for, or in support of any position. For more information see: <u>https://www.uvu.edu/ombuds/</u>

Student Health Services

Student Health Services staff are united in the goal of serving students in a caring and competent manner. We have low cost and available services for UVU students in the areas of medical and psychiatric care, mental health services, learning disability assessment services, and crisis services. We offer life and health enhancing services that increase safety, productivity, and life experience of the individual and the campus. For more information visit <u>http://www.uvu.edu/studenthealth/</u>.

Location: Student Center, SC 220 800 West University Parkway Orem, UT 84058 Office Phone: 801.863.8876

Gifts for Faculty and Staff

Faculty and staff of the Department of Nursing at Utah Valley University are subject to the gifts section of the Utah Public Officers' and Employees' Ethics Act, Section 67-16-5 which states: "It is an offense for a public officer or public employee, under circumstances not amounting to a violation of Section 63G-6a-2404 or 76-8-105, to knowingly receive, accept, take, seek, or solicit, directly or indirectly for himself or another, a gift of substantial value or a substantial economic benefit tantamount to a gift." Reference: <u>https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title67/Chapter16/C67-16_1800010118000101.pdf</u>

Children in the Classroom

Children are not permitted in University classrooms or laboratories unless they are an integral part of instruction. Children should not be left unattended in hallways and/or restrooms. See UVU Policy 704.

Department of Nursing Guidelines - General

Department of Nursing Mission Statement

We promote an engaging learning experience for a diverse group of students focused on the ongoing development of requisite knowledge and clinical judgement skills to provide expert nursing care in a dynamic healthcare environment.

Values Statements

Exceptional Care

We welcome the diverse experiences and perspectives of our students and faculty and denounce discrimination in any form. We strive to view each person as a unique individual who can succeed in a rigorous yet supportive learning environment. We value collegial collaboration as well as academic freedom and encourage the respectful exchange of ideas as a foundational element of the academic setting.

Exceptional Accountability

We promote professional and ethical standards of practice and behavior as we encourage both students and faculty to exhibit integrity in all aspects of the educational process. We view learning as a teacher-student-community partnership that highlights the roles of the student, instructor, and nurse as accountable agents to themselves, the University, and the communities we serve.

Exceptional Results

We employ evidence-based teaching and learning strategies to foster the development of caring nurses who promote the health of body, mind, and spirit in individuals, families, communities, and populations. Equipped with the ability to use effective clinical judgement, evidence-based nursing, and ongoing learning our graduates will be prepared to provide effective and compassionate service to members of both local and global communities. Updated January 2024

Disseminating Program Information to Students

- 1. Providing information regarding changes in policies, procedures, and programs is a department responsibility. When program changes occur, students are notified a minimum of once each semester. Program changes may include: schedule changes for courses or cohorts; changes to required courses; clinical requirements; program requirements, and others.
- 2. The following channels are used to disseminate program information to students:
 - a. Emails to students' official UVU email addresses
 - b. Cohort meetings for ASN cohorts
 - c. Microsoft Teams channels for respective cohorts

d. New Student Orientation (ASN students); BSN Online Orientation in Canvas (BSN students)

- e. Department of Nursing website
- f. Department of Nursing Undergraduate Student Handbook
- g. Department newsletter

Academic Expectations

Nursing and non-nursing coursework required for graduation is outlined in the UVU Catalog (<u>https://catalog.uvu.edu/</u>) at the time of the student's acceptance to the nursing program. Students may track their individual progress toward graduation through Wolverine Track, and students are encouraged to meet regularly with the Department of Nursing Academic Advisor to review their program of study and ensure they will satisfy all graduation requirements within their desired timeframe.

Registration for Nursing Courses

ASN students are randomly assigned registration tracks for nursing courses. Registration tracks are emailed to students prior to the opening of student registration for courses. **Registration assignments are subject to change to accommodate available clinical placements**.

Clinical Compliance

Completion of required documents and activities is necessary for access to clinical settings. Students who do not comply with requirements cannot be allowed in clinical settings and therefore cannot complete course expectations. Submission of this information may be through a 3rd party management company and may be required by clinical agencies.

Prior to being cleared to register for nursing courses, students are required to submit a(n):

- Background Check
- Drug Screen
- Health Status Report
- Up-to-date immunization history, including tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis (Tdap), MMR, Hepatitis B, varicella, influenza, COVID, and tuberculosis testing per current agency requirements
- Acceptable BLS is American Heart Association BLS/CPR for Health Care providers or Professional Rescuers, which must remain current through the semester for which student is registering
- Risks and Hazards Statement of Understanding and Release form
- Essential Performance Requirements and Physical/Mental/Emotional Demands of Nursing form
- Completed Registration Information form
- Clinical clearance documentation

Throughout the course of the nursing program, these requirements may change as industry, agency, or university standards evolve. Students will be notified of registration requirements in a timely manner and will be expected to comply with requirements and established timelines.

Auditing Nursing Courses

Nursing courses may not be audited.

ASN Preparation for Professional Licensure

Pre-licensure Testing and Exit Examination

The use of standardized, third-party testing programs provide data concerning students' readiness to successfully take the NCLEX-RN examination.

Students enrolled in ASN courses will participate in proctored examinations aimed at providing feedback and guided review to support acquisition of the knowledge, skills and critical thinking needed to enter nursing practice and to successfully pass the nurse licensure examination, NCLEX-RN.

- 1. At the beginning of the pre-licensure program, students will be introduced to the HESI testing program including account set up and access to educational resources.
- 2. Fees for this testing service are attached to specific courses each semester and are included in the course fees.
- 3. During each semester of the pre-licensure program, course instructors may choose courseappropriate study and/or testing materials to incorporate into their course requirements. It is recommended that these assignments be part of the course requirements and have value/points associated with them.
- 4. Near the end of each semester, students are required to take the proctored examinations that correspond to their course work. Instructors in the corresponding courses are encouraged to award points for these examinations which are not to exceed 5% of the students' total grade except for the comprehensive predictor examination which can be awarded up to 10% of the total grade.
- 5. Examinations will be proctored using approved security measures during specifically designated times as established by the faculty. Faculty members may be asked to assist in proctoring examinations.
- 6. Examination results are made available for faculty members to use in course and program

assessment and evaluation.

- 7. Because students are paying for this resource, faculty are strongly encouraged to discuss findings as course faculty and/or semester faculty at a minimum each academic year and consider adjustments that may be made to curriculum.
- 8. To accommodate the need for students to plan for their proctored testing time, the faculty testing coordinator will provide testing dates to course instructors no later than the ninth week of the semester.

Updated May 2023

Accommodative Testing for NCLEX-RN

Students who will require accommodative testing for licensure should contact the Utah State Board of Nursing for procedures to follow when taking the licensure exam. In general, the State Board requires a candidate who requests accommodations to submit documentation from a licensed professional, indicating a diagnosis which qualifies under ADA. Reference: <u>https://dopl.utah.gov/nurse/</u>

Utah Licensure: Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (DOPL)

Contact Information:

Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing 160 East 300 South, 1st Floor Lobby Salt Lake City UT 84111 Telephone: 801.530-6628 Toll-free in Utah: 866.275.3675 Fax number: 801.530.6511 <u>http://www.dopl.utah.gov/</u>

Student Nurses' Association

The Student Nurses' Association at UVU (SNA, or SNA at UVU) is a pre-professional association for nursing students, a constituent member of the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) and the Utah Student Nurses Association (USNA). The SNA provides opportunities for professional networking, education, and service. Pre-nursing students are also welcome as members. SNA functions within the scope and guidelines of the NSNA and USNA and within the requirements of the UVU Clubs office. One or more nursing faculty function as an advisor to the SNA board.

Participating in the SNA provides opportunities for leadership, community service, identifying various opportunities and career specialties in the nursing profession, and insights into preprofessional and professional nursing organizations. All nursing students are eligible and encouraged to join the local and state/national organizations and attend board meetings, club activities, and state and national conventions

Activities include:

- Conduct elections for officers and board members.
- Plan and publish a semester calendar of activities.
- Maintain a membership roster and keep records of funds collected and expenditures made.
- Coordinate activities with the USNA and UVU Clubs Office as requested.
- Serve as representatives of nursing students on various UVU committees.
- Serve as representatives of nursing students to various UVU faculty committees.

References: https://www.uvu.edu/clubs/ USNA: http://utahsna.blogspot.com/ NSNA: www.nsna.org

Mentors in the Department of Nursing

The Department of Nursing has a faculty-student mentor program for a student's first semester as an ASN student, MTECH LPN ASN student, or community-entry BSN student. These entering students are automatically assigned a faculty mentor. However, any student may have access to mentoring. If you desire to continue with faculty mentoring after your first semester in UVU nursing programs, contact a Program Coordinator for assistance.

Department of Nursing Guidelines -- Academic

Department of Nursing Curriculum

The Department of Nursing at Utah Valley University offers an Associate in Science in Nursing (ASN) pre-licensure program and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) completion program. The nursing curricula are centered on four faculty-defined competency domains, developed to facilitate student learning and progression within the nursing program and to contribute to graduate success in a dynamic healthcare environment.

Four Competency Domains and Definitions

Patient Centered Care: Includes holistic nursing and collaborative care for patients (e.g., individuals, families, groups, and communities), with the patient being involved in and at the center of nursing care.

Inquiry and Reasoning: Includes sound clinical judgment and critical reflection and thinking; the ability to access, evaluate and/or generate information through multiple means/methods including information technology; and apply evidence to practice.

Roles and Collaboration: Includes personal commitment to the profession of nursing values and roles, and the ability to communicate effectively and practice collaboratively within healthcare organizations and interdisciplinary teams.

Quality and Safety: Includes protecting patients from harm, using evidence and technology to advance individual, group, and systematic processes to achieve positive outcomes.

Updated February 2025

Nursing Program Student Learning Outcomes

	Associate Degree	Baccalaureate Degree
	Student Learning Outcomes	Student Learning Outcomes
Patient- Centered Care		Integrate knowledge and clinical expertise to help patients achieve optimal health outcomes.
	Use established evidence-based nursing protocols in providing nursing care for patients.	
	clinical data to prioritize nursing care.	Use clinical judgment, critical reflection, and technology to plan, implement, and evaluate theory- and evidence-based nursing practice.

Roles and Collaboration		Demonstrate team-building and collaboration strategies in health systems, guided by nursing values and standards.
Quality and Safety	practice.	Establish and maintain a culture of safety in a variety of health care settings by applying standards, theories, and quality improvement.

Updated 17 March 2021

American Psychological Association (APA) Writing Style (7th ed.)

Faculty in the UVU Department of Nursing have designated APA writing style for student scholarly writing assignments. APA style, used by several nursing journals, is detailed in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Like all other scholarly writing formats, the purpose of APA style is to ensure clear, concise and consistent presentation of written materials. For this purpose, APA style offers guidelines for accurate identification of sources, manuscript preparation, and writing style. For assistance with APA formatting, students should contact the UVU Writing Center (https://www.uvu.edu/writingcenter/). See also the APA module in the General Nursing Canvas course.

Grading

ASN courses in the Department of Nursing use the following table to determine course grades. This provides a consistent standard of grading within the Department of Nursing. This table will be included in all nursing course syllabi. For ASN courses, a passing grade is a B- (80). For BSN courses, a passing grade is a C (74).

PERFORMANCE	LETTER GRADE	NUMBER GRADE	DEPARTMENT PERCENTAGE
Superior achievement	A A-	4.0 3.7	94-100 90-93
Commendable mastery	B+	3.4	87-89
	В	3.0	83-86
Satisfactory mastery Does not meet nursing minimum expectations for continued progression in the ASN curriculum		2.7 2.4	80-82 77-79
Does not meet nursing minimum expectations for continued progression in the BSN curriculum		2.0 1.7	74-76 70-73

	D+	1.4	67-69
Substandard progress	D	1.0	64-66
	D-	0.7	60-63
Inadequate mastery	E	0.0	<60
Official Withdrawal	W	Not computed	N/A
Incomplete	Ι	Not computed	Determined on an individual basis

Late Work

To have consistent expectations in the Department of Nursing for late examination and late assignments, the following guidelines are instituted:

- a. Students who are unable to complete examinations or assignments by the scheduled date must negotiate a submission date with appropriate faculty prior to the date examinations or assignments are due.
- b. Penalty for late examinations or assignments is a 10% reduction for each day submitted late.
- c. If a student does not make other arrangements with the appropriate instructor, the student may receive no credit for the exam or assignment.
- d. Guidelines must be included in each course syllabus.

Computer Needs for Canvas Learning Management System

The Department of Nursing uses the learning management system (LMS) of Canvas. Canvas and its hosting infrastructure are designed for maximum compatibility and minimal requirements.

Computer age: Use a computer five years old or newer

RAM: Have at least 1 GB of RAM available

Operating Systems: Compatible with Windows, Mac, Linus, iOS, and Android

Browsers: Use the current or previous major releases of Chrome, Firefox, Edge, or Safari.

Internet Speed: Minimum recommended speed is 512 kbps.

Mobile apps: Canvas mobile apps require Android 8.0 or later, and iOS 15.0 or later.

Security: Ensure your operating system and browsers are up to date with the latest security updates.

Screen Readers: Check the Canvas Guide at the website below.

References: https://search.arc.net/SfQOEvE7CLKr1MMso8oe and

What are the browser and computer requirements for... - Instructure Community - 66 (canvaslms.com)

ASN Program Progression Guidelines

High academic standards in professional programs are established to ensure that the student can perform and compete in a dynamic and rigorous profession, such as nursing.

Nursing courses include any course identified by the prefix "NURS" taken after admission to the nursing program.

Non-nursing core courses for the BSN program include MICR 2060 (microbiology), ZOOL 4400 (pathophysiology), and STAT 2040 (principles of statistics) or STAT 1040 (introduction to statistics).

Admission to ASN Program

Acceptance into the ASN program is by a competitive point-based application process. For more information, see http://www.uvu.edu/nursing/ or talk with a pre-nursing advisor at https://www.uvu.edu/ppac/prenursing/ UVU Department of Nursing reserves the right to disqualify students guilty of any form of misrepresentation and/or misconduct.

Progression in the ASN Program

- 1. Nursing courses in the ASN program are to be taken consecutively in the sequence outlined by the Nursing Department.
- 2. All nursing courses required for ASN graduation must be completed with an 80% grade or better to progress in the program.
- 3. When a student is identified as at risk for not meeting the progression requirements (i.e., does not meet 80% grade), the faculty will notify the ASN Program Coordinator and the Department Chair.
- 4. Within 5 days of receiving documentation regarding a student not meeting progression requirements, the Department Chair will notify the student in writing. Notification will include the appeal procedure and timeline for application for readmission.
- 5. Students who do not meet progression requirements may petition the APG Committee for consideration of continuation in the ASN program. Students will have 5 business days from notification by the Department Chair to file an appeal with the Nursing Advisor who will forward the appeal application to the APG Committee.
 - a. The student appeal documentation packet must contain the following elements:
 - i. Form: "Application for Re-Entry to the Nursing Program"
 - ii. Letter of explanation addressing the desire to re-enter the nursing program that includes: 1) Description of situation or extenuating circumstances that contributed to not passing the course; 2) The students plan for future success when re-admitted (i.e., seeking accommodation through the Office of Accessibility Services; forming a study group; etc.); 3) Documentation of scholastic abilities despite the course failure (i.e., transcripts or screen shots of Canvas grades); 4) Request for waiving co-requisite of failed course, if applicable (Student to explain the reason they believe they should be granted a waiver of re-taking the co-requisite course. A waiver will be granted at the discretion of the Department Chair).
 - b. Upon receiving the appeal documentation, the APG Committee will request feedback and/or documentation from the course faculty who did not give the student a progressing grade.
 - c. The APG Committee will review the petition and may request additional documentation or interview the student.
 - d. The APG Committee will make a recommendation to the Department Chair regarding continuation in the program, any stipulations for progression, or a recommended schedule for completion.
 - e. The Department Chair will notify the student in writing of the Department decision within 5 business days of receiving a recommendation from the APG Committee.
 - f. If approved, the student may continue in the ASN program on a space-available basis. If there is not space available in the subsequent semester for the student to return, the Department Chair will maintain a waitlist of students approved to return and will notify students when space comes available.

- g. Students will only be allowed one re-admission to the program. In the event they do not receive a progressing grade in a required course again, students will be dismissed from the ASN program.
- h. If the appeal for re-admission to the APG Committee is not approved or a student is dismissed from the ASN program following a second failure, the student may seek an appeal of the Nursing Department decision through the University Director of Clinical Studies (see Office of the Provost).

Withdrawal from the ASN Program

- 6. Students who withdraw from the Nursing Program may petition for re-admission to the Nursing Program.
 - a. Students who do not enroll in UVU classes over a period of greater than 5 semesters must reapply for university admission before applying for re-admission to the ASN program.
 - b. Students who desire to return to the Nursing Program may petition the APG Committee for consideration of re-admission in the ASN program. An application will be filed with the nursing advisor who will submit it to the APG Committee. The deadline for submitting the petition for re-admission is two months prior to the semester in which the student wishes to return.
 - i. The student re-entry application packet should include the following elements: 1) Form: "Application for Re-Entry to the Nursing Program"; 2) Letter of explanation addressing the desire to re-enter the Nursing Program and description of situation or extenuating circumstances that contributed to the withdrawal.
 - c. The APG Committee will review the petition and may request additional documentation and/or interview the student.
 - d. The APG Committee will make a recommendation to the Department Chair regarding re-admission to the program, any stipulations for progression, or a recommended schedule for completion.
 - e. The Department Chair will notify the student in writing of the Department decision within 5 business days of receiving a recommendation from the APG Committee.
 - f. If approved, the student may continue in the ASN program on a space-available basis. If there is not space available in the subsequent semester for the student to return, the Department Chair will maintain a waitlist of students approved to return and will notify students when space comes available.
 - g. Students who withdraw from the Nursing Program because of active military deployment, long-term jury duty, or documented medical issues will be re-admitted as soon as feasibly possible.
 - h. Except in extenuating circumstances, as determined by the APG Committee, (e.g., multiple active-duty deployments), students can only be re-admitted one time to the ASN program.
- 7. Students who withdraw and then return to the ASN program are responsible for completing ASN program graduation requirements, as published in the catalog at the time of initial program entry, within the time period designated by the University (currently 5 semesters). Students who do not complete the program during that time become subject to any updated University and Program requirements for graduation. See

http://www.uvu.edu/catalog/current/ and Nursing Advisor for details.

Transfer Students

- 8. Students may petition for transfer to the UVU Nursing Program from other nursing programs.
 - a. Students who desire to transfer to the Nursing Program may petition the APG Committee for consideration of admission in the ASN program. An application will be filed with the nursing advisor who will submit it to the APG Committee.
 - b. The deadline for submitting a transfer application is March 1st for fall semester and October 1st for spring semester.
 - c. The APG Committee will review the petition and may request additional documentation, skills demonstration, and/or interview the student.
 - d. The Department Curriculum Committee will review the transcripts and determine what credit students will receive from coursework at previous institutions and notify APG regarding courses needed for the student to graduate.
 - e. The APG Committee will make a recommendation to the Department Chair regarding transfer to the program, any stipulations for progression, or a recommended schedule for completion.
 - f. The Department Chair will notify the student in writing of the decision within 5 business days of receiving a recommendation from the APG Committee.
 - g. If approved, the student may continue in the ASN program on a space-available basis. If there is not space available in the subsequent semester for the student to return, the Department Chair will maintain a waitlist of students approved to return and will notify students when space comes available.

Graduation from the ASN Program

- 1. Graduation from the ASN program is required to apply for RN licensure and to take the National Council Licensing Exam (NCLEX-RN).
- 2. Students completing the ASN program may continue in the BSN program the semester following ASN graduation.
- 3. ASN graduates must receive their RN license to continue in the BSN program. Registration after one semester of BSN nursing courses will be contingent upon having received an RN license.

Updated 2022

BSN Program Progression Guidelines (BSN-Completion Program)

Non-nursing core courses for the BSN program include MICR 2060 (microbiology), ZOOL 4400 (pathophysiology), and STAT 2040 (principles of statistics) or STAT 1040 (introduction to statistics).

Admission to the BSN Program

1. Students completing the UVU ASN program may begin the BSN program immediately following ASN graduation by registering for BSN courses following their ASN graduation or notifying the Nursing Advisor of their intent to continue. Students must continue to meet other requirements as requested by the Department of Nursing. Students must show proof of RN licensure before registering for a second semester in the BSN program. See Nursing Advisor for details.

- 2. UVU students who do not begin the BSN program within the subsequent three semesters following ASN graduation from UVU will be asked to complete a leave of absence request form. These students may apply for the BSN program at a later time. The application must include proof of current RN licensure and other documentation as required by the Department of Nursing. See Nursing Advisor for details.
- 3. Graduates of nursing education programs other than UVU may apply for the BSN program. Application must include acceptance to UVU, proof of current RN licensure, documentation of completion of prerequisite courses, and other documentation as required by the Department of Nursing. See UVU Catalog, Department of Nursing website, and Nursing Advisor for details.

Progression in the BSN Program

- 1. Students may follow a full-time or part-time schedule, taking courses in any sequence as prerequisites and co-requisites allow.
- 2. Students need not register for courses every semester. Students who take a break longer than 7 semesters (including summer semester) must reapply to the University and the Department of Nursing. The Department will accommodate the re-entry of students who take a break due to military deployment or other extenuating circumstances.
- 3. Students are responsible to complete BSN program graduation requirements, as published in the UVU Catalog at the time of program entry, within the time period designated by the University (currently 7 years). Students not completing within that time become subject to any updated University and program requirements for graduation.
- 4. All nursing courses, non-nursing core courses (ZOOL 4400 and Statistics as approved in the BSN catalog) and approved non-nursing elective courses used for BSN graduation must be completed with a C grade or better.
- 5. When a student is identified as at risk for not meeting the progression requirements (i.e., falls below a C grade), the faculty member will notify the BSN Program Coordinator and the Department Chair.
- 6. BSN students who do not receive a C grade or better may repeat a required nursing course or nonnursing core course one time within a 5-year period. Elective courses not receiving a C or better do not need to be repeated but cannot be used toward BSN completion.
- 7. Students who do not meet progression requirements may petition the Admissions, Progression and Graduation Committee (APG Committee) for consideration of continuation in the BSN program. The APG Committee will review the petition and may request additional documentation (such as a plan for remediation and successful program completion) and/or interview the student. The APG Committee will make a recommendation to the Chair of the Department of Nursing regarding continuation in the program and any stipulations for continuation in the program. If approved, the student may continue the BSN program on a space available basis. The student will need to successfully retake the required nursing course(s) or non-nursing core course(s) in order to graduate from the BSN program.

Graduation from the BSN Program

- 1. To accommodate the needs of our student population, the BSN program is designed to be completed within four semesters. Some students complete the requirements sooner depending on completion of required coursework prior to beginning the program.
- Students must meet graduation requirements for the catalog year in which they begin the BSN program. Planning can be done in Wolverine Track. See http://www.uvu.edu/catalog/current/ and Nursing Advisor for details.

Professional Conduct and Appeals

UVU Department of Nursing aims to support nursing students in the development of professional abilities and attributes through experiences in clinical and academic settings. To provide a foundation for this development, students must adhere to approved standards of conduct/behavior and demonstrate patterns of clinical and academic performance.

In addition, UVU expects all students to obey the law, to show respect for properly constituted authority, to perform contracted obligations, to maintain absolute integrity and high standards of individual honesty in academic work and in all interactions including clinically, and to observe a high standard of conduct within all environments that constitute and contribute to their nursing education.

Appropriate Conduct

Students have the responsibility to understand and adhere to published state, UVU, and national nursing guidelines that contribute to an understanding of nursing and the nurse's role.
 Indicators of unprofessional or unsafe conduct include but are not limited to:

a. Failure to practice within the boundaries of the Utah Nurse Practice Act, the guidelines of the Department of Nursing, and the rules and regulations of the healthcare agencies in which students practice. Examples of unprofessional/unsafe conduct include but are not limited to:

- Arriving for clinical under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol
- Failing to follow applicable policies and procedures of UVU, the Department of Nursing and/or healthcare agencies
- Arriving for clinical too ill, tired, or unprepared to perform safely
- Leaving the assigned area without the express permission or knowledge of the instructor and/or nurse to whom the student is assigned
- b. Failure to practice according to the American Nurses Association Code of Ethics for Nurses, Utah Nurse Practice Act, and National Student Nurses' Association Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct. Examples of unprofessional conduct include but are not limited to:
 - Refusing a nursing assignment based on client attributes such as gender, sexual orientation, medical diagnosis, race, culture, or religious preference
 - Misrepresenting oneself and/or practicing beyond student role expectations
 - Failing to report unethical, unprofessional, or unsafe conduct of peers and other health care team members
- c. Failure to meet safe standards of practice from a biological, psychological, sociological, and cultural standpoint. Examples of unprofessional practice include but are not limited to:
 - Failing to exhibit appropriate mental, physical, or emotional behavior(s)
 - Allowing or imposing physical, mental, emotional or sexual misconduct or abuse
 - Exposing self or others to hazardous conditions, circumstances, or positions
 - Intentionally or unintentionally causing or contributing to harming patients/clients
 - Making grievous errors
 - Failing to recognize and promote patients' rights
- d. Failure to demonstrate responsible preparation, documentation, and continuity in the care of patients/clients. Examples of unprofessional practice include but are not limited to:
 - Failing to respond appropriately to errors in the provision of care

- Failing to provide concise, inclusive, written and verbal communication
- Failing to report questionable practices by any healthcare worker
- Attempting activities without adequate orientation, theoretical preparation, and/or appropriate assistance
- Dishonesty and/or miscommunication which may disrupt care and/or unit functioning
- e. Failure to show respect for patients/clients, peers, healthcare team members, faculty, and self. Examples of unprofessional practice include but are not limited to:
 - Failing to maintain confidentiality of interactions and/or protected client communications
 - Failing to maintain confidentiality of records including adhering to HIPAA and facility regulations
 - Dishonesty
 - Using stereotypical assessments or derisive comments or terms
 - Disruption of class, lab, simulation, and/or clinical including but not limited to audible use of cell phones or other electronic devices

For further clarification refer to:

- Utah State Nurse Practice Act Utah Code Title 58/Chapter 31b/Sections 502 and 704. https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title58/Chapter31b/58-31b.html
- ANA Code of Ethics for Nurses
 <u>http://nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/EthicsStandards/CodeofEthicsforNurses</u>
- NSNA Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct Unprofessional conduct <u>http://www.nsna.org/nsna-code-of-ethics.html</u>
- UVU Student Code of Conduct https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/5bedd0ef7b23736d542192e3
- UVU Policy 548 Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Healthcare & Counseling Clinical Program Students <u>https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/5ea1dc117c74a7773fe30647</u>

Consequences of Professional Misconduct

- 1. Expected academic conduct is outlined in UVU's Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty, misconduct, and unprofessional behavior are addressed accordance with the UVU Student Code of Conduct and UVU Policies 541 and 548.
- 2. Consequences of a student's dishonesty, misconduct, or failure to comply with professional standards will be based upon the offense or pattern of deficiencies and may range from a verbal warning, to dismissal from clinical or class initiated by the supervising faculty and in coordination with the Nursing Program, up to and including dismissal from the UVU Nursing Program.
- 3. A student whose performance endangers the safety of a client, peer, healthcare team member, or faculty, or whose conduct/behavior is determined to be unprofessional, will be removed from the situation and given verbal and written warning and instructions by the instructor. Faculty may immediately institute interim suspension for unsafe or unprofessional conduct.
 - a. When faculty first identifies indications or patterns of unsafe or unprofessional conduct/behavior, the faculty will:
 - Discuss concerns with the student, precepting nurse, and/or charge nurse as applicable.

- Determine if the student may stay at the site for the day/rotation.
- Document concerns, circumstances, plan for remediation and/or disciplinary action (using the Department of Nursing's form "Reporting and Documenting Student Underperformance" and/or "Fitness for Clinical Duty Plan of Action") and submit it to the Program Coordinator.
- Determine if the student will be placed with a consulting clinical instructor/mentor for further evaluation.
- Discuss concerns with Program Coordinator and Chair of the Department of Nursing, as appropriate.
- b. If the concern is drug or alcohol related:
 - The student will be expected to immediately submit to, at personal cost, drug testing at a department-approved facility.
 - A student who refuses immediate drug testing will immediately be placed on interim suspension and reported to the Department Chair as well as the Student Conduct Office per policies 541 & 548.
 - Faculty will determine if the student is safe to drive home or make arrangements for someone to take the student home, and whether or not law enforcement needs to be notified.
 - If drug testing is positive, actions will be taken according to UVU policy.
- c. If the unsafe or unprofessional conduct/behavior is egregious or is repeated:
 - The faculty will immediately ensure the student is removed from the clinical site or classroom.
 - The faculty will promptly notify the charge nurse, course faculty, the Program Coordinator, and Chair of the Department of Nursing, as appropriate.
 - Faculty will document the incident using the "Reporting and Documenting Student Underperformance Form" and submit it to the Program Coordinator. Documentation will be placed in the student's file in the Department of Nursing. Actions will be taken according to UVU policy.
- d. The incident/conduct/behavior will also be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. A record will be kept that helps track academic and behavioral misconduct.
 - Prior concerns or offenses will be reviewed by the Program Coordinator and/or APG Committee.
- 4. Faculty may immediately dismiss a student from a course if there is reasonable cause to believe that the student is impaired or is unable to practice nursing with reasonable skill and safety to clients because of illness, lack of preparation, use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other substances, or as a result of any mental or physical condition. Dismissal from class/clinical or any initial action may result in interim probation.
- 5. Whenever a student's conduct or pattern of deficiency warrants interim probation, the circumstances will be reported to the Program Coordinator and reviewed by the Chair of the Department of Nursing immediately or as soon as is feasibly possible, but no later than five (5) working days after the incident has occurred. The Chair will review the circumstances and determine by UVU policies the appropriate action(s) to take. If it is determined that a student should be kept on probation or removed from the Nursing Program, the Department Chair should consult with the UVU Director of Clinical Studies.

Appeal Process

1. Students may challenge an academic sanction (formal remediation, probation, dismissal, etc.) as

unfair first through informal resolution discussions with appropriate individuals within the clinical program. If informal resolution is not successful, the student may address the academic sanction in accordance with the following procedures.

- 2. For formal remediation, probation, and dismissal appeals must be in writing and must be submitted to the Director of the clinical program within 5 business days after the student's receipt of notification of the formal remediation, probation, or dismissal action. If the student does not file a written appeal within this timeframe, the student has waived the right to appeal the action. The student may submit written materials to the Director of the clinical program in support of the written appeal.
- 3. The Director of the clinical program (or designee for formal remediation) shall respond in writing to the student's written appeal within 15 business days of the Director's receipt of the appeal.
- 4. To recommend overturning the original academic sanction, the Director of the clinical program must determine that the academic sanction was arbitrary or capricious.
- 5. The decision of the Director of clinical program is final for formal remediation of academic sanctions.
- 6. A second level of appeal is available in probation and dismissal actions. The student may appeal the Director of clinical programs decision to the UVU Director of Clinical Studies by filing a written appeal within 5 business days of the student's receipt of the written decision of the Director of clinical program. If the student does not file a written appeal within this timeframe, the student shall have waived the right to further appeal the academic sanctions.
- 7. The student's written appeal to the UVU Director of Clinical Studies must contain the following elements:
 - a. Description of the matter in dispute
 - b. A brief statement as to why the student considers the action unfair or inappropriate
 - c. A statement of the requested remedy
 - d. A copy of the student's original written appeal to the Director of clinical program for this dispute
 - e. A copy of the Director of clinical programs response to the original written appeal.
- 8. For probation appeals, the UVU Director of Clinical Studies shall respond in writing to the student's written probation appeal within 15 business days of the director's receipt of the appeal. The decision of the UVU Director of Clinical Studies is final for probation actions.
- 9. For dismissal appeals, the student is entitled to a formal hearing before the Clinical Student Appeal Committee. Within 10 business days of receiving a notice of appeal from a dismissal action, the UVU Director of Clinical Studies shall contact the Clinical Student Appeal Committee for a hearing. Details of the hearing will be communicated with the student.

Reference: Policy 548 Academic Rights and Responsibilities of Healthcare and Counseling Clinical Program Students. <u>https://policy.uvu.edu/getDisplayFile/5ea1dc117c74a7773fe30647</u>

Student Grievance Process

Students will use this chain of command to address grievances:

- 1. Meet with the course faculty
- 2. Meet with the Program Coordinator
- 3. Meet with the Department Chair

If the above chain of command is unable to resolve the grievance, then the student should be referred to the Ombudsman office for mediation. <u>https://www.uvu.edu/ombuds/</u>. See UVU Policy 548.

Procedural Process for Student Underperformance/Misconduct

- 1. Students are encouraged to review UVU policies 541 and 548 which guide this procedural process for student underperformance/misconduct.
- 2. Faculty will document concerns, circumstances, and plan for remediation and/or disciplinary action (using the Department of Nursing's form "Reporting and Documenting Student Underperformance") and notify the Program Coordinator.
- 3. This documentation should be reviewed with the student in a timely manner after the occurrence becomes known, during a faculty-student intervention conference called by the faculty member. The purpose of this conference is to support the student with emotional and academic guidance to promote their success.
- 4. A copy of the documentation will be given to the student, the faculty member, the Program Coordinator, and placed in the student's file.
- 5. The appropriate UVU offices will be notified (i.e., UVU Office of Student Rights and Accountability for academic misconduct, cheating, plagiarism).
- 6. The appropriate chain of command for resolving any remaining grievance is:
 - a. Meet with course faculty
 - b. Meet with the Program Coordinator
 - c. Meet with the Department Chair

If the above chain of command is unable to resolve the grievance, the student should be referred to the Ombuds office for mediation. <u>https://www.uvu.edu/ombuds/</u>

Updated November 2023 See UVU Policy 548

Department of Nursing Guidelines – Clinical/Lab/Simulation

Patient Privacy and Confidentiality

In order to protect the privacy and confidentiality of clients in clinical settings, the following will be in place.

- 1. Faculty are responsible to assure that student learning activities in clinical agencies follow applicable laws including the HIPAA Privacy Rule, clinical agency policies, and professional codes of conduct with respect to protection of patient privacy and confidentiality.
 - a. Faculty assures that students understand patient privacy and confidentiality laws, clinical agency policies, and professional codes of conduct.
 - b. Faculty design learning experiences in clinical agencies to protect patient privacy and confidentiality, in accordance with applicable laws, clinical agency policies, and professional codes of conduct.
- 2. Students are responsible for adherence to applicable laws, clinical agency policies, and professional codes of conduct with respect to patient privacy and confidentiality.
 - a. Violation of privacy and confidentiality laws, clinical agency policies, and professional codes of conduct may be grounds for failing a course and dismissal from the program.
 - b. If a clinical agency requires student acknowledgement of patient privacy and confidentiality policies and procedures, faculty assure that students understand and have signed required forms.
 - c. Expectations and requirements for students to protect patient privacy and confidentiality are published in course syllabi and/or instructions for clinical learning assignments. This

includes:

- No sharing of identifiable patient information other than with assigned clinical agency staff, clinical faculty, or in faculty-led clinical conferences
- No accessing of patient health records other than assigned patients
- No printing or photocopying of individual patient information from agency health care records
- No use of actual patient name or initials, exact age, place of residence smaller than a state, or other identifying information in any academic patient-based assignments. May use age range ("6-12 months," "50-60 years," "age 90 or over," etc.).
- d. Using a cell phone or other electronic media to take pictures, make audio and/or video recordings in a clinical setting is not acceptable.
- 3. In case of departure from patient privacy and confidentiality law, clinical agency policies, or professional codes of conduct, faculty counsel with the student and take appropriate action, which may include course failure and/or dismissal from the program.

References:

- American Nurses Association. (2015). Code of ethics for nurses with interpretive statements. Washington, DC.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Privacy Rule for the Health Insurance and Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA] of 1996. Retrieved from: http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/summary/index.html
- UVU Nursing Department Student Guidelines for Professional Conduct (see above).
- Nurse Practice Act (amended 2022). Unprofessional conduct. Utah Code Title 58/Chapter 31b/Section 502. Retrieved from https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title58/Chapter31B/58-31b-5502_2016051020160510

Clinical Learning with Preceptors

Student learning experiences with preceptors help students develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes essential for the practice of registered nursing, while working side-by-side with someone in that role. These guidelines provide information for planning and supervising student clinical practice with preceptors, and the respective responsibilities of faculty, students, contracted clinical agencies, and preceptors.

- 1. Precepted clinical learning experiences help students achieve the objectives of specified courses. Clinical opportunities involving preceptors are reviewed by the Curriculum Committee and approved by the Nursing Faculty Organization, with consideration of:
 - a. Knowledge, skills, attitudes and values expected of students entering the course
 - b. Practical experiences necessary and helpful for students to achieve course objectives
 - c. Availability of patient populations appropriate to help students to achieve course objectives
 - d. Clinical agency availability and willingness to provide learning experiences involving preceptors
 - e. Availability of RN preceptors with qualifications appropriate to help students meet course objectives, including clinical nursing skills, communication and relationship skills, willingness to assist and mentor students, support of program and course objectives
 - f. Level of faculty supervision appropriate for students, considering number of students, types of patient care experiences expected, qualifications and experience of preceptors, etc.
- 2. Faculty provides written responsibilities and expectations of preceptors, students, clinical

agencies, and faculty.

- a. Faculty responsibilities include:
 - Locate appropriate clinical agencies, seek administrative approval for students to be precepted, and ensure that a current contract between UVU Department of Nursing and the clinical agency is in force
 - Set qualifications for clinical agency staff members to act as preceptors
 - Provide adequate faculty supervision of preceptors and students
 - Maintain communication with preceptors and students to monitor student progress
- b. Responsibilities of clinical agencies include:
 - Identify staff members who meet qualifications to act as preceptors
 - Promptly communicate clinical agency concerns about students who are precepted to faculty
- c. Responsibilities of preceptors include:
 - Current licensure as an RN eligible to practice in Utah (or the state where the student will be in a precepted position)
 - Minimum of one year experience as an RN
 - Employed by the contracted agency
 - Approved by the agency to serve as a preceptor
 - Maintain a schedule that allows completion of required number of student clinical hours
 - Be familiar with course objectives and clinical expectations
 - Assist student with identification of appropriate goals and learning experiences
 - Facilitate learning opportunities that assist student in achieving goals
 - Guide learning and offer resources
 - Provide ongoing and final evaluation of student performance, to the student and the supervising faculty
 - Maintain regular communication with supervising faculty and student
 - Promptly notify faculty and student of concerns related to student performance
- d. Responsibilities of students include:
 - Be familiar with course objectives and clinical expectations
 - Identify goals and regularly review goals with preceptor
 - Communicate regularly with preceptor and faculty, including notification of any changes to agreed-upon schedule prior to any changes
 - Follow policies, procedures and guidelines established by the clinical agency, as well as those of UVU Department of Nursing
 - Document achievement of clinical objectives and expectations, as specified by course syllabus and supervising faculty

Fitness for Professional Nursing Activities

Fitness for Duty: Student Responsibilities:

- A. Students attending clinical shifts or learning experiences in the Nursing Learning and Simulation Lab have the responsibility to arrive alert, sober, and well enough to work as a student nurse for the day.
- B. Students who knowingly attend a clinical shift or lab/simulation while unable to stay awake, intoxicated, or ill place the safety of patients and colleagues in jeopardy. This is grounds for behavioral sanctions per UVU Policy 548.

- C. If students are unable to stay awake, are under the influence of any substance, or visibly ill, the instructor and/or preceptor on site have the right and responsibility to send the student home.
- D. If a student is sent home due to:
 - a. Illness, they must work with the clinical instructor to determine the length of time needed prior to returning as well as make arrangements for make-up shifts/labs/simulations if possible.
 - b. Lack of sleep, the instructor will set up a separate meeting with the student to put in place a Fitness for Clinical Duty remediation plan.
 - c. Intoxication or impairment, the instructor will report the instance to the clinical supervisor, clinical coordinator, and program coordinator to start a process of misconduct sanction.
- E. The instructor will fill out the Student Intervention Form found in the guideline Reporting and Documenting Student Underperformance.
- F. Students are required to make-up all required clinical shifts and lab/simulation hours, under instructor oversight.

Illness, Injury, or Health Condition: Student Responsibilities

- A. Nursing students who are ill should not attend clinical or learning experiences in the Nursing Learning and Simulation Lab. Nursing students who are ill should contact the instructor and work with them to determine the length of time needed prior to returning as well as make arrangements for make-up shifts/lab/simulation as directed by the instructor.
- B. Nursing students who have serious illness, injury, or condition(s) which render them contagious, incapacitated or unable to perform activities required in the clinical setting must inform their instructor and the ASN Program Coordinator of the situation as soon as possible.
- C. Students are required to complete a medical release form signed by a licensed healthcare provider with an estimated type and length of restriction and return the form to the ASN Program Coordinator. The student's limitations will determine their ability to return to clinicals and complete their hours.
 - 1. A medical release form can be obtained from the program coordinator. This form should be filled out by a healthcare professional and returned to the program coordinator in a timely manner.
- D. Students will work with clinical faculty on an individual basis and evaluate the best course of action. Clinical faculty will consult with the faculty supervisor, program coordinator, and/or department chair for guidance.
 Updated November 2023

Risks and Hazards Statement

Students are required to sign a Risks and Hazards Statement of Understanding and Release form before being given authorization to register for nursing course work. The certification remains in effect through the end of the student's program of study. Students are not allowed to participate in clinical activities if they do not sign the Risks and Hazards Statement of Understanding and Release form. Inability to participate in clinical activities jeopardizes the student's ability to successfully complete all course objectives and obtain a passing grade. Students are strongly encouraged to maintain personal health insurance.

Compliance Procedures:

- Students submit the Risks and Hazards Statement of Understanding and Release form after acceptance to the program.
- This form is signed and submitted with all other required forms and documents prior to receiving authorization to register.

• The Risks and Hazards Statement of Understanding and Release form is housed in the student's electronic file.

References: UVU Administration and Risk Management Department https://www.uvu.edu/riskmanagement/

Clinical/Lab/Simulation Attendance

- 1. Clinical/lab/simulation attendance is required.
- 2. Students are expected to attend clinical/lab/simulation in the approved uniform, with all nursing equipment, and be on time.
- 3. Students may not leave a clinical shift, lab or simulation session until the class has been dismissed or with instructor approval.
- 4. Professional behavior, as defined in the UVU Undergraduate Student Handbook, is expected of students when they are representing the UVU Nursing Department. Unprofessional behavior may result in a reduction of the student's clinical, lab, or simulation grade up to dismissal from the Nursing Program (See Undergraduate Student Handbook).
- 5. If students will be late or absent to a clinical shift or lab/simulation session, they must contact their instructor as soon as possible to inform them of their status; otherwise, the tardy or absence will automatically become unexcused.
- 6. Notifying the instructor of a pending absence or tardy does not automatically mean it will be excused. Absences or tardiness may only be deemed excused by the instructor for reasons such as emergencies, hospitalization, or other serious occurrences. Absences due to vacations or issues with work schedules will not be excused.
- 7. Arriving after the scheduled start time to a clinical shift or lab/simulation session is considered a tardy. Every two tardies is equivalent to one unexcused absence.
- 8. If a student is late to clinical shift or lab/simulation session, permission to attend will be at the discretion of the instructor.
- 9. If a student has an unexcused absence or two tardies, they are required to meet with their instructor.
- 10. An unexcused absence will result in a minimum of full drop in grade (for example A to B) or may result in failure of the course. This will be at the discretion of the instructor and in consultation with the ASN Program Coordinator.
- 11. Students are required to make-up all required clinical shifts and lab/simulation hours, under instructor oversight.

Uniform Code

Compliance with a specific uniform code for UVU nursing students will accurately represent students to clinical staff and clients, provide a consistent and professional appearance, and preserve client comfort as students work in close physical contact with them.

- 1. The Utah Valley University Department of Nursing requires that nursing students follow personal grooming and uniform standards as established by the Faculty Organization.
- 2. Unless given specific instructions by clinical faculty, students are to comply with the uniform code when participating in all clinical experiences or representing the Department or UVU as a nursing student. Faculty may direct students to wear the uniform or professional attire and lab coat to activities such as lab or conferences.
- 3. Failure to comply with the uniform code results in a verbal warning and may result in being dismissed from a clinical session. Such a dismissal is an unexcused absence and jeopardizes the student's clinical grade. Repeated deficiencies may be grounds for disciplinary action, up to and

including, dismissal from the program.

Uniform

- 1. Students purchase scrub pants and top of the approved colors:
 - a. Scrub top: White
 - b. Scrub bottoms: Hunter Green
 - c. Student has the option of choosing to purchase a short, professional, white lab coat/jacket -wearing a white lab coat is optional. However, it is the only item of clothing that may be worn over the uniform scrub top while the student provides patient care in the clinical setting. Lab coat/jackets do not include "hoodies" or sweatshirt jackets.
- 2. Students obtain UVU embroidered patches from the UVU Bookstore for each scrub top and lab coat. Attach one patch to the upper, left sleeve of each top and lab coat.
- 3. Students may wear a clean, plain white (no logos), long or short sleeve T-shirt underneath the scrub top. Clothing must allow for thorough hand hygiene.
- 4. Uniform includes clinically appropriate/practical white or black shoes with closed toes and heels, with minimal color trim or ornamentation.
 - a. Shoes are to be worn for lab/simulation and clinical and should be clean and in good repair.
 - b. Shoes must provide adequate protection from injury or exposure to hazardous materials.
- 5. All clothing items are to be:
 - a. Freshly laundered and wrinkle free for each lab/simulation and clinical day. This may require that the student has two or more sets of scrubs.
 - b. In good repair and well-fitting (no drooping or sloppy pants).
- 6. Underwear must not be visible even when bending over or stretching overhead.
- 7. Exceptions:
 - a. Student may wear appropriate, facility-supplied attire in special care areas (such as operating rooms) or when required for personal protection (such as contact precautions or holding an infant).
 - b. When specified by faculty, a student clinical activity may not require wearing the clinical uniform. Clothing must be professional, conservative, and in compliance with agency policies.
 - c. When specified by faculty, the uniform may be modified to comply with clinical site expectations (e.g. no long sleeves or jackets allowed).

Identification

- 1. The Department of Nursing supplies an identification (ID) badge during the first semester of registration in the Department of Nursing.
 - a. The first badge is included in student fees.
 - b. If lost, student arranges, and pays for a replacement badge through Campus Connections.
 - c. The Department ID badge is worn to lab and all clinical activities and must be clearly visible, above the waistline at all times.
 - d. Faculty may ask that students wear the department ID badge to class.
- 2. Student will qualify for an agency-issued student identification badge by completing orientation activities according to the policies outlined by individual clinical facilities. Agency-issued student identification:
 - a. Remains the property of the issuing agency;
 - b. Must be returned according to agency policy;

- c. May require a fee to replace a lost or missing badge; and
- d. Must be worn and be clearly visible whenever the student is in the clinical facility.
- 3. Student ensures that the UVU embroidered patch is displayed on the upper, left sleeve of the uniform scrub top and lab coat as described above.

Personal Grooming Expectations for Lab/Simulation/Clinical

- 1. Each student will conform to the following guidelines:
 - a. Hygiene
 - Display excellent personal hygiene due to the physical contact required in client care.
 - Use deodorant and avoid wearing cologne, perfume, or scented lotions.
 - b. Hair
 - Clean and neat
 - No extreme styles or accessories
 - Controlled, so it will not fall onto student's face, into the client's field, obstruct vision, or require pushing aside
 - Facial hair must be conservative and neatly trimmed or clean shaven.
 - c. Fingernails
 - Short to medium length, clean, manicured
 - No artificial nails
 - No nail polishes
 - d. Makeup and tattoos
 - Makeup conservative and neatly applied
 - Tattoos may not be visible. Uniform may need to be adjusted to provide coverage and will require prior approval by the Nursing Department Chair.
 - e. Jewelry
 - Watch with second hand; band as simple as possible
 - One pair of small post earrings may be worn. No hoop earrings
 - No necklaces, bracelets, or ankle bracelets
 - No permanent jewelry
 - No visible adornments, such as nose, eyebrow, or tongue rings
 - No facial piercings
 - Wedding and engagement rings are allowed. However, the student may be required to remove rings in special care areas, such as NICU, where the arms must be bare from elbow to fingertips. The student is responsible for safeguarding or leaving valuables at home.

Injury or Exposure at Clinical Sites

Student Guidelines

- 1. Diseases of concern following exposure at clinical sites are Hepatitis B or C, HIV, or TB.
- 2. For an injury, needlestick or sharps injury, or exposure to patient blood or other body fluid take the following steps.
 - a. Wash needle sticks and cuts with soap and water.
 - b. Flush splashes to the nose, mouth, or skin with water.
 - c. Irrigate eyes with clean water, saline, or sterile irrigates.
- 3. Following cleaning after needlestick and all other exposures, CALL YOUR INSTRUCTOR IMMEDIATELY.

- a. If your instructor is not immediately available, contact the Chair of the Department of Nursing at 801.863.8199.
- b. If you are unable to reach either your instructor or the Chair of the Department of Nursing, leave a voice-mail message with your instructor and report to a local Workmed clinic. Workmed clinics are specifically designated to deal with workman's compensation injuries. You can report to any Workmed location however, the closest Workmed to UVU is: Orem Workmed 830 N 980 W Orem, UT 84057).
- c. It is important to report ALL injuries not just those that are considered a risk for bloodborne diseases since these injuries or exposures may also be a risk for other diseases including localized infections.
- d. Do not wait until the end of your shift or class period to report the exposure.
- e. Note: if the injury was of malicious intent, campus police must also be notified.
- 4. Your instructor will refer you to the nearest Workmed clinic for possible treatment, counseling, testing and follow-up.
 - a. A Workmed clinic should be used after the initial first aid has occurred, unless it is closed or more than one hour away
 - b. A local Instacare should be used for the initial treatment of major injuries and postexposure treatment when Workmed is closed or more than one hour away.
 - c. A local emergency room should be used if Workmed and Instacare are unavailable, closed or more than 1 hour away.
- 5. Your instructor will have you fill out the UVU Employees Injury Report Form available online at: <u>https://uvu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eeTnL5WXCZEQqJT</u>
- 6. If the source patient is known, the agency where the exposure occurred will request that they consent to testing for HIV, Hepatitis B, and Hepatitis C. These test results, along with your own (if you consent to testing), will be given to you when they are completed.
 - a. Source testing must be initiated and coordinated by the agency where the exposure occurred and reported to Chair of the Department of Nursing.
 - b. The results of your tests are confidential.
- 7. Various treatments may be recommended depending upon the risk assessment of your exposure. Because no two exposures are alike, each incident will be treated and followed-up on a case-bycase basis. The Workmed clinic, UVU People and Culture, and the Chair of the Department of Nursing will manage your case and help guide you through the treatment and follow-up process. Updated April 2023

Clinical Compliance

- I. Student responsibilities
 - A. Nursing students are expected to abide by all rules and guidelines of our clinical partners which includes:
 - 1. Completion of all clinical clearance paperwork such as:
 - Background check
 - Drug screen
 - Current on all required immunizations
 - CPR
 - HIPAA agreements
 - 2. Completion of all tasks in respective student portals by the specified deadlines.
 - 3. Adherence to facility-specific rules and regulations including, but not limited to:
 - No photographs taken in any clinical facility or with facility staff.

- No cell phone use in clinical settings except for in public lobbies during break times.
- Plain, natural nails only.
- No permanent jewelry.
- B. Students are to comply with all parts of the Uniform Code found in the Department of Nursing Undergraduate Student Handbook when participating in all clinical experiences or representing the Department or UVU as a nursing student. Students will be notified of alternate uniform expectations per specific course needs (i.e., business casual in mental health settings, etc.).
- II. Faculty responsibilities: Clinical faculty will monitor behaviors of students while in clinical settings. They will consult with the faculty supervisor, program coordinator, and/or department chair for guidance on student behaviors.
- III. Consequences for noncompliance:
 - A. All consequences for noncompliance apply to compliance issues for the duration of the nursing program.

B. If students do not complete the clinical clearance paperwork by the assigned deadline, they will not be allowed to start any clinical rotation. They will meet with the clinical coordinator and be given a written warning.

C. If students fail to update and maintain clinical paperwork items (i.e., flu shot, CPR, etc.), they will be pulled from clinical and will not be allowed to return until all outstanding items are taken care of.

- 1. If a student is pulled from clinical or not allowed to attend clinical due to noncompliance, this will be treated as an unexcused absence and will be subject to the course guidelines for unexcused absences.
- 2. The department is not responsible to provide make-up opportunities for clinical shifts missed due to noncompliance.
- D. Students not in uniform during a clinical shift will be dealt with as follows:
 - 1. 1st offense: Meeting with clinical course lead and clinical coordinator and placed on probation.
 - 2. 2nd offense: Pulled from clinical; unexcused absence.
 - 3. 3rd offense: Possible dismissal from the nursing program.
- E. Students found using a cell phone in a clinical setting will be dealt with as follows:
 - 1. 1st offense: Meeting with clinical course lead and clinical coordinator and placed on probation.
 - 2. 2nd offense: Pulled from clinical, unexcused absence.
 - 3. 3rd offense: Possible dismissal from the nursing program.

F. Students who take pictures in a clinical setting or with clinical staff will be

dismissed from the nursing program. This is a violation of federal HIPAA laws.

Updated August 2023

Health Care Provider Basic Life Support (BLS/CPR) Certification

Students participating in clinical experiences must meet affiliated clinical agency requirements for Basic Life Support (BLS) certification. Basic life support consists of essential non-invasive lifesaving procedures including CPR, basic airway management, artificial ventilation, and in most cases, the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs). **The certification must be through the American Heart Association** and stipulate that it is for health care providers or professional rescuers. All students enrolled in UVU nursing programs are responsible for renewing certification and providing evidence of continuing certification without lapse.

Compliance Procedures:

- The student uploads evidence of current American Heart Association BLS certification to the online compliance management system (Verified Credentials), overseen by the Student Program Coordinator.
- The Student Program Coordinator reviews BLS certification expiration dates prior to each semester. Reference: American Heart Association. (2020). Guidelines for CPR & ECC. https://cpr.heart.org/en/resuscitation-science/cpr-and-ecc-guidelines

Background Check

A cleared background check is required before students are officially admitted into the nursing program.

Drug Screening

To comply with the current community agencies where UVU nursing students participate in clinical placements, students will be required to undergo and pass a drug screen prior to admission to the Department of Nursing. The Department of Nursing reserves the right to perform periodic drug screenings while students are enrolled in the program.

Drug Screen: A urine sample provided at a contracted facility and tested for recognized drugs of abuse.

Impaired: Under the influence of alcohol, any drug, or the combined influence of alcohol and any drug or substance to a degree that renders the person incapable of safely operating a vehicle and/or performing the cognitive and physical functions of a student nurse resulting in risk to the safety of self or others.

Expectations: The Utah Valley University Department of Nursing requires a drug screen on all nursing students upon acceptance to the Department of Nursing and randomly thereafter, if behavior warrants another screening during the student's tenure in the Department of Nursing. Behavior that may warrant further drug screens includes but is not limited to failure to comply with facility protocols while working in clinical settings, being evaluated as impaired by clinical faculty and/or clinical staff, suspicion of drug use during school and clinical experiences. Admission and continuing status in any nursing program at Utah Valley University is contingent upon satisfactory results of initial and subsequent drug screens. Failure to submit to a requested drug screen will cause immediate dismissal from the nursing program.

Procedure for Positive Drug Screens: Drug screens identifying issues that may preclude admission are referred to the Chair of the Department of Nursing, who notifies the applicant of the results. The Chair may request additional information from the applicant. Although a positive drug screen does not automatically disqualify an applicant from admission, conviction or a drug related arrest may preclude licensure. Therefore, students receiving one or multiple positive drug screens or having a conviction of any drug related offense will be referred to Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (DOPL) in order to obtain clearance for licensure prior to admission to, or continuance in, the Department of Nursing.

Procedure:

- Students are given instructions to initiate a drug screen along with their acceptance letter from the Department of Nursing.
- After the student has completed the required screening, results are uploaded to Verified Credentials by the agency that performed the analysis.
- Students will receive authorization to register once screening results have been received and approved by the Department of Nursing.
- Drug screening information that does not place the student in jeopardy of admission is stored in Verified Credentials. Information that may require further investigation is given to the Chair of the Department of Nursing.
- Any student disagreeing with the Chair's decision may file a formal grievance, as defined in policy. <u>Ombuds Services for Students | Conflict Resolution | Utah Valley University</u>

Official Statement on Cannabis

In accordance with UVU Policy 548, applicants to clinical programs at UVU must pass a drug test. Students will be tested upon acceptance to a clinical program. The responsibility for passing the drug test resides with the student regardless of possession of a medical cannabis card that is legal in any state. Clinical programs reserve the right to repeat drug tests at any time during the clinical program. --Utah Valley University Clinical Education Council

Immunization Requirements - General

Student nurses are at risk for exposure to, and possible transmission of, diseases because of their contact with patients or with infective material of patients. Some diseases are preventable by vaccination (e.g., hepatitis B), while other diseases require early detection and effective treatment to prevent harm to the student and transmission to others (e.g., tuberculosis). Therefore, immunization and TB testing compliance will be required of all students entering the Department of Nursing. Immunization requirements are subject to change, based on agency requirements for participation in clinical sites.

Immunizations

- Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis: Pertussis: a one-time dose of Tdap (received after age 10) with direct patient contact. CDC recommends a Tdap booster every ten (10) years.
- Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR): Two doses after 1 year of age or titer (Note: If born in 1957 or before, and serologic evidence shows adequate immunity, the MMR requirement is waived)
- Hepatitis B: Documentation of completed three- or two-dose series, blood test with reactive results, or titer. Documentation of six (6) dose series with a "non-reactive" blood test will also be accepted, as this individual is considered a "non-responder."
- Varicella (Chicken Pox): If no serologic proof of immunity, prior vaccination, or history of Varicella disease, two (2) doses, four (4) weeks apart are required.
- Influenza: One dose annually (Flu season begins in October and extends through the winter/spring semester).
- Other immunizations with documentation may be required as agency and/or infection control guidelines change.

Tuberculosis (TB) Testing Requirements

Upon admission to the program, students must complete one of the following options:

- Two (2) negative screenings for tuberculosis within six (6) months prior to admission
- One (1) QuantiFERON Gold (QFT) test with negative result or
- One (1) T-SPOT blood test with negative result
- Additional testing for TB may be required if there is a known exposure to tuberculosis or if there is any concern that a student may have communicable/active TB.

Throughout the program, students are required to have an annual TB test or QuantiFERON Gold or T-SPOT.

Acceptable Documentation for Clinical Compliance Requirements

Students must submit a copy of the original record of immunization or testing. The record must document the following:

- The name of each required vaccine or test
- The date (month/day/year) of each dose received
- The result if documenting a test or titer
- Written verification of all doses by a physician or other authorized medical provider, governmental or employee health department, or health clinic
- Dates from memory or estimates are not acceptable
- Or approved UVU waiver. Contact the ASN Program Coordinator for more information and link to submission form.

Compliance Procedures for Immunization

Refer to section "Acceptable Documentation" for specific guidelines. The vaccinations are administered and documented according to the recommendations of the United States Public Health Service's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (2021). The departmental designee reviews submitted documents and maintains an immunization/TB testing record for each nursing student. The record reflects testing done and vaccination histories including the immunizing agent, date, and certifying facility or provider (CDC, 1997). It is the student's responsibility to maintain all required immunizations and TB testing throughout the program. Therefore, the student must:

- Repeat any immunization that expires before being allowed to attend clinical throughout the program
- Maintain TB testing according to clinical facilities protocols
- Students assigned to a high-risk area, such as a homeless center or refugee clinic or if they have a known exposure to TB may be required, at the Department's discretion, to undergo testing and treatment if indicated.

References:

- CDC-Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended vaccines for healthcare workers (2017): <u>https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/index.html</u>
- Utah Department of Health Adult Immunization <u>https://immunize.utah.gov/information-for-the-public/adult-immunization/</u>

Nursing Learning and Simulation Center (NLSC)

Mission: The UVU Nursing Learning and Simulation Center (NLSC) is accountable to the mission, values, and educational objectives of UVU and the nursing program. We achieve exceptional results by providing evidence-based simulation reflective of diverse patient needs and health conditions. Students develop clinical judgement and refine nursing skills through translation of healthcare education into clinical practice. We promote quality healthcare outcomes by engaging students in a safe, learner-centered space where participants model high-quality, patient-oriented care within a simulated, dynamic healthcare environment.

- 1. Student use of lab rooms, equipment and/or supplies is always under direct faculty supervision.
- 2. Lab conduct and behavior for participants:
 - a. Participate and communicate as a member of the team.
 - b. Demonstrate respect for others dignity and rights.
 - c. Maintain a professional demeanor and not act in a manner that endangers others or distracts from class activities.
 - d. Respect the work and needs of other lab users. This includes avoiding entering lab areas during times other than their scheduled class.
 - e. Avoid taking equipment or supplies from dedicated storage areas without authorization.
 - f. Adhere to the dress code as outlined in the Department of Nursing Undergraduate Student Nursing Handbook.
 - g. Complete an orientation prior to using equipment.
 - h. Eat or drink only in approved areas.
 - i. Use computers for assigned classroom work and not for personal use.
 - j. Use equipment only for purposes intended.
 - k. Report equipment malfunctions or abuse to NLSC staff or manager immediately.
 - 1. Dispose of hazardous supplies appropriately.
 - m. Only remove manikins from beds when instructed to do so.
 - n. Adhere to FERPA standards and confidentiality related to testing, debriefings, and simulation experiences.
 - o. Only use personal electronic devices with faulty approval during lab and simulation activities.
- 3. Environmental health, safety, and emergency procedures:
 - a. UVU environmental health and safety procedures information is located at <u>https://www.uvu.edu/safety/</u>.
 - b. In case of fire or other emergencies, all persons are expected to follow approved UVU guidelines as outlined at https://www.uvu.edu/police/emergency_procedures/index.html
 - c. All students should be instructed by faculty on safe handling techniques for procedures, equipment, and supplies prior to practice and demonstration.
 - d. Everyone should use caution when practicing lifting skills and during movement of equipment.
 - e. For questions on NLSC hazards information, including materials used for cleaning, contact the NLSC Director.
 - f. For emergencies call 911 and notify the campus police by calling 863-5555.
 - g. For minor injuries, students will contact their instructor and the Lab Manager. For injuries that require treatment, students may go to the Student Health Services located at the Sorenson Center.
 - h. Anyone injured must contact the UVU Risk Management Office to complete the UVU Injury Report Form within 24 hours. Email completed form to <u>riskmanagement@uvu.edu</u>

Updated November 2023

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