

BSU SCHOOL OF NURSING
Clinical Information for
NUR 634: Advanced Health Assessment

Please read this information carefully and then contact the on campus course faculty to discuss your clinical plans. It is important to do this so an appropriate clinical site, preceptor and clinical faculty can be chosen prior to the beginning of the course.

Course Description

This course allows for the practice of advanced health assessment techniques across the lifespan. The emphasis is on critical thinking and decision making abilities to formulate differential diagnoses and a plan of care based on assessment data.

Course Outcomes

1. Synthesizes knowledge of health promotion, risk reduction, illness and disease management and human diversity in performing health assessment
2. Utilizes the diagnostic reasoning process during the health assessment
3. Applies the AACN core concepts of critical thinking, communication, assessment and technical skills to formulate clinical diagnoses
4. Incorporates ethical principles and professional values in performance of advanced health assessment

Clinical Information

NUR 634 requires 90 hours of supervised clinical experience. This time is divided between meeting with your clinical faculty person (8 hours) and time at your chosen clinical site with your preceptor (82 hours). Conferences, seminars, lunches, breaks and travel time cannot be counted as clinical hours.

- All pre-clinical forms and documents must be mailed together in one envelope to the secretary of the graduate program. Do not fax forms.
- No clinical hours may be done until all preceptor, agency, and clinical faculty information has been received and approved.
- The course faculty will notify the student by e-mail of approval.
- **IMPORTANT DUE DATES:**
 - Plan ahead. All pre-clinical forms and documents must be in the office of the Secretary of the Graduate Program prior to the beginning of the semester. Refer to the Pre-Clinical Information Checklist (form # 14) to see what information is required.
 - If all pre-clinical forms and documents are not in the office of the Secretary of the Graduate Program by Friday of the first week of the semester, the student will be required to withdraw from the course.
 - For tuition refund schedule information go to www.bsu.edu/distance.

Clinical Setting Qualifications

- Appropriate clinical settings for this course include Internal Medicine and Family Practice offices and Community Clinics providing comprehensive primary care services. Internal Medicine practices must be general not specialized (i.e., cardiology, endocrinology) so that a wide variety of patients will be seen.
- The clinical setting should provide the student with a variety of health assessment experiences (well visits, acute health problems, chronic health problems).

- Students may **NOT** do clinical experiences for this course in emergency departments, inpatient settings, urgent care settings, occupational health settings or limited specialty offices. These settings do not allow for the appropriate primary care experiences needed.
- Students may **NOT** complete clinical experiences in their own place of employment.
- An Agency Agreement must be signed, submitted, and approved for utilization of the clinical site. (Form # 1)

Clinical Preceptor Qualifications

- Adult/Family Nurse Practitioner or Family/Internal Medicine Physician providing primary care for adults / families
- National certification for nurse practitioners
- Minimum of one year of clinical experience
- Currency in practice
- Preceptors cannot be a relative, friend, or co-worker.
- Discuss with potential preceptor the need for you to be able to do hands on assessments (histories and physical exams). This will help you to avoid a site where you are only permitted to observe.
- Preceptors do not receive any payment from Ball State University for their services.
- A preceptor information form (Form # 2) must be submitted for **each** clinical course even if you have used the preceptor before.

Clinical Preceptor Responsibilities

- Orient student to the clinical setting.
- Assist student in selection of a variety of patients that will help them to meet course outcomes.
- Utilize Preceptor Clinical Evaluation Form as a guide to assist student in developing and refining skills and knowledge related to health assessment and the advanced practice nurse role.
- Provide formative evaluation/feedback during the semester.
- Inform *course faculty* **immediately** of any concerns regarding student performance.
- Serve as a clinical expert and role model for the student.
- Validate all physical examination findings, review any laboratory tests, and confirm differential diagnosis on all patients seen by student.
- Review and co-sign all of student's chart documentation.
- Encourage the student to become increasingly self directed.
- Provide a summative evaluation using the Preceptor Clinical Evaluation Form (Form # 16) at the end of the clinical experience.
- We will send an orientation packet, evaluation form and return envelope to your preceptor.

Clinical Faculty Qualifications

- Adult/Family Nurse Practitioner
- Minimum of master's degree in nursing
- National certification
- Clinical experience of at least one year
- Currency in clinical practice
- Clinical faculty must **NOT** be employed at the same clinical site as the preceptor.

- Clinical faculty cannot be a relative, friend or co-worker.
- Clinical faculty must meet with the student outside of their regular work hours.
- Clinical faculty receives \$400 from BSU for their services.
- A clinical faculty information form (Form # 11) must be submitted for **each** clinical course even if you have used the clinical faculty before.

Clinical Faculty Responsibilities

- Facilitate practice of required physical assessment skills on a surrogate patient.
- Evaluate student's competency in performing specific physical assessment skills on a surrogate patient using provided guidelines (Form # 18). Submit evaluation forms to course faculty at designated due dates.
- Evaluate student's competency in performing a comprehensive physical examination on a surrogate patient & documenting findings using provided guidelines (Form # 19). Submit evaluation form to course faculty at the designated due date.
- Inform *course faculty* **immediately** of any concerns regarding student performance.
- We will send an orientation packet, evaluation forms and return envelope to your clinical faculty.
- The 8 hours you spend with the clinical faculty is for demonstration / return demonstration of physical examination skills on a surrogate patient (this can be an adult friend or family member) and for the final comprehensive physical assessment.
- Prior to the first day of clinical experience with the *preceptor* the student must meet with their *clinical faculty* and satisfactorily complete demonstration of the following physical assessment on a surrogate patient:
 - Examination of the skin
 - Examination of the head, eyes, ears, nose and throat
 - Examination of the thorax, lungs and breasts
 - Examination of the heart and peripheral vascular system
 - Examination of the abdomen
- Prior to completion of 45 hours of clinical experience with the *preceptor* the student must meet with their *clinical faculty* and satisfactorily complete demonstration of the following physical assessment on a surrogate patient:
 - Examination of the nervous system
 - Examination of mental status
 - Examination of the musculoskeletal system
 - Demonstration of set up for a pelvic examination and description of examination technique
 - Description of examination technique for rectal and prostate examination
- The clinical faculty person will submit a form to the course faculty documenting satisfactory completion of the above demonstrations.
- At the end of the semester one hour of time should be scheduled with the clinical faculty for the student to complete a comprehensive physical examination on a surrogate patient supplied by the student. The clinical faculty should submit the completed final evaluation form (Form # 19) along with the student's graded documentation of the physical assessment to the course faculty in the provided return

envelope by the designated due date.

On Campus Course Faculty Responsibilities

- On campus course faculty has the overall responsibility for monitoring each student's progress and for didactic and clinical evaluation.
- Review student's clinical plans and all clinical forms to provide approval.
- Provide orientation materials for preceptor and clinical faculty.
- Act as liaison to preceptor, clinical faculty, and student, problem solving any difficulties that arise.
- Provide didactic materials and resources to student relevant to course outcomes.
- Guide and evaluate student's achievement of course outcomes through course assignments, tests, and other correspondence with student as needed.
- Review student's clinical logs, time sheet, and all clinical evaluations to determine if student has satisfactorily completed the clinical component of the course.
- Review all student evaluations of the clinical agency and provide feedback to agency as needed.

Student Responsibilities

- Complete all university student health requirements and any other requirements specific to the clinical agency prior to starting clinical experience.
- Obtain and submit all required preceptor, clinical faculty, and agency information prior to beginning any clinical hours – must have course faculty approval.
- Meet with *preceptor* prior to beginning clinical experience to discuss logistics of the clinical experience and to review course outcomes.
- Meet with the *clinical faculty* to discuss plans for physical assessment skills practice, competencies, and final comprehensive physical examination.
- Enter data on all patient encounters in electronic logging system on a weekly basis.
- Submit time sheet (Form # 12) signed by *preceptor* and student self evaluation to *course faculty* at designated due dates.
- Complete all clinical and course requirements within expected time frame.
- Inform *course faculty* **immediately** of any concerns about clinical experience.
- Submit agency evaluation (Form # 3) to *course faculty* by designated due date.

Clinical Forms

You can access all required clinical forms at <http://www.bsu.edu/web/nursing/forms>.

Please read all of the forms for the course carefully before making any decisions about clinical sites, preceptors and clinical faculty.

Physical Examination Equipment (Students need to have access to the following equipment for clinical courses):

- Stethoscope with diaphragm and bell
- Blood pressure cuff and manometer
- Ophthalmoscope / Otoscope
- Snellen visual acuity chart / near vision chart
- Tuning fork
- Reflex hammer
- Penlight
- Centimeter ruler

- Students will be using an electronic log system for all clinical courses.

Clinical Attire

Appropriate professional attire is required according to agency regulations. A name pin is also required. This pin is to be 1” x 3”, white with black letters in the following format:

Ball State University Student Name and Credentials Graduate Student

TIS Bookstore will sell the pin for \$6.75 plus UPS shipping costs.

Local phone 765-282-1811 Toll free phone 888-723-6404