



UVM DEPARTMENT OF NURSING GRADUATE PROGRAM HANDBOOK



COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

2021-2022

Handbook Overview

The Graduate Student handbook provides information and guidance to both students and faculty for facilitating the progression of students to degree completion.

The Handbook contains policies and procedures related to the graduate nursing program.

Additional policies and procedures are

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mission, "...is to create and share knowledge. UVM prepares its students to live productive, responsible, and creative lives through a high quality liberal education. As a research university, UVM endorses the intrinsic value of the creation of new knowledge and promotes the application of relevant knowledge to benefit the State of Vermont and society as a whole. As a research university, UVM is distinguished by the comprehensiveness of its academic mission, its range of graduate and undergraduate programs and its commitment to research-based lifelong learning. As a community of scholars, students, both undergraduate and graduate, are involved in the generation of knowledge. As a member of its local and global community, the University has an obligation to share its knowledge, to assist with relevant applications of that knowledge, and to understand and respond to a changing and diverse world" (UVM Undergraduate Catalogue).

The Department of Nursing is an integral part of the University of Vermont and College of Nursing & Health Sciences endorses the principles of the University and College in teaching, research, and service.

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health care.

- Participation in the activities of health related organizations.
- Educating consumers of health care.

Philosophy of the Department of Nursing

As Nursing faculty, we believe,

Learning and discovery are life-long processes. Nursing curricula inclusive of the arts and sciences facilitates students' development of clinical reasoning and critical thinking skills. Nursing education advances, inclusivity, interprofessional collaboration, health equity, and the use of sustainable practices.

Health across the lifespan is a dynamic process requiring holistic approaches, which are safe and effective. Health values are influenced by personal, spiritual, cultural, and societal beliefs and practices.

Nursing practice responds to the health needs and values of a global society by respecting age, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation or socioeconomic factors, and transcends national boundaries.

Evidence-based practice derived from research is essential to optimal health promotion and foundational to nursing practice.

Interprofessional and consumer communication, enhanced by technology is vital to quality and optimal consumer-based healthcare outcomes.

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Additional disciplinary provisions applicable to students are articulated in the University's Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy and the University's Discrimination and Harassment Policy.
http://www.uvm.edu/policies/general_html/sexharass.pdf
<https://www.uvm.edu/policies/student/studentharass.pdf>

Grievance Policy

The Graduate College is ultimately responsible for grievances regarding policies and procedures related to graduate education. A grievance properly begins within a student's department by the student sharing a concern with a program director or chair. If this does not resolve the grievance, the student can present the grievance in writing to the Dean of the unit in which the program resides, and after that to the Dean of the Graduate College. Grievances must state clearly the nature of the concern and the basis for appeal, including relevant evidence. The Graduate College Dean, who only can act on the grievance.

graduate.

On November 10, 1999, the Faculty Senate adopted the following motion to be effective spring semester 2000: “The taking of notes during a scheduled class of a scheduled University of Vermont course for the purpose of selling the notes or other commercial purpose is prohibited without the express written permission of the professor(s) who teach the course.”

Overview of the Curriculum for the Graduate Program

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree or the Master of Science (M.S.) degree for Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL students) is awarded upon successful completion of requirements through full or part-time study. The major components of the graduate curriculum are designated as core courses, track courses, elective courses, and a project. Track courses focus on either primary care delivery (AGNP/FNP) or patient care coordination (CNL). Elective courses in the post-graduate DNP program may be non-nursing or nursing graduate courses. Rarely, an independent study course may be approved. Prior to enrollment in independent study, students must obtain the approval from their academic advisor, faculty sponsor, and the faculty sponsor’s department chair or designee. Guidelines for development of an independent study are found here:
<http://catalogue.uvm.edu/undergraduate/academicinfo/independentstudy/>

The comprehensive examination is a University requirement. The oral examination provides the student the opportunity

Accelerated Master of Science: MS-Clinical Nurse Leader

www.uvm.edu/cnhs/nursing/accelerated_master_science_nursing_clinical_nurse_leader

Direct Entry Program in Nursing: MS- Clinical Nurse Leader

www.uvm.edu/cnhs/nursing/direct-entry-master-science-clinical-nurse-leader

Practicum Experiences

Nurse practitioner track courses (AGNP and FNP) have both a theoretical and practicum component. These practicum experiences may be located throughout the state of Vermont or in other select states as deemed appropriate by the program director. Vermont RN licensure (by exam or endorsement) is required **PRIOR** to the start of program clinical training (typically GRNS 408). It is student's responsibility to renew the Vermont RN license as required by the VT Board of Nursing and upload your current license to Castlebranch prior to expiration. Students are expected to have rotations at rural sites throughout Vermont. A car is needed to travel to rural sites across the state of Vermont.

Practicum experiences may occur during the evening hours or weekends. Inherent

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- d. Neutral colored hosiery/socks.
 - e. Tattoos are covered/ not visible.
 - f. Jewelry is simple and kept to a minimum for your safety and patient safety. No chains, necklaces, wrist bands, bracelets. Visible body piercings, except for ear lobes with small posts, are not permitted.
 - g. Hair is neat and clean. Long hair is pulled back and secured when providing direct patient care.
 - h. Facial hair is clean, well-groomed. Mustaches and beards are neatly trimmed or clean shaven.
 - i. Fingernails are clean and neatly manicured. Use of artificial nails, nail decorations or nail polish are discouraged.
 - j. Colognes, perfumes or scented hand lotions are not used due to client allergies, sensitivities and possible adverse reactions.
 - k. Clothing does not reveal cleavage, midriff, shoulders, or undergarments.
 - l. Head coverings may be worn for religious or medical reasons.
2. Pre-Clinical Preparation: When the student arrives at a clinical agency to retrieve their assignment, the student will introduce themselves to a patient, or begin to collect pertinent data, the student will wear:
- a. Business casual attire
 - i. Business casual includes below the knee or longer dresses and skirts, slacks, blouses, shirt tucked into pants with a belt (if belt loops are present), and sweaters. Shoes are soft soled, low heeled (limited to one inch) with closed heel and toe worn with hosiery/socks.
 - ii. Business casual does NOT include: denim or jean-like pants, tank tops, tube tops, sleeveless shirts, shorts, jeans, miniskirts, sweat pants, hooded garments, t-shirts with logos, tight fitting clothing, or low necklines.
 - b. A clean white lab coat with the UVM logo on the left sleeve.
 - c. UVM name tag (or agency ID badge) clearly displayed

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UVM Graduate College

<http://www.uvm.edu/~gradcoll/>

Please refer to the Graduate College for important information on different policies applicable to Graduate Students including (but not limited to) grading policy, leaves of absence and rights and responsibilities of graduate students.

Graduate Catalogue http://catalogue.uvm.edu/pdf/2020-21_graduate.pdf

Comprehensive Examination

Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree- Primary Care NP (FNP, AGNP) & Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree-Executive Nurse Leader (DNP)

Comprehensive Exam: Following completion of the project proposal, the student will complete the comprehensive examination. Once the DNP Project Proposal (i.e. SQUIRE 2.0, item 1-12) is accepted by the DNP project advisor, the student is eligible to schedule the oral Comprehensive Exam. The integration of project and comprehensive examination is designed to allow students to demonstrate competency of knowledge acquired throughout the DNP curriculum and articulate how the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice (www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/DNPEssentials.pdf) and Nurse Practitioner Competencies 2017_NPCoreComps_with_Curric.pdf (ymaws.com) are integrated within the project.

Master of Science Degree – Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)

Students will collaborate with their CNL project advisor on the development of the written CNL project proposal using SQUIRE format. The student must work closely with their team to develop a realistic timeline for completion of the CNL project proposal. Upon completion of the project proposal, the student will complete **the comprehensive examination**. The integration of project and comprehensive examination is designed to allow students to demonstrate mastery of knowledge acquired throughout the CNL program and to show how the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials of Masters Education in Nursing are integrated within their project. (<http://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/MastersEssentials11.pdf>) Students will also deliver their personal CNL Elevator Speech formulated in GRNS 339 as a closing component of the comprehensive exam.

x As part of the clinical experience, students are required to travel to distant areas of Vermont (DNP component of my program of study).

x Part of the clinical experience (DNP component) will include rotations in rural primary care.

x **A Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) is NOT awarded** at the end of the pre-RN licensure year of study. The final degree of Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) is awarded at the end of the DNP program.