

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

# American Public University System

*The Ultimate Advantage is an Educated Mind*

**School of Health Sciences**  
**NURS695**  
**Practicum in Nursing Education**  
**Credit Hours: 3**  
**Length of Course: 16 weeks**

## Course Description (Catalog)

This practicum provides nurse educator students the opportunity to apply specialized learning essential to strengthen and advance their own nursing practice in a particular area or focus in a direct care role. Students work with the practicum coordinator and faculty to identify a qualified preceptor and to select the practicum site for a wide variety of clinical practice settings consistent with AACN's Master's Essentials (2011). 160 hours of clinical practice are required for completion of this practicum. All core and specialty courses must be completed before taking this course.

## Course Scope

During this 16-week, 160 hours of supervised clinical practicum course, students will complete clinical practice experiences designed to advance and strengthen patient care delivery skills. Students will work with a qualified preceptor in a direct-care role in a sustained clinical practice setting. These direct-care experiences enable students to integrate new knowledge and demonstrate attainment of program outcomes where the experiences are evaluated by nursing faculty. Direct care experiences will be required for a minimum of 60 of the practicum hours. Students may work with nurses in an in-direct role (such as an academic setting) for the remaining 100 hours.

## Course Learning Objectives

The following objectives are aligned with the MSN Program Outcomes (PO):

1. Synthesize and apply advanced practice nursing concepts and skills to the role of the nurse educator.
2. Apply specialized learning with a focus on a population of interest or specific role to strengthen and advance nursing care.
3. Develop clinical proficiency through focused clinical practice experiences to advance patient care, intervention skills, and system assessment that enhance understanding of organizational dynamics.
4. Select appropriate personal learning objectives for a clinical practicum experience.
5. Demonstrate effective communication skills in working with members of an interprofessional healthcare team.

6. Summarize your learning in the clinical practicum through effective writing and presentation skills

Module Learning Objectives are located within the course.  
Masters Essentials covered in this course include I & IX.

### Course Delivery Method

This course delivered via distance learning will enable students to complete academic work in a flexible manner, completely online. The 160 hours of the nurse educator practicum will take place in person in a clinical setting. The scheduling of these hours will vary to accommodate student and preceptor schedules and meet the course objectives. Course materials and access to an online learning management system will be made available to each student. Online assignments are due weekly as noted on the course outline and can include Forum questions and written assignments. Assigned MSN faculty will support the students throughout this sixteen-week course and is responsible for the final practicum assessment and evaluation of student attainment of objectives.

### Course Materials

#### Required Course Textbook:

All required readings and resources are available within MyClassroom.

#### Academic Writing Requirements:

The School of Health Sciences requires use of APA format and style and all students are encouraged to have a current copy of the *APA Publication Manual*. All written assignments are to be submitted in APA format style unless otherwise noted in the assignment directions.

### Evaluation Procedures

#### Discussions

Please join the discussions each week. Replies must be posted in the week due and replies after the end of the each week will not be graded. The Discussions are for student interaction and input should be submitted before the week ends in order to fully participate in the discussions. Students should demonstrate their own knowledge in the discussions and avoid copying and pasting from websites. In this class there are 7 graded discussions.

#### **Guidelines:**

- Post the initial response to each discussions by 11:55pm, ET, Wednesday
- Initial responses are to be original in content and demonstrate a thorough analysis of the topic.
- Reply to ***more than 2*** of your classmates in each forum by 11:55pm, ET, Sunday.
- Responses to classmates are significant to advance the discussions.
- All discussions can be accessed in the Discussions section of the course.
- Respond to all questions posed to you in your initial post by instructor and/or peers.

An initial post must precede the response posts to peers. An initial post received after Wednesday 11:55 pm will receive a 10% deduction for each day, for 3 days, prior to discussions being graded. This means the highest grade possible for a late submission of 3 days, is 70%. However, response posts are due by Sunday 11:55 pm. If response posts are not submitted by this time, the discussion is over. Therefore, no points can be awarded for collaboration, and the highest grade possible for late submission past 3 days is 60%.

**Tests/ Quizzes**

There are no tests/quizzes in this course.

**Written Assignments**

There are 5 written assignments due throughout the course. All assignment instructions and grading rubrics are located in the Assignments area of MyClassroom. Assignments are due by 11:55 pm EST on the Sunday of the week they are assigned, or as indicated in the Assignments area.

**Course Grading Outline**

Grading Instrument	Percentage of Final Grade
Introduction Discussions	1%
Weekly Discussions	21%
Personal Practicum Goal Statement and Objectives (SMART)	8%
Capstone Written Report: Part 1	22%
Capstone Written Report: Part II	22%
Capstone Written Report: Part III	22%
Evaluation of Achievement of Personal Practicum Goals and Objectives	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Course Outline				
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Week	Assignments	Discussions	Practicum	Capstone Project
1	Personal Practicum Goals and Objectives (S.M.A.R.T.)	Introduction Discussion	Meet with preceptor to: 1) provide copy of Practicum Handbook, 2) discuss personal practicum goals/ objectives,  Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Review Capstone project requirements (written report) with preceptor.  Discuss a strategy to complete project activities in accordance with this course outline.
Week	Assignments	Discussions	Practicum	Capstone Project
2			Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Conduct system assessment of facility to develop an understanding of

				organizational dynamics.  Examine the composition of target audience for teaching project (learning needs & implications for teaching/learning strategies)
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
3	Capstone Project Written Report: Part I		Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	In collaboration with preceptor analyze findings from week 2 to Identify teaching project topic need.  Examine the literature to understand the problem (scope and evidence-based strategies used to address). Use findings to develop Part I of the capstone report.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
4		Weekly Discussion	Ensure preceptor submits practicum progress report to Typhon  Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Revise Part I of your W3 submission and begin work on Part II.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
5	Capstone Project Written Report: Part II		Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Analyze factors that you perceive to be important components of effective teaching.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
6			Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	In collaboration with preceptor discuss timeframe for project implementation (to occur sometime between weeks 7-14).
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>

7		Weekly Discussion	Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Project implementation/evaluation.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
8	Second Progress Report Due in Typhon		Complete 10 practicum hours this week.  Ensure preceptor submits practicum progress report to Typhon	Project implementation/evaluation.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
9		Weekly Discussion	Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Project implementation/evaluation.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
10			Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Project implementation/evaluation.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
11		Weekly Discussion	Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Project implementation/evaluation.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
12		Weekly Discussion	Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	Project implementation/evaluation.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
13	Final Preceptor Progress Update		Complete 10 practicum hours this week.  Ensure preceptor	Project implementation/evaluation.

			submits practicum progress report to Typhon	
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
14	Capstone Project Written Report: Part III		Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	In collaboration with preceptor examine completed project activities. Analyze barriers and enhances to project achievement.
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
15	Complete Reflection of Practicum Experience Discussion		Complete 10 practicum hours this week.	
<b>Week</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Discussions</b>	<b>Practicum</b>	<b>Capstone Project</b>
16	Evaluation of Achievement	Weekly Discussion	Ensure preceptor submits final practicum evaluation to Typhon	

## Policies

### Nursing Program Policies

#### Assignment and Coursework Grading Policy

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the designated due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. Failure to submit coursework by the designated due date will result in a ten percent (10%) penalty per day until three (3) days after the coursework is due. Therefore, after three (3) days, the maximum grade the student can achieve with a late submission will be a grade of 70% (C-). If a student is ill, has a family crisis, or will miss scheduled coursework deadlines for any reason, the student shall notify the instructor in advance if at all possible. Assignments will NOT be accepted more than seven (7) days after the due date unless prior arrangements have been made in advance of the due date.

#### Use of Online Sources such as Course Hero

In addition to the university's plagiarism policy, students who are found to have submitted materials plagiarized from any online source, such as Course Hero, will be reported to the university and may [fail the course](#) and/or [be expelled](#) APUS. Use of said materials is academic dishonesty and will not be tolerated.

#### Self-Plagiarism

Each course in the program has unique course learning objectives designed to build

professional knowledge and skills. To accomplish these learning objectives, all work submitted for a course must be original and cannot be a resubmission of one's own previous work. When repeating a course, students must submit newly created work as well.

### **Course Completion and Progression Requirements**

For all capstone courses that begin after January 1, 2017, master's students must earn a B- (80%) or better on their capstone thesis/project/paper and a B- (80%) or better in their capstone course to pass the course. This policy aligns with the comprehensive exam, which also requires a B- (80%) or better to pass. Master's students must have at least a 3.0 GPA in order to graduate. Please see the [End of Program Assessment Manual](#) for more information.

*For more information regarding these final course requirements, please refer to the End of Program Assessment Manual for Graduate Studies found in the Trefry Library in the Master's Studies Resource Center.*

## **Communications**

### **Student Communication**

To reach the instructor, please communicate through the MyClassroom email function accessible from the Claslist of the Course Tools menu, where the instructor and students email addresses are listed, or via the Office 365 tool on the Course homepage.

- In emails to instructors, it's important to note the specific course in which you are enrolled. The name of the course is at the top center of all pages.
- Students and instructors communicate in Discussion posts and other learning activities.
- All interactions should follow APUS guidelines, as noted in the [Student Handbook](#), and maintain a professional, courteous tone.
- Students should review writing for spelling and grammar.
- [Tips on Using the Office 365 Email Tool](#)

### **Instructor Communication**

The instructor will post announcements on communications preferences involving email and Instant Messaging and any changes in the class schedule or activities.

- Instructors will periodically post information on the expectations of students and will provide feedback on assignments, Discussion posts, quizzes, and exams.
- Instructors will generally acknowledge student communications within 24 hours and respond within 48 hours, except in unusual circumstances (e.g., illness).
- The APUS standard for grading of all assessments (assignments, Discussions, quizzes, exams) is five days or fewer from the due date.
- Final course grades are submitted by faculty no later than seven days after the end date of the course or the end of the extension period.

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## **University Policies**

Consult the [Student Handbook](#) for processes and policies at APUS. Notable policies:

- [Drop/Withdrawal Policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)

- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Academic Dishonesty / Plagiarism](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)
- [Student Deadlines](#)
- [Video Conference Policy](#)

## **Mission**

The [mission of American Public University System](#) is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society

## **Minimum Technology Requirements**

- Please consult the catalog for the minimum hardware and software required for [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) courses.
- Although students are encouraged to use the [Pulse mobile app](#) with any course, please note that not all course work can be completed via a mobile device.

## **Disclaimers**

- Please note that course content – and, thus, the syllabus – may change between when a student registers for a course and when the course starts.
- Course content may vary from the syllabus' schedule to meet the needs of a particular group.