

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
NURS696
PRACTICUM IN NURSING LEADERSHIP
Credit Hours: 3
Length of Course: 16 weeks

Course Description (Catalog)

The practicum is completed with a nurse leader in a selected setting where the student will develop proficiency to deliver quality cost-effective care; to participate in the implementation of care; and to assume a leadership role in the management of human, fiscal, and physical healthcare resources. Emphasis will be placed upon the application of complexity theory and systems thinking to effectively lead teams and promote change, as well enhancing business and financial judgement skills needed for the analysis of practice quality and costs.

Course Scope

This course will allow students the opportunity to integrate nurse leadership theory and practice into practical, real-life experiences. Each student will find a preceptor (who must meet specified criteria) to serve as their clinical preceptor, and with whom they will have the chance to work in an area of interest to apply concepts and practices associated with the roles of a nurse leader. During this 16 week, 160 hour practicum course, students will work with a preceptor in a clinical setting.

Course Learning Objectives

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

1. Assume a leadership role in the promotion of culturally responsive, high-quality care through effective healthcare team coordination and interdisciplinary communication.
2. Apply leadership skills to effectively design, implement, and evaluate patient safety and quality improvement initiatives.
3. Analyze factors that impact healthcare financing and the impact on the healthcare delivery system to delivery high quality care.
4. Reflect upon personal organizational and systems leadership skills critical to the promotion of high quality and safe patient care.

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 8 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 Discussion | 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 Goals and Objectives | 4% |
| Total | 100% |

Course Outline

| 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. |
| 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) |

| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
|-------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| 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. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 4 | | Six Sigma and SCIP 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. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 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. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 6 | | Discuss Quality Improvement Methods | Complete 10 practicum hours this week. | In collaboration with preceptor discuss timeframe for project implementation (to occur sometime between weeks 7-14). |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 7 | | Management vs. Leadership | Complete 10 practicum hours this week. | Project implementation/evaluation. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 8 | Second Progress Report Due in Typhon | | Ensure preceptor submits practicum progress report to Typhon | Project implementation/evaluation. |

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| | | | Complete 10 practicum hours this week. | |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 9 | | Changes in Nursing Leadership Discussion | Complete 10 practicum hours this week. | Project implementation/evaluation. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 10 | | | Complete 10 practicum hours this week. | Project implementation/evaluation. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 11 | | Informatics and Healthcare Technologies | Complete 10 practicum hours this week. | Project implementation/evaluation. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 12 | | Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving Health Discussion | Complete 10 practicum hours this week. | Project implementation/evaluation. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 13 | Final Preceptor Progress Update in Typhon | | Ensure preceptor submits practicum progress report to Typhon Complete 10 practicum hours this week. | Project implementation/evaluation. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 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. |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |
| 15 | Complete Reflection of Practicum Experience Discussion | Week 15 Reflection Discussion | Complete 10 practicum hours this week. Ensure preceptor submits final practicum evaluation to Typhon | |
| Week | Assignments | Discussions | Practicum | Capstone Project |

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|----|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| 16 | Evaluation of Achievement | | | |
|----|---------------------------|--|--|--|

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.