University of Texas at El Paso School of Nursing
Preceptor Packet
Nursing 4612 – Acute Care Practicum

PRECEPTORSHIP POLICY STATEMENT
UNDERGRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM

This statement is based on the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) Guidelines for Nurse Education, Rule 215.

PRECEPTOR

A clinical nurse preceptor is a registered nurse (preferably with a bachelor's or master's degree), who is not employed as a faculty member of the School of Nursing, is highly competent, with the ability and desire to guide and supervise student learning in the achievement of course objectives. Health care professionals (Non-RN) who serve as preceptors must have a bachelor's or master's degree.

The preceptor demonstrates a philosophy of health care congruent with that of the School of Nursing. The preceptor participates in the evaluation of a student's performance although the final responsibility for evaluation rests with the student’s clinical faculty.

The selection of the preceptor is a collaborative effort between UTEP School of Nursing and the Health Care Agency. Endorsement by the agency for the preceptor to participate in the teaching-learning process is required before the preceptor's name can be submitted for approval.

Prior to initiation of the preceptorship the student must have received basic theory and clinical experiences necessary to safely provide care to clients. At the beginning of the preceptorship a clinical preceptor agreement must be signed by the student, the preceptor, and the course faculty member.

Roles and Responsibilities of Preceptor / Agency / Faculty / Student
Roles and Responsibilities are based on the Texas BON Education Guideline 3.8.3.a.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PRECEPTOR

1. Participate in a preceptor orientation.
2. Function as a role model in the clinical setting.
3. Facilitate learning activities for no more than 2 students at one time.
4. Review and guide the student in achieving personal learning objectives and course objectives for each experience.
5. Orient the student to the clinical facility, personnel, policies/procedures, and the learning opportunities.
6. Supervise the student's performance of skills and other nursing activities to assure safe practices.
7. Maintain verbal and/or written communication with the faculty member. Contact the faculty if assistance is needed, any problem with student performance occurs, or the preceptor is to be absent.
8. Provide feedback to the student regarding clinical performance.
9. Evaluate the student performance in writing and discuss the evaluation with the student at midterm and at the end of semester.
10. Discuss with faculty and student arrangements for appropriate coverage for supervision of the student should the preceptor be absent.

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11. Provide the faculty member with such written evaluations at designated times.
12. Give feedback to the nursing program regarding clinical experience for students and suggestions for program development.
   (Texas Board of Nursing Education Guideline, 2013, p. 2, 3)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HEALTH CARE AGENCY

1. Retain ultimate responsibility for the care of clients.
2. Retain responsibility for preceptor's salary, benefits, and liability.
3. Arrange preceptors' work schedule so they are available on student clinical days.
4. Interpret the preceptor program and expectations of students to other agency personnel who are not directly involved with preceptorship.
   (Texas Board of Nursing Education Guideline, 2013, p. 2, 3)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM/FACULTY MEMBER

1. Ensure that preceptors meet requirements of the program.
2. Ensure a written agreement is in place which delinieates the responsibilities of the affiliating agency, clinical preceptor, nursing program, and student.
3. Orient the preceptor and student to College and course expectations.
4. Assume overall responsibility for teaching and evaluation of the student.
5. Assure student compliance with College health clearance standards on immunization, screening, universal precautions, CPR, and current liability insurance coverage.
6. Serve as liaison for the student, preceptor, agency and College.
7. Assign students to an approved preceptor.
8. Provide guidance to students in the formulation of learning objectives.
9. Meet regularly with the clinical preceptor and the student in order to monitor and evaluate the learning experience.
10. Be readily available, e.g., telephone, pager or e-mail for consultation when students are in the clinical area.
11. Conference with students at designated times. Conduct initial and final student group conferences.
12. Receive feedback from the preceptor regarding student performance.
13. Obtain preceptor and agency feedback on the preceptor arrangement for student experience.
14. Provide recognition to the preceptor for participation as a preceptor.
   (Texas Board of Nursing Education Guideline, 2013, p. 2, 3)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT

1. Coordinate personal schedule with the preceptor’s work schedule to avoid any conflicts.
2. Maintain open communications with the preceptor and faculty.
3. Maintain up-to-date College health clearance and liability insurance requirements.
4. Arrange for orientation to the clinical facility, personnel, policies, procedures, and agency goals and philosophy.
5. Function within the framework of the assigned agency.
6. Prepare for each clinical experience as needed.
7. Maintain accountability for own learning experiences.
8. Be accountable for own nursing actions while in the clinical setting.
9. Arrange for preceptor supervision when performing procedures.
10. Contact faculty, e.g. telephone, pager, or e-mail for assistance when necessary.
11. Participate in scheduled clinical conferences.
12. Respect the confidential nature of all information obtained during clinical experience.
14. Meet student responsibilities as presented in course guideline/outline and in student handbook.
   (Texas Board of Nursing Education Guideline, 2013, p. 2, 3)
The University of Texas at El Paso School of Nursing

SCHOOL OF NURSING PHILOSOPHY

The School of Nursing at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), views nursing as a professional service discipline grounded in the arts, sciences, humanities, and the application of knowledge obtained through scientifically based inquiry. The Nursing Faculty promote and adhere to a paradigm of caring that addresses holistic human responses throughout the age continuum. This paradigm includes education, practice and research that encompasses provision of care, coordination of care, and professionalism. While the faculty subscribe to a variety of theoretical frameworks reflecting adaptation, self-care, transcultural, and humanistic aspects, we believe that the essence of nursing is caring.

The Nursing Faculty view “Caring” as the basis for nursing. Caring involves recognizing client diversity, potential, autonomy, and universal needs. Further, caring involves understanding and acceptance; it promotes egalitarian relationships and has as its ultimate goal the empowerment of all individuals. The concept of caring permeates nursing education, practice, research, and all three of these entities are intertwined in the delivery of health care. Nursing Faculty draw upon their collective cognitive, clinical, and creative abilities to prepare nurses for the delivery of safe and effective nursing care that is in compliance with established Standards of Practice. We believe that both faculty and students have a responsibility to each other to create a learning environment that is conducive to: learning, freedom of thought, scholarly inquiry, affirmation of beliefs and skills, critical thinking, critical decision-making, ethical practice, facilitative communication, and leadership. Graduates assume roles as care providers, care coordinators, and professional leaders. They promote the health of individuals, families, and populations, the enhancement of society, and the nursing profession in the 21st century. Health care provides a dynamic environment in which there exists potential for physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual well-being for all individuals. Health Care Professionals practicing in this environment need to work in partnership with each other and the communities they serve. Both independent and collaborative nursing strategies are necessary components of practice. To this end, the faculty is committed to role-modeling a multi disciplinary and interdisciplinary approach to education, practice, and research, and to developing in students a sense of awareness of fiscal and outcome aspects of the current health care market place.

The UTEP Nursing Faculty believe that the practice of Professional Nursing requires a commitment to life long learning. We believe that the professional nurse has the responsibility to be visionary in the promotion and improvement of caring in current as well as future health care delivery models.

SCHOOL OF NURSING VISION

Leader in nursing education, practice, and research in the global healthcare environment.
SCHOOL OF NURSING MISSION

- Prepare professional nurses at bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral levels to meet complex human needs in a competitive global market
- Provide an environment where students, faculty and researchers investigate and meet global healthcare needs
- Inspire lifelong learning and utilization of advanced technologies
- Improve healthcare and quality of life in our diverse local communities
- Prepare graduates to make significant contributions to nursing, local communities and world

SCHOOL OF NURSING VALUE WORDS

- Quality: We deliver the highest value in education and research
- Service: Through caring, competency and efficiency we provide highest level of customer experience
- Communication: By hardwiring our processes we transfer information and knowledge
- Accountability: We strive for excellence in everything we do
- Ethics: We demonstrate highest level of human conduct and moral principles

SCHOOL OF NURSING GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Excellence – Innovation -- Diversity

UNDERGRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1. Provide professional nursing care to individuals, families, groups and communities in various developmental stages and from different socio-cultural backgrounds.
2. Use critical thinking and apply theories, principles and concepts in making clinical judgments about the health care needs of individuals, families and communities.
3. Intervene to minimize or alleviate stressors: to reinforce positive adaptive behavior, to promote, maintain and restore health, and to care for the ill, disabled, and the terminally ill.
4. Collaborate with other professionals, agency personnel and consumers in the planning, implementation and evaluation of health care.
5. Practice nursing within the framework of legal, ethical, moral and professional standards.
6. Use research findings in the care of clients/patients.
7. Provide leadership within the nursing profession and in health affairs.
8. Develop a lifetime commitment to intellectual inquiry, self-directed learning and professional growth.
9. Use undergraduate education as a basis for graduate study.
The University of Texas at El Paso
School of Nursing

CLINICAL PRECEPTOR AGREEMENT

Course Title: N4612, Acute Care Practicum

Semester (circle): Fall / Winter / Spring    Year: ________    Rotation: ________

I (please print) ________________________________ agree to serve as Clinical
Preceptor for (please print name) ________________________________
from (date) _______________________ to (date) ________________________.

I have read and understand the responsibilities of the clinical preceptor role and agree to
carry them out. I understand that this is an unpaid non-tenured position.

________________________________________
Preceptor (signature)

I have read and understand the responsibilities of the student role and agree to carry them out.

________________________________________
Student (signature)

I concur with the above assignment/agreement:

________________________________________
Faculty (signature)

Note: One copy to preceptor and/or agency, one copy to student, and one copy to faculty
member for student records.

Agreement Form approved by UTEP Nursing Faculty Organization April 8, 2002
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