Nursing 657
Advanced Practice Nursing:
Primary Care Practicum II
Fall 2013

Lorraine Fitzsimmons PhD, FNP, ANP-BC
Sue Hadley, PhD, GNP, ANP-BC
Linda Long, MS, RN, FNP
Sarah Livermore, PhDc, FNP-BC, ACHPN
Course Number: Nursing 657

Course Title: Advanced Practice Nursing: Primary Care Practicum II

Credit/Hours: 6 units, 18 clinical hrs/week

Prerequisites: NURS 501, Advanced Health Assessment & Health Promotion
NURS 610, Pathophysiology in Adults/Elderly
NURS 658, Clinical Pharmacology for Advanced Practice
NURS 684, Information Systems for Nursing
NURS 604A, Theoretical & Research Bases of Nursing
NURS 604B, Theoretical & Research Bases of Nursing
NURS 608, Nursing in the Health Care System
NURS 654, APN: Primary Care I
NURS 655, APN, Primary Care Practicum I

Concurrent With: NUR 656, APN, Primary Care II

Faculty: Lorraine Fitzsimmons, PhD, FNP, ANP-BC
Concentration Chair, Advanced Practice Nursing of Adults and Elderly
Lfitzsim@mail.sdsu.edu

Sue Hadley, PhD, GNP, ANP-BC
Associate Professor, SDSU School of Nursing, HT, 170
shadley@mail.sdsu.edu

Linda Long, MS, FNP
Lecturer, SDSU School of Nursing
llong@mail.sdsu.edu

Sarah Livermore, PhDc, FNP-BC, ACHPH
Lecturer, SDSU School of Nursing
SLIVERMORE@mail.sdsu.edu

Concentration: Advanced Practice Nursing of Adults/Elderly
NP-CNS Specialization

Catalog Description: Supervised clinical experiences providing primary and specialized care to adults and the elderly in diverse clinical settings.

Course Outcomes: Upon completion of this course the student shall demonstrate proficiency in following behaviors in each clinical setting assigned:

1. Elicits a comprehensive health history using appropriate interviewing techniques.

2. Performs an accurate episodic and/or complete physical examination.

3. Performs appropriate screening procedures based on age and history.

4. Identifies vulnerable clients and clients at risk.

5. Differentiates among normal findings, normal changes of aging, and pathological findings.
6. Formulates and/or contributes to a problem list.

7. Accurately and concisely communicates findings and problems to preceptor.

8. Recognizes the need for referral based on assessment findings.

9. Accurately and concisely records data including history and physical examination findings and problems identified on medical record.

10. Formulates an appropriate differential diagnosis based on history, physical examination and clinical and diagnostic test findings.

11. Verbally communicates the differential diagnosis to the preceptor.

12. Collaborates with the client in the formation of a mutually acceptable plan of care.

13. Develops an appropriate initial management plan including diagnostic tests, pharmacologic, and non-pharmacologic therapeutics with the preceptor.

14. Develops a continuing management plan including diagnostic tests and pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic therapeutics with the preceptor.

15. Identifies an appropriate client education plan including health promotion, health maintenance and health restorative interventions.

16. Identifies appropriate community resources/agencies for client referral.

17. Prioritizes treatments to the situation and time allocated.

18. Accurately and legibly records treatment plan on medical record.

19. Schedules follow-up visits to appropriately monitor achievement of outcomes.

20. Provides appropriate client teaching, counseling, and anticipatory guidance.

21. Accurately and legibly furnishes pharmacologic agents with the preceptor.

22. Accurately and legibly prescribes non-pharmacologic therapies.

23. Initiates appropriate referrals to health professionals and/or community agencies.

24. Demonstrates appropriate communication skills in client management.

25. Evaluates client response to treatment based on knowledge of expected outcomes.

26. Modifies treatment plan as necessary to achieve expected outcomes.

27. Communicates the role of the adult/geriatric advanced practice nurse in the delivery of primary and specialized care.

28. Communicates and collaborates with health professionals in the provision of primary/specialized care.

29. Demonstrates critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning skills in clinical decision-making.

30. Incorporates current health promotion and health maintenance recommendations into primary care practice.
31. Incorporates appropriate research findings into primary care practice.

32. Maintains client confidentiality.

33. Assumes accountability for practice.

34. Evaluates own professional practice and develops a plan for continued growth.

**Required Texts:**


**Competency Testing:** As reiterated in an announcement earlier this summer, prior to starting clinical practice in NURS 657, each student must demonstrate competence in content from NURS 654, 501, 610, and 658 by achieving a grade of 85% or higher on an in-class closed book exam and earn 90% or greater on the performance of a full physical exam. There will be one opportunity to repeat the exams. Students not achieving the required grade may not start clinical and maybe asked to withdraw from the course. The grade achieved on the first written in-class exam will constitute 10% of the final course grade.

**Course Overview:** NURS 657 prepares students to provide comprehensive health care for adults/elders in primary care and specialized care settings. Students work closely with preceptors in a variety of settings. Practicum hours are required by the California Board of Registered Nurses for nurse practitioner certification. **A total of 288 hours** is required for completion of N657. APN Practicum: Primary Care II. Clinical hours maybe arranged by the student with his/her preceptor, however students are generally assigned specific hours due to preceptor availability which may include evening or weekend hours. You are required to provide your preceptors with your contact information both email address and cell phone number. You are required to check and response to your email daily as both faculty and preceptors may try to reach you with important information.

You are responsible for submitting a clinical schedule to the faculty and preceptor at the beginning of the semester. Any deviation from the initial schedule must be approved by course faculty before the change. Clinical hours accumulated will not be counted if the schedule change has not been approved by course faculty.
Attendance at all scheduled clinical assignments is MANDATORY. These assignments involve contractual relationships with professionals who have committed their time to preceptorships. In addition, patients may be scheduled for follow-up to allow you to assess outcomes of your treatment plan. A student who must miss a scheduled laboratory due to illness or emergency must notify the clinical agency or preceptor and the course faculty member BEFORE the scheduled clinical assignment. Students who miss clinical experiences will be required to make up time lost prior to course completion. It may be necessary to take an incomplete in the course and make up the missed clinical hours the following semester on a space available basis only.

Each student is required to comply with School of Nursing policies regarding CPR and immunizations prior to starting clinical hours. Please consult the School of Nursing website and the SDSU School of Nursing Graduate Handbook for all policies. Students may not attend clinical without clearance from the compliance officer. Students are expected to assume responsibility for the accomplishment of course outcomes.

**SDSU-APN Dress Code:** Students are expected to dress in appropriate professional attire with a full-length neatly pressed white SDSU lab coat. Scrubs may be worn if it is the standard attire for the setting. Only white athletic shoes may be worn with scrubs. All attire should be neatly ironed. Blouses with low necklines, tank tops and midriff tops are not permitted. Shoes must be clean, low-heeled with closed toes. Fingernails should be trimmed short. Light or clear polish without chips is acceptable. No artificial or acrylic nails are permitted. Nail jewelry and appliqués are not permitted. Perfumes and colognes are allergenic to many patients with reactive airways or asthma and therefore should be avoided. Jewelry should be conservative. Body piercings should not be visible except for pierced ears. A maximum of two earrings per ear is permitted; no dangling or large earrings are allowed. Tattoos must be covered at all times. For female students, hair should be kept away from the face and should be pulled back as not to interfere with patient contact. Male students should be clean-shaven. Neatly pressed shirts with collars and ties and dress pants are too be worn in the clinical setting. Facial hair must be neatly trimmed. Mustaches, sideburns, beards should be clean and neatly trimmed. Any student considered unprofessional in appearance maybe asked by the preceptor or faculty to leave the clinical setting. Graduate students should wear their SDSU name badges on their lab coats. Some clinical agencies require special identification. Students are required to comply with all agency regulations.

**Clinical Placements/Clinical Preparation:** Students are required to prepare and use worksheets templates for the high volume diagnoses in each of their clinical sites. Templates should be derived from the evidence-based-standards for the population cared for. They should be no more than one-page each and should be in a SOAP formal. Due dates will be discussed at the first class meeting. Students are required to obtain resource books for use in their assigned settings. All students are required to bring their equipment and resources to clinical each week.

Clinical assignments will be distributed as soon as they are available and will take into consideration student requests solicited by course faculty. Students are placed in various settings based on faculty assessment of the clinical learning available, preceptor availability, and the student need to access specific patient populations. **Assignments may change throughout the semester.** Due to unanticipated circumstances, clinical days most likely will change during the semester. Therefore, students MUST BE AVAILABLE anytime during the semester to complete their clinical hours. Clinical sites will not be available next semester to complete clinical hours. **Work schedules are not valid excuses for not completing clinical hours.**

**Clinical Evaluation:** Faculty members have the primary responsibility for student grading. Written evaluations based on course outcomes will be sought from preceptors. Students will be evaluated by their preceptors and by course faculty. All evaluation forms are posted on BB.

1. **Preceptor Evaluation:** A student will be evaluated by each preceptor twice during the semester. Students are responsible for requesting and submitting completed evaluations to course faculty on the announced due date.
2. **Faculty Evaluation**: A student will be evaluated by a faculty member two or more times at each clinical setting during the semester. Faculty will schedule clinical visits with the student and will observe the student examining patients, presenting patients to the preceptor, and devising a treatment plan (medical diagnosis and prescriptions) in the clinical setting. Additional faculty evaluations of student performance may also occur in simulated settings at midterm and final if deemed necessary by course faculty. Emphasis will be placed on the application of primary care theory, the demonstration of knowledge of physical assessment, pharmacology, and pathophysiology, time management, and the student's assumption of the advanced practice role as a nurse practitioner. During the site visit faculty will also note the use of data collection sheets and templates and the student's ability to present patients to the preceptor in an organized, time efficient manner. Clinical performance will discussed in the practice setting at the time of the site visit if time permits. Satisfactory evaluations at the end of the semester are required for successful course completion. Satisfactory clinical performance as demonstrated by accurate decision making in the diagnosis and management of patient problems is required for successful course completion. Students must demonstrate time management skills relative to their settings. Students who do not successfully complete N656 and N657 may not progress to N751 and N753.

3. **Self Evaluation**: Self-evaluation for each site is due at midterm and after the final site visit.

**Assignments**

1. Students will complete and submit **weekly via email** the N657 Practicum Log for each clinical site (computer generated, use same form from last semester) to the designated faculty member. Logs are due by Sunday at 6PM. Late logs will not be accepted and weekly hours will not count.

2. Students will complete the N657 Bubble Sheet (cumulative for both sites) and submit to Dr. Fitzsimmons every 4 weeks.

3. **Charting (Documentation on the Medical Record)**: Each student will be prepared to share medical record documentation with the faculty at the time of the site visit. The EMR should not be duplicated. Faculty will review the student's documentation on EMR at the time of the site visit or at a prearranged time with the preceptor. Charting should be duplicated.

4. Students are required to prepare and use Worksheets and Templates for the high volume diagnoses in each clinical sites. Due dates will be announced at the beginning of the semester.

**Confidential Information**: In the course of your graduate education you encounter personal and sensitive information about patients. It is your legal and ethical responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of this information and to protect the anonymity of those involved. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding discussions that would allow others to identify the subject of the information.

As such, you should NEVER leave the clinical setting with any source of written medical information about patients. You should never duplicate medical records and keep them in your possession. You should not store patient information in electronic format (e.g., PDAs, computers, etc.). Failure to comply with the standard as noted above, holds serious consequences for the Hospital, Clinic, University, School of Nursing and the patient. As such, any violation may have serious repercussions. Students who fail to comply will have their final course grade altered by at least one letter grade and maybe dismissed from the program. Clinical credit hours will not be given for the clinical day if patient information is found in one’s possession outside of the clinical setting.
Grading

Faculty & Preceptor Evaluations  90%
Preclinical Didactic Exam  10%

Satisfactory faculty clinical evaluations at both settings are required for successful course completion. Final course grades are based on faculty and preceptor evaluations of clinical performance during the semester.

A final grade of C is required to pass N657. The following plus/minus scale will be used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-86%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-76</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-72</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67-69</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 66%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accommodations: Students who need disability accommodation should provide documentation of their disability to Student Disability Services at 619-594-6473 (Calpulli Center, Suite 3101), and receive authorization for academic or clinical accommodations. After accommodations have been authorized by SDS, students are responsible for notifying faculty in advance of the need for accommodation. This can best be accomplished by making an appointment to meet privately with the faculty member early in the semester, or as soon as possible in the event that a disability is diagnosed during the course of the semester.
Preceptor Qualifications/Requirements

The preceptor should be:

1. A nurse practitioner who is certified by a national credentialing organization or the equivalent, or a physician with appropriate Board certification.

2. Educationally prepared with a Master's degree in Nursing (preferred), or a highly experienced nurse practitioner with a baccalaureate degree in nursing who is recognized as a clinical expert.

3. Willing to meet with faculty and participate in an orientation to the SDSU School of Nursing Advanced Practice Program.

4. Able to provide a clinical practice setting that serves adult and/or geriatric clients and facilitates student learning and the achievement of course objectives.

5. Able and willing to precept the student in the clinical setting.

6. Willing to critically evaluate the student's clinical performance in writing during and at the end of the semester.

7. Willing to be evaluated by the student.

8. Willing to meet with SDSU faculty during periodic site visits to discuss the student's progress.

Preceptor Responsibilities

The preceptor agrees to:

1. Orient the student to the clinical setting.

2. Provide sufficient space and time to allow the student to see patients.

3. Provide the student with access to the kind of patient encounters that are needed to achieve the student's learning objectives.

4. Provide supervision and validation of the accuracy of the student's history, chart review, and physical examination findings and her/his assessment of the patient's presenting condition.

5. Review the student's tentative plan for management of the patient's health promotion needs and/or presenting conditions and provide necessary guidance to ensure appropriateness and comprehensiveness of the care plan.

6. Supervise the student when she/he initiates patient management regimens and referral procedures.

7. Meet with program faculty who make periodic site visits to review student progress and share ideas concerning ways to facilitate student learning.

8. Maintain communication with the program faculty as necessary.

9. Complete a standardized evaluation form twice during semester.
10. Based on your experience as a preceptor, share ideas for improving the clinical component of the program with program faculty.

**Student Responsibilities:**

The student shall:

1. Identify his/her learning needs and communicate them to the preceptor.
2. Adhere to assigned days and hours. If unavailable at assigned time inform the preceptor and faculty before the clinical experience.
3. Seek new clinical experiences that will develop his/her assessment, diagnostic, and treatment skills.
4. Work with other team members within the organization.
5. Demonstrate an increasing degree of independence.
6. Provide ongoing feedback to the preceptor regarding the clinical experience.
7. Seek preceptor evaluations at designated times during the semester.
8. Adhere to all agency/office regulations.
9. Adhere to all School of Nursing policies regarding immunization, CPR and professional liability insurance.
10. Maintain client confidentiality.

**Faculty Responsibilities**

The faculty will:

1. Identify and evaluate and visit clinical sites to facilitate student learning.
2. Identify, interview, and evaluate clinical preceptors.
3. Assign students to clinical practicum sites to meet course outcomes and individual learning needs.
4. Visit each clinical site twice during the semester to engage in clinical teaching, to obtain feedback from the student and preceptor, and to evaluate the student's clinical performance.
5. Review medical record documentation during the clinical site visit.
6. Communicate with preceptors every 2-3 weeks to assess student performance.
5. Review preceptor evaluations to assess student learning and progressive development in the role.
6. Assign final course grades.