



Andy and Barbara Gessner
College of Nursing
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



MSN PRECEPTOR HANDBOOK

2024-2026





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NURSING. EXCELLENCE. PERIOD

OVERVIEW

University of Houston Gessner College of Nursing



Preceptors are our partners in education who provide supervised clinical experiences that allow students to integrate and apply knowledge gained in the classroom to clinical practice. Preceptors provide an essential bridge linking students' previously learned knowledge to current professional nursing values. Students benefit from the individualized instruction that preceptors role model as health care providers and interprofessional team members.

Preceptors benefit from their experiences with UH nursing students. Preceptors discover the role brings status, increased job satisfaction, advancement of practice, recognition by faculty and other expert practitioners, and invitations to Gessner College of Nursing functions.

Click on the links below for information about the Gessner College of Nursing.

- [The Mission of the Gessner College of Nursing](#)
- [Gessner College of Nursing Goals](#)
- [Philosophy and Conceptual Framework](#)
- [Organizational Chart](#)

About the Programs

- [Second Degree BSN](#)
- [Traditional BSN](#)
- [RN to BSN](#)
- [MSN](#)
- [Post Master's Certificates](#)
- [DNP](#)

Responsibilities

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Faculty Responsibilities:

1. Provide a copy of the course syllabi which includes the course objectives and the appropriate evaluation form to the preceptor and clinical site.
2. Provide on-site clinical evaluations twice during the semester and be available for consultation as requested by the student, preceptor, or clinical site.
3. Review expectations for documentation in Typhon.
4. Consultation at the clinical site as requested by the student and/or preceptors.
5. Retain final authority for determining when the graduate student has successfully met requirements for satisfactory completion of the clinical experience and course requirements.

OVERVIEW

University of Houston Gessner College of Nursing



Preceptor/Clinical Site Responsibilities:

1. Orientation to utilized electronic health record system and other electronic systems as appropriate.
2. Adequate resources for educational instruction, communication, and documentation.
3. The preceptor will provide orientation, supervision, teaching, and evaluation of the student's performance in the clinical setting on an ongoing basis.
4. Provide timely and necessary input to student regarding student's ability to meet course/clinical objectives throughout the clinical practicum.
5. Inform the supervising faculty of any concerns related to unsafe clinical practice by the student or student difficulties in meeting the requirements of the clinical experience.

Graduate Student Responsibilities:

1. Be self-directed in identifying initial and ongoing learning needs, seek learning opportunities to meet identified needs, and be accountable for self-performance in the graduate student role.
2. Complete orientation and forms as required by the clinical agency and Gessner College of Nursing.
3. Maintain a log of clinical skills, activities, clients, teaching-learning modules and educational experiences attended throughout the duration of the clinical experience (e.g., Typhon).
4. Actively seek input into evaluation process and participate in self-evaluation of strengths and identified areas for professional growth with faculty member(s) and preceptor(s).
5. Complete and submit clinical preceptor and site evaluations and provide feedback to preceptor and faculty.

Each student is responsible for adhering to all university policies in the [University Student Handbook](#). In addition, students are responsible for adhering to all [Gessner College of Nursing policies](#).

- [Academic Honesty](#)
- [S134 Preceptor Policy](#)
- [S136 Student Professional Conduct and Demeanor](#)



FORMS

Description of Forms

The Preceptor Agreement and Credentials form is required by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and the Texas Board of Nursing (TBON) to document preceptor license and credentials

- No later than the first day of clinical, the Preceptor Agreement and Credentials form must be signed by the preceptor, student, and faculty. Upload the completed form into NPST.

MSN Learning Contract

- This form must be signed by the student, preceptor, and faculty at the beginning of the clinical rotation. Upload the completed form into NPST.

MSN Clinical/Practicum Hours Contract

- This form must be signed by the student and preceptor at the beginning of the clinical rotation. Upload the completed form into NPST.

NURS 6321: MSN Administration Practicum Hours Verification

- This form must be signed by the student, preceptor, and faculty at the end of the clinical rotation. Upload the completed form into NPST.

MSN Clinical/Practicum Hours Verification

- This form must be signed by the student, preceptor, and faculty at the end of the clinical rotation. Upload the completed form into NPST.

NURS 6312: MSN Education Measurement and Evaluation in Nursing Education

- This form must be signed by the student, preceptor, and faculty at the end of the clinical rotation. Upload the completed form into NPST.

Preceptor/Faculty Evaluation of MSN Education & Family Nurse Practitioner Student Clinical Performance

- At the end of the clinical rotation, the preceptor completes the form and the preceptor, student, and faculty sign the form. Upload the completed form into NPST.

Preceptor/Faculty Evaluation of MSN Administration Student Performance

- At the end of the clinical rotation, the preceptor completes the form and the preceptor, student, and faculty sign the form. Upload the completed form into NPST.

MSN Student Evaluation of Preceptor

- At the end of the clinical rotation, the student completes the form and the preceptor, student, and faculty sign the form. Upload the completed form into NPST.

PRECEPTOR AGREEMENT AND CREDENTIALS

Preceptor: Please fill out parts A and B of the Preceptor Agreement and Credentials form. Sign and return to student or requesting faculty member. Clinical affiliation agreement and Preceptor Agreement must be in place prior to the student being on site for clinical.

PART A

Preceptor Name: _____

Preceptor _____ Mailing _____ Address: _____

Name of Facility or Employer: _____

Facility Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Clinical Specialty: _____

License # (required): _____ Certifications: _____

List All Degrees Held: Undergraduate _____ Graduate _____ Doctoral _____ Other _____

If not an RN, please attach all appropriate credentials (resume and/or CV, certifications).

PART B

I, _____, do agree to act as preceptor for _____
(Printed Preceptor Name) (Printed Student Name)

in NURS _____, who will be completing clinical rotation at _____
(Course Number) (Location where Clinical Affiliation Agreement exists)

I hereby agree to abide by all rules and requirements set forth in the Preceptor Handbook:

Preceptor Signature/Date Student Signature/Date

Faculty Signature/Date Other Approval (if applicable)/Date

For College of Nursing Use ONLY:

- TBON Verification (Date/Time/Initials) _____
- UH Clinical Affiliation Agreement Number: _____
- Justification for Preceptor Qualifications if Preceptor is not an RN: _____

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MSN LEARNING CONTRACT

Student Name: _____ Course Number/Name: _____

Preceptor Name & Credentials: _____

Faculty Contact: _____

Clinical Site/Agency: _____

Site Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Preceptor Email: _____

Each student and preceptor will negotiate a learning contract. This contract outlines expectations for the experience and will assist the preceptor in evaluating the student’s clinical progress. The contract is accomplished by determining the student’s learning objectives and interests, in collaboration with the preceptor’s assessment of the student’s skill, potential, and educational priorities.

Course Objectives:

Setting Goals:

Student Goals: *(To be completed prior to the first day of the clinical experience)*

List the three most important goals you have for this clinical experience.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

List specific strategies for accomplishing these goals:

 Preceptor Signature/Date

 Student Signature/Date

 Faculty Signature/Date

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MSN CLINICAL/PRACTICUM HOURS CONTRACT

Student Name: _____ Course Number/Name: _____

Preceptor Name: _____ Preceptor Email: _____

Clinical Site/Agency: _____ Telephone: _____

Site Address: _____

Practicum dates and times shall be arranged with the assigned preceptor and approved by the course faculty prior to completion of hours. Hours not approved by the preceptor and faculty will not be counted and will be considered in violation of the clinical affiliate access policy.

Month and Year:						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Month and Year:						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Month and Year:						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Month and Year:						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Total Hours Negotiated: _____

Preceptor Signature/Date

Student Signature/Date

Faculty Signature

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NURS 6312: MSN EDUCATION MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION IN NURSING EDUCATION

Student Name: _____ Date of Evaluation: _____

Clinical Site/Agency: _____

Preceptor Name: _____

Directions: Rank the student’s clinical performance on levels of competency.

Key: Satisfactory (S) = Minimal or no assistance needed; Unsatisfactory (U) = Considerable assistance needed; N/A = Not applicable.

Competencies	Student Can:	S	U	N/A
ASSESSMENT	Measure student learning outcomes in the educational setting			
	Systematically collect comprehensive, accurate data for assignment and evaluation (formative and summative)			
	Analyze data collected in completion of formative and/or summative evaluations			
ROLE	Demonstrate initiative in managing student group			
	Apply measurement theory concepts as a basis for decisions			
	Incorporate the knowledge of measurement, evaluation, and nursing into the educator role			
EVALUATION	Consider legal, ethical, and financial aspects in assessment and evaluation of student learning			
	Participate in the political process within the setting to influence nursing and health education policy			
NURSING SKILLS*	Demonstrate critical thinking and effective communication skills in the application of assessment and evaluation principles			
	Maintain safety in performance of nursing skills (directly and in supervised students)			
COMMUNICATION*	Utilize advanced knowledge of nursing science and education in the delivery of educational content			
	Collaborate with clients, health care providers, students, and preceptors to effect change that improves the learning environment when appropriate			
	Maintain open communication with preceptor			
	Communicate professionally with students and members of the education team			
	Document appropriately			
PROFESSIONALISM*	Negotiate clinical schedule with preceptor			
	Demonstrate accountability for behavior			
	Identify own learning needs			
	Accept constructive feedback about educator role performance			
	Engage in scholarly inquiry to investigate and improve educational practice			

NURS 6312: MSN EDUCATION MEASUREMENT AND EVALUATION IN NURSING EDUCATION (Cont'd)

Student Comments	
Preceptor Comments	
Faculty Comments	

Preceptor Signature/Date

Student Signature/Date



**PRECEPTOR/FACULTY EVALUATION OF MSN EDUCATION AND FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER STUDENT
CLINICAL PERFORMANCE**

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Preceptor Name: _____

Clinical Site/Agency: _____

Site Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Graduate students are expected to assume responsibility for their professional growth through clinical experiences. Clinical practicum experiences are negotiated in order to meet the student's learning objectives while facilitating application of nursing theory to practice. Students will be evaluated on their self-directed achievement of the following criteria mid-way through the clinical experience, and again at the conclusion of the clinical experience.

Key: Satisfactory (S) = Minimal or no assistance needed; Unsatisfactory (U) = Considerable assistance needed; N/A = Not applicable.

	Mid-way			Conclusion		
	S	U	N/A	S	U	N/A
ATTITUDES AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS						
Communicates effectively with patients and families; is courteous and demonstrates empathy						
Interacts effectively with office staff and other health care professionals						
Accepts instructions well						
Asks for help when needed						
Demonstrates desire to improve clinical performance						
Demonstrates self-direction, motivation						
ASSESSMENT	S	U	N/A	S	U	N/A
Performs an appropriate, focused history						
Elicits an age/condition-appropriate health history						
Collects history in an organized and timely manner						
Verbally presents a case in a well-organized and orderly manner						
Provides anticipatory guidance in appropriate situations						
Correlates pathophysiology with assessment data for common disorders						
PHYSICAL EXAMINATION	S	U	N/A	S	U	N/A
Performs an appropriate physical exam						
Demonstrates appropriate utilization of equipment						
Differentiates normal from abnormal findings for most conditions						
DIAGNOSIS	S	U	N/A	S	U	N/A
Formulates differential diagnoses with preceptor assistance						
Selects correct common diagnostic tests with minimal assistance						
Interprets test findings with preceptor assistance						
TEACHING	S	U	N/A	S	U	N/A
Identifies teaching/learning needs of patient/family						
Provides basic individualized teaching information						
Assists patients with goal setting for health promotion and disease prevention based on individualized needs						
Seeks preceptor guidance for complex issues						
Identifies a wide variety of available resources for counseling/referral						

PRECEPTOR/FACULTY EVALUATION OF MSN EDUCATION AND FNP STUDENT CLINICAL PERFORMANCE (Cont'd)

MANAGEMENT	S	U	N/A	S	U	N/A
Formulates decisions with preceptor guidance						
Initiates obvious interventions with preceptor support						
Recognizes indicators for pharmaceutical management						
Includes patient in decision-making process						
Seeks preceptor guidance in new situations						
Schedules appropriate follow-up						
Makes appropriate referrals based on correctly stated rationale, protocols, and preceptor consultation						
MONITORING AND EVALUATING THE QUALITY OF CARE	S	U	N/A	S	U	N/A
Bases own practice on professional and legal standards						
Recognizes standards of practice						
Provides self-evaluation of own practice						
Presents a professional, competent image						
Seeks opportunities to increase knowledge base and clinical competencies						

Student Strengths
Areas for Improvement/Development

Additional Comments: *(Comments in this area are greatly appreciated)*

Preceptor Signature/Date

Student Signature/Date

Faculty Signature/Date



PRECEPTOR/FACULTY EVALUATION OF MSN ADMINISTRATION STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Preceptor Name: _____

Clinical Site/Agency: _____

Site Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Graduate students are expected to assume responsibility for their professional growth through practicums. Administrative practicums are negotiated with the preceptor in order to meet the student’s learning objectives while facilitating application of management and leadership theories and concepts into practice. Students will be evaluated on their self-directed achievement of the following criteria at the conclusion of the administrative practicum:

Key: Satisfactory (S) = Minimal or no assistance needed; Unsatisfactory (U) = Considerable assistance needed; N/A = Not applicable.

ATTITUDES AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS	S	U	N/A
Communicates effectively with management and leadership team (courteous and professional)			
Interacts effectively with office staff and other disciplines within the organization			
Accepts instructions well			
Asks for help when needed			
Demonstrates desire to improve performance			
Demonstrates self-direction, motivation, and autonomy			
ASSESSMENT AND PLAN	S	U	N/A
Performs an appropriate, focused background of the problem			
Retrieves subjective and objective data on the problem			
Collects data in an organized and timely manner			
Presents preliminary data to preceptor for input on legal, ethical, and financial aspects			
Provides anticipatory outcomes based on different options for resolution			
Correlates outcome measures with the chosen option			
IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION	S	U	N/A
Develops an implementation plan with consideration to the operations of the organization			
Integrates literature and data into the plan			
Implements the plan and prepares accompanying handouts			
Evaluates the implementation plan and reports the evaluative measures			
TRANSITION PRACTICUM PROJECT	S	U	N/A
Prepares to handoff practicum project to preceptor or designated person			
Formulates a list/plan for project sustainability as student transitions the project			
QUALITY OF CARE	S	U	N/A
Bases own practice on professional and legal standards			
Recognizes standards of practice			
Provides self-evaluation of own practice			
Presents a professional, competent image			
Seeks opportunities to increase knowledge base and clinical competencies			

PRECEPTOR/FACULTY EVALUATION OF MSN ADMINISTRATION STUDENT PERFORMANCE (Cont'd)

MANAGEMENT	S	U	N/A
Formulates decisions with preceptor guidance			
Initiates obvious interventions with preceptor support			
Recognizes the complexity of management and leadership decisions			
Identifies the need for Human Resources, Legal, Risk Management, and Financial team to be involved			
Seeks preceptor guidance in new situations			
Schedules appropriate follow-up			
Makes appropriate referrals based on correctly-stated rationale, protocols, and preceptor consultation			

Date of Preceptorship: From _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) to _____ (mm/dd/yyyy)

Student Strengths
Areas for Improvement/Development
Presentation Feedback (include areas of improvement)

Additional Comments: *(Comments in this area are greatly appreciated)*

Preceptor Signature/Date

Student Signature/Date

Faculty Signature/Date



MSN STUDENT EVALUATION OF PRECEPTOR

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Preceptor Name: _____

Clinical Site/Agency: _____

Site Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Directions: Please evaluate the experience with your preceptor by rating each of the items below. Your honesty and constructive criticism will be used to improve the preceptorship experience in the future.

Key: Satisfactory (S) = Always/Frequently; Unsatisfactory (U) = Rarely/Never; N/A = Not Applicable.

MY PRECEPTOR AS A PRACTITIONER –	S	U	N/A
Was acutely aware of the concerns of patients and their families			
Demonstrated an ease of communication with both patients and their families			
Was involved in community-oriented activities			
Respected different opinions			
Was up-to-date in general approach and treatment of medical problems			
Was up-to-date in approach and management of nursing problems			
Managed the clinical practice effectively			
Demonstrated an active interest in continuing medical and nursing education			
MY PRECEPTOR –	S	U	N/A
Was enthusiastic about teaching and having me as a student			
Was available to me			
Established a working relationship with me based on trust and respect			
Allowed me ample opportunity for practicing newly-learned technical skills, i.e., EKGs, physicals, and x-rays			
Stimulated my problem-solving capabilities by asking probing questions			
Maintained an approachable teaching atmosphere			
Explained to me the approach to problems that was used and the reasons decisions were made			
Elicited my perception of what I should learn			
Encouraged me to ask questions			
Provided me with positive feedback			
Encouraged independent learning by suggesting articles, books, and other resources			
Gave me the opportunity to offer opinions on patient problems and treatment			
Provided a model of the type of practitioner I would like to be			

Comments:

Preceptor Signature/Date

Student Signature/Date

Faculty Signature/Date