NURS 5333 - Prim Care Adult,GertrcFam Pra

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 181, CRN 18525

Instructor Information

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Office Hours:
By Appointment only
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Times and Location

Does Not Meet Face-to-Face

Course Description

This clinical practicum curse prepares the NP student to assess, diagnose, monitor, treat and coordinate care of adult individuals and their families who present with common acute, episodic, and chronic conditions in the primary care setting. Population based health disparities and their impact on the health of the individual and their family will be explored. There is 135 hours of practicum required. This course is graded pass/fail. Prerequisites: NURS 5230 and 5232. Pre or Co#requisites: NURS 5231 and 5233. Co#requisites: NURS 5332
Nursing Department, College of Nursing&Health Sci

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the MSN program, graduates will:

1. Critically analyze, interpret and utilize appropriate knowledge, research and theories to meet the health care needs of diverse client populations across the lifespan.

2. Collaboratively plan the delivery of culturally sensitive health care with organizations and the community.

3. Contribute to the advancement of nursing profession through evidenced-based research and practice.

4. Synthesize the leadership management, negotiating, teaching/coaching and consulting roles to foster continual improvement in order to meet changing societal and environmental needs.

5. Operationalize ethical, legal, political, and economic principles in application to management of healthcare delivery across the lifespan.

6. Advocate for advanced nursing practice through a commitment to lifelong learning and community service.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course the student will:

1. Communicate effectively orally and in writing with individuals, families, communities of interest and members of the healthcare team in order to influence healthcare.
2. Elicit a comprehensive health history from adult clients, parents, and /or caregivers.

3. Apply culturally competent strategies in performing developmental evaluations to assess variations in motor, cognitive and psychosocial aspects of development.
4. Order and/or perform physical assessment, appropriate diagnostic tests and health screenings to develop appropriate differential diagnoses and assessment of problems/needs based on clinical data.
5. Analyze data collected to determine the client's health status.
6. Develop and implement a proper plan of care based on established evidence-based practice guidelines.
7. Demonstrate professional responsibility and accountability with clients, peers and other health care professionals required for advanced practice nursing.

Additional Course Information

In this course, students may leverage generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini, Microsoft Copilot, writing tools) to assist with assignments specified by the instructor. The use of GenAI is intended to support [specific learning objectives, e.g., critical analysis, creative thinking, or productivity in content creation], with the following guidelines in place to ensure academic integrity:

Permissible Uses: Students are welcome to use AI tools for tasks such as brainstorming, creating outlines, exploring different perspectives on a topic, data visualization, data analysis or drafting ideas. However, for assignments requiring critical analysis or personal reflections, AI tools are not permitted unless explicitly allowed by instructor.

Documentation of AI Use:

In this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools—including but not limited to ChatGPT, Grammarly (GO/PRO) AI, Quillbot, Bard, Copilot, Jasper, or any other text-generating, paraphrasing, or content-creation software—is strictly prohibited in all nursing coursework unless explicitly authorized in writing by the course faculty. Students must complete and submit all academic and clinical coursework using their own independent work, analysis, and writing.

Allowed: Students **may use AI** for:

- Brainstorming: Idea generation, questions to consider, themes or angles to explore.
- Outlining: Structuring your own paper, presentation, or project (e.g., headings, subheadings, sequence of points).
- Planning tasks: Milestones, timeliness, checklists for your workflow

Not Allowed: Students **may not use AI** for:

- Writing or generating any portion of an assignment
- Paraphrasing or rewording content
- Summarizing articles or research
- Producing discussion board posts or responses
- Writing care plans, SOAP notes, or clinical documentation
- Creating PowerPoint slides or poster content
- Submitting AI-produced text (even if "heavily edited") as your own
- Producing reference pages

Source Verification Requirement

The use of automated reference or citation generators (e.g., Zotero, MyBib, Citation Machine) is not recommended and highly discouraged/prohibited to be used due to producing incorrect citations. Citations are to be formatted according to the American Psychological Association manual, following the edition specified in the course syllabus.

Students are required to include direct and clearly accessible links to all sources referenced in their written assignments. This requirement encompasses a diverse range of materials, including but not limited to journal articles, peer-reviewed studies, credible websites, and professional reports. The links should be formatted in a way that directs faculty and instructors straight to the original source, allowing for convenient verification of citations. It is essential that students take the time to double-check their links to guarantee that they lead directly to the content cited, thereby enhancing the overall quality and trustworthiness of their work.

Failure to adhere to the above policy will result in the following consequences:

Point Deductions

- Any assignments with broken or non-functional links will receive point deductions, impacting the overall grade as dictated by the lead faculty.

Exclusion of References

- References that cannot be verified due to missing or incorrect links, screenshots, or lack of URLs/DOIs will not be counted toward the assignment's reference requirements.

Reduced Academic Integrity

- Failure to properly format citations and provide verifiable sources may negatively affect the assessment of the student's work and their ability to demonstrate academic rigor.
- Repeated or serious violations of the policy will be referred to the TAMIU Honor Code for formal review. This includes, but is not limited to, submission of unverifiable sources, falsified or fabricated references, persistent use of broken or misleading links, or failure to correct issues after written notice.
- Such referrals may result in institutional sanctions in accordance with university policy, which may include a formal warning, assignment failure, course failure, or additional disciplinary actions as determined by the committee. These measures are implemented to protect the integrity of academic work and uphold professional and ethical standards expected in nursing education.

Important Dates

Visit the Academic Calendar (tamiu.edu) (https://www.tamiu.edu/academiccalendar/) page to view the term's important dates.

Textbooks

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Family practice guidelines (7th ed.).	Cash, J. C., Glass, C. A. & Mullen, J. (Eds.).	9780826183668
Required	Current Medical Diagnosis and Treatment (65th ed.).	Papadakis, M., & McPhee, S.	9781266135545
Optional	Fitzpatrick's Color Atlas and Synopsis of Clinical Dermatology (8th ed.).	Wolff, K., Johnson, A., & Saavedra, A.	9781259642197
Optional	Health Promotion Throughout the Life Span (10th ed.).	Edelman, C. L., & Mandle, C. L.	9780443245282
Optional	Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.).	American Psychological Association. (2020).	

Grading Criteria

GRADING SCALE: **Pass or Fail**

Please refer to the MSN Student Handbook for specific policies governing grading, progression, and intellectual honesty. The current MSN Handbook is located at: http://www.tamiu.edu/cson/handbook.shtml

Students are also encouraged to read the TAMIU 2026-2027 Student Handbook published by the Division of Student Success and the Office of Student Conduct and Community Engagement for additional content on the subject matter noted below.

CLINICAL PRACTICUM COURSE POLICIES:

1. No clinical can be started at any clinical site until a preceptor and affiliation agreement is completed, submitted to clinical coordinator in hand, email or fax, and approved by faculty. Clinical Practicum may start on August 24, 2026 if the preceptor agreement is completed, submitted and approved but not before. All clinical practicum hours must be completed prior to December 1, 2026. The student must pass the clinical experience in order to pass the course regardless of the numeric grade earned.
2. There are **135 hours** of clinical practice hours in selected clinical sites serving populations across the lifespan with an emphasis on adults and geriatrics. The clinical experience allows the student to apply knowledge in greater depth and scope, to incorporate new knowledge, and to develop clinical expertise in the advanced practice role. The student works closely with a nurse practitioner and/or physician preceptor in the development and enhancement of the collaborative role of the nurse practitioner.

3. A student should document at least **10 Typhon logs/cases for an 8 hour day clinical**; **5 cases should be submitted in Typhon for a half-day clinical (1.25 cases/hour)**
4. Students have 10 days, from completing a clinical day, to enter cases in Typhon to document or justify clinical or practicum hours. All clinical documentation must be completed within 10 days of patient interaction, or hours will be void and not count towards the total 135 practicum hours/SOAP notes required for course completion..
5. The student is encouraged to initiate contact, develop preceptorship plans, and make initial arrangements with the potential preceptor and agency. Independent action is stressed with University and preceptor/agency constraints. Final approval of preceptor and/or agency rests with the professors.
6. A signed preceptor agreement/contract with the preceptor/agency and the student/university must be in place by ***second week*** of the semester and prior to the student rotation.
7. Students must develop a calendar schedule for clinical hours with their preceptors and submit the schedule of clinical practicum hours to their assigned clinical professor **prior to start of clinical rotation otherwise these hours will not be counted in the course.** If the clinical professor makes a site visit during the dates/times the student has scheduled clinical hours, and the student is absent without notifying the clinical professor ahead of time, such will result in clinical failure. Student should plan for events, such as study time, class time, etc., at the beginning of the semester and not schedule clinical hours for those days. **Thus, there should be no changes of scheduled clinical hours to study for tests**. Students are expected to honor their precepted contracted hours.
8. The clinical preceptor must sign the **preceptor documentation** log verifying that the student was present during the clinical experience (page 7 of the preceptor handbook) Signature must be collected each day of the clinical experience. No corrections (no white-out or alterations) to the form after the preceptor has signed and verified the hours spent for a particular day.
9. The professor will make **two or more site** visits per student in order to further the learning process and to determine student progress. Additional site visits may be made at the professor's discretion. The clinical performance grade will be determined by the faculty member with input from the preceptor and student. The clinical component of the grade will not be assigned until the end of the semester. Safe clinical practice is mandatory for the successful completion of the course.
10. As a form of student evaluation for distant practicum, Texas A&M International University Canseco School of Nursing faculty will evaluate synchronous telemedicine consults via telecommunication platforms such as WebEx, Zoom, Teams, or other live stream technologies. Clinical faculty will evaluate MSN graduate students' performance at the clinical site while consulting patients remotely as part of the clinical practicum. This policy allows faculty to evaluate out-of-region students face-to-face or via remote consults synchronously with full consent of the clinical site/Preceptor/ Patient. Preceptors must be available during live stream consults, which will be conducted in an approved medical setting that supports the learning outcomes of each individual course and all HIPAA regulations.
11. Students are required to attend one mandatory on-campus Simulation/Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) during the semester. This experience allows faculty to directly evaluate students' advanced assessment skills, clinical reasoning, diagnostic decision-making, communication, and patient-management abilities in a standardized, controlled environment. The on-campus experience also provides students with hands-on practice, immediate faculty feedback, and an opportunity to demonstrate mastery of course content and the safe, competent, and professional practice required to progress to the next semester of the program.

COURSE POLICIES:

1. **All students must obtain a "satisfactory" for all course work to pass this course.**
2. This course is graded **Pass/Fail.** ***Not passing this course will negatively impact your GPA.***
3. Students may **NOT** have a clinical preceptorship where they work, nor may they be paid for clinical as part of their working hours.
4. The following behaviors constitute clinical failure (list not exhaustive):
   a. Demonstrating unsafe performance and making questionable decisions.
   b. Unprofessional behavior
   c. Lacking insight and understanding of own behaviors and behavior of others.
   d. Needing continuous specific and detailed supervision.
   e. Having difficulty adapting to new ideas and roles.
   f. Failing to submit required written clinical assignments in timely manner.
   g. Falsifying clinical hours and documents.
   h. Failure to communicate absence or tardiness (in a timely manner) to preceptor and clinical faculty for scheduled clinical hours.
5. There are no incompletes for the clinical portion of the course during the semester except for a major health problem. All clinical hours must be completed by the week before reading day. **NO extensions** for unmet clinical hours will be granted. Failure to complete all clinical hours or falsification of clinical hours will result in failure of the course.

Evaluation Methods

Item	Points (%)
Signed Clinical Log	Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
Typhon Logs Required # of Cases	Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
Site Visit Evaluation by Faculty Midterm & Final	Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
Student Evaluation of Preceptor Midtern & Final	Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
Student Evaluation of Agency Midterm & Final	Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
Preceptor Evaluation of Student Midterm & Final	Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
FNP Student Self-Eval Midterm & Final	Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
Simulation/OSCE	Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Agenda/Topic	Reading(s)	Due
8/24	Clinical Practicum	Monday. 1st Class Day.	Review and Sign Syllabus Acknowledgement Upload Clinical Schedule on Blackboard Upload Copy of Signed Preceptor Agreement on Blackboard Upload Screenshot of Verified Credentials on Blackboard Typhon Notes
8/31	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
9/7	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
9/14	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
9/21	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
9/28	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
10/5	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
10/12	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
10/19	Clinical Practicum	Mid-Semester.	Typhon Notes Mid-term Evaluations
10/26	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
11/2	Clinical Practicum		Typhon Notes
11/9	Clinical Practicum	Saturday & Sunday, November 14th and 15th, Mandatory On-Campus Simulation/ OSCE	Typhon Notes
11/16	Clinical Practicum	Thursday 11/19/26. Last day to drop a course or withdraw from the University.	Typhon Notes
11/23	Clinical Practicum	Thanksgiving Holidays. University closed. 11/26/26-11/28/26	Typhon Notes
11/30	Clinical Practicum	Tuesday 12/1/26. Last Class Day. All hours must be completed by this date.	Typhon Notes Final Evaluations
12/7			All Typhon Notes due by: Tuesday, December 8th, 2026

University/College Policies

Please see the University Policies below.

COVID-19 Related Policies

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, please refer to the Student Handbook, Appendix A (Attendance Rule) for instructions.

Required Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend every class in person (or virtually, if the class is online) and to complete all assignments. If you cannot attend class, it is your responsibility to communicate absences with your professors. The faculty member will decide if your excuse is valid and thus may provide lecture materials of the class. According to University policy, acceptable reasons for an absence, which cannot affect a student's grade, include:

- Participation in an authorized University activity.
- Death or major illness in a student's immediate family.
- Illness of a dependent family member.
- Participation in legal proceedings or administrative procedures that require a student's presence.
- Religious holy day.
- Illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class.
- Required participation in military duties.
- Mandatory admission interviews for professional or graduate school which cannot be rescheduled.

Students are responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to faculty members within seven calendar days of their absence and return to class. They must substantiate the reason for the absence. If the absence is excused, faculty members must either provide students with the opportunity to make up the exam or other work missed, or provide a satisfactory alternative to complete the exam or other work missed within 30 calendar days from the date of absence. Students who miss class due to a University-sponsored activity are responsible for identifying their absences to their instructors with as much advance notice as possible.

Classroom Behavior (applies to online or Face-to-Face Classes)

In the classroom, students are expected to listen attentively, participate respectfully, and adhere to established rules. Behavior that interferes with the class lecture may result in disciplinary action, ensuring a productive and respectful learning environment for everyone. Any disputes over academic matters should be addressed calmly and constructively, ideally during designated times such as office hours or after class. If a student does not agree with a decision, they can request a meeting with the instructor to discuss their concerns in more detail. Should further resolution be needed, the student may escalate the matter to the department head or use formal grievance procedures as outlined in the sections below. (please refer to Student Handbook Article 4 (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/article-04.shtml)).

TAMIU Honor Code: Plagiarism and Cheating

As a TAMIU student, you are bound by the TAMIU Honor Code to conduct yourself ethically in all your activities as a TAMIU student and to report violations of the Honor Code. Please read carefully the Student Handbook Article 7 and Article 10 available at Student Handbook (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/index.shtml).

We are committed to strict enforcement of the Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code tend to involve claiming work that is not one's own, most commonly plagiarism in written assignments and any form of cheating on exams and other types of assignments.

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's work as your own. It occurs when you:

1. Borrow someone else's facts, ideas, or opinions and put them entirely in your own words. You must acknowledge that these thoughts are not your own by immediately citing the source in your paper. Failure to do this is plagiarism.
2. Borrow someone else's words (short phrases, clauses, or sentences), you must enclose the copied words in quotation marks as well as citing the source. Failure to do this is plagiarism.
3. Present someone else's paper or exam (stolen, borrowed, or bought) as your own. You have committed a clearly intentional form of intellectual theft and have put your academic future in jeopardy. This is the worst form of plagiarism.

Here is another explanation from the 2020, seventh edition of the Manual of The American Psychological Association (APA):

"Plagiarism is the act of presenting the words, idea, or images of another as your own; it denies authors or creators of content the credit they are due. Whether deliberate or unintentional, plagiarism violates ethical standards in scholarship" (p. 254). This same principle applies to the illicit use of AI.

Plagiarism: Researchers do not claim the words and ideas of another as their own; they give credit where credit is due. Quotations marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author (i.e., summarize a passage or rearrange the order of a sentence and change some of the words), you need to credit the source in the text. The key element of this principle is that authors do not present the work of another as if it were their own words. This can extend to ideas as well as written words. If authors model a study after one done by someone else, the originating author should be given credit. If the rationale for a study was suggested in the discussion section of someone else's article, the person should be given credit. Given the free exchange of ideas, which is very important for the health of intellectual discourse, authors may not know where

an idea for a study originated. If authors do know, however, they should acknowledge the source; this includes personal communications (p. 11). For guidance on proper documentation, consult the Academic Success Center or a recommended guide to documentation and research such as the Manual of the APA or the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. If you still have doubts concerning proper documentation, seek advice from your instructor prior to submitting a final draft.

TAMIU has penalties for plagiarism and cheating.

- **Penalties for Plagiarism**: Should a faculty member discover that a student has committed plagiarism, the student should receive a grade of 'F' in that course and the matter will be referred to the Honor Council for possible disciplinary action. The faculty member, however, may elect to give freshmen and sophomore students a "zero" for the assignment and to allow them to revise the assignment up to a grade of "F" (50%) if they believe that the student plagiarized out of ignorance or carelessness and not out of an attempt to deceive in order to earn an unmerited grade; the instructor must still report the offense to the Honor Council. This option should not be available to juniors, seniors, or graduate students, who cannot reasonably claim ignorance of documentation rules as an excuse. For repeat offenders in undergraduate courses or for an offender in any graduate course, the penalty for plagiarism is likely to include suspension or expulsion from the university.
  - *Caution*: Be very careful what you upload to Turnitin or send to your professor for evaluation. Whatever you upload for evaluation will be considered your final, approved draft. If it is plagiarized, you will be held responsible. The excuse that "it was only a draft" will not be accepted.
  - *Caution*: Also, do not share your electronic files with others. If you do, you are responsible for the possible consequences. If another student takes your file of a paper and changes the name to his or her name and submits it and you also submit the paper, we will hold both of you responsible for plagiarism. It is impossible for us to know with certainty who wrote the paper and who stole it. And, of course, we cannot know if there was collusion between you and the other student in the matter.
- **Penalties for Cheating**: Should a faculty member discover a student cheating on an exam or quiz or other class project, the student should receive a "zero" for the assignment and not be allowed to make the assignment up. The incident should be reported to the chair of the department and to the Honor Council. If the cheating is extensive, however, or if the assignment constitutes a major grade for the course (e.g., a final exam), or if the student has cheated in the past, the student should receive an "F" in the course, and the matter should be referred to the Honor Council. Additional penalties, including suspension or expulsion from the university may be imposed. Under no circumstances should a student who deserves an "F" in the course be allowed to withdraw from the course with a "W."
  - *Caution*: Chat groups that start off as "study groups" can easily devolve into "cheating groups." Be very careful not to join or remain any chat group if it begins to discuss specific information about exams or assignments that are meant to require individual work. If you are a member of such a group and it begins to cheat, you will be held responsible along with all the other members of the group. The TAMIU Honor Code requires that you report any such instances of cheating.
- **Student Right of Appeal**: Faculty will notify students immediately via the student's TAMIU e- mail account that they have submitted plagiarized work. Students have the right to appeal a faculty member's charge of academic dishonesty by notifying the TAMIU Honor Council of their intent to appeal as long as the notification of appeal comes within 10 business days of the faculty member's e-mail message to the student and/or the Office of Student Conduct and Community Engagement. The Student Handbook provides more details.

Use of Work in Two or More Courses

You may not submit work completed in one course for a grade in a second course unless you receive explicit permission to do so by the instructor of the second course. In general, you should get credit for a work product only once.

AI Policies

Your instructor will provide you with their personal policy on the use of AI in the classroom setting and associated coursework.

TAMIU E-Mail and SafeZone

Personal Announcements sent to students through TAMIU E-mail (tamiu.edu or dusty email) are the official means of communicating course and university business with students and faculty –not the U.S. Mail and no other e-mail addresses. Students and faculty must check their TAMIU e-mail accounts regularly, if not daily. Not having seen an important TAMIU e-mail or message from a faculty member, chair, or dean is not accepted as an excuse for failure to take important action.

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to download the SafeZone app, which is a free mobile app for all University faculty, staff, and students. SafeZone allows you to: report safety concerns (24/7), get connected with mental health professionals, activate location sharing with authorities, and anonymously report incidents. Go to SafeZone (https://www.tamiu.edu/adminis/police/safezone/index.shtml) for more information.

Copyright Restrictions

The Copyright Act of 1976 grants to copyright owners the exclusive right to reproduce their works and distribute copies of their work. Works that receive copyright protection include published works such as a textbook. Copying a textbook without permission from the owner of the copyright may constitute copyright infringement. Civil and criminal penalties may be assessed for copyright infringement. Civil penalties include damages up to $100,000; criminal penalties include a fine up to $250,000 and imprisonment. Copyright laws do not allow students and professors to make photocopies of copyrighted materials, but you may copy a limited portion of a work, such as article from a journal or a chapter from a book for your own personal academic use or, in the case of a professor, for personal, limited classroom use. In general, the extent of your copying should not

suggest that the purpose or the effect of your copying is to avoid paying for the materials. And, of course, you may not sell these copies for a profit. Thus, students who copy textbooks to avoid buying them or professors who provide photocopies of textbooks to enable students to save money are violating the law.

Students with Disabilities

Texas A&M International University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal education opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Office of Disability Services for Students located in Student Center 124. This office will contact the faculty member to recommend specific, reasonable accommodations. Faculty are prohibited from making accommodations based solely on communications from students. They may make accommodations only when provided documentation by the Office of Disability Services for Students.

For accommodations or assistance with disabilities, contact the Disability Coordinator, Karla Pedraza, at karla.pedraza@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2763, or visit Student Center 124.

Student Attendance and Leave of Absence (LOA) Policy

As part of our efforts to assist and encourage all students towards graduation, TAMIU provides
LOA's for students, including pregnant/parenting students, in accordance with the Attendance Rule (Section 3.07) and the Student LOA Rule (Section 3.08), which includes the "Leave of Absence Request" form. Both rules can be found in the TAMIU Student Handbook (URL: Student Handbook (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/index.shtml)).

Pregnant and Parenting Students

Under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, harassment based on sex, including harassment because of pregnancy or related conditions, is prohibited. A pregnant/parenting student must be granted an absence for as long as the student's physician deems the absence medically necessary. It is a violation of Title IX to ask for documentation relative to the pregnant/parenting student's status beyond what would be required for other medical conditions. Students who experience or observe alleged or suspected discrimination due to their pregnant/parenting status, should report to the TAMIU Title IX Coordinator (Lorissa M. Cortez, 5201 University Boulevard, KLM 159B, Laredo, TX 78041, TitleIX@tamiu.edu, 956.326.2857) and/or the Office of Civil Rights (Dallas Office, U.S. Department of Education, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620, Dallas, TX 75201-6810, 214.661.9600). You can also report it on TAMIU's anonymous electronic reporting site, *Report It*, at https://www.tamiu.edu/reportit (https://www.tamiu.edu/reportit/index.shtml).

TAMIU advises a pregnant/parenting student to notify their professor once the student is aware that accommodations for such will be necessary. It is recommended that the student and professor develop a reasonable plan for the student's completion of missed coursework or assignments. The Office of Compliance (Lorissa M. Cortez, lorissam.cortez@tamiu.edu) can assist the student and professor in working out the reasonable accommodation. For other questions or concerns regarding Title IX compliance related to pregnant/parenting students, contact the Title IX Coordinator. In the event that a student needs a leave of absence for a substantial period of time, TAMIU urges the student to consider a Leave of Absence (LOA) as outlined in the TAMIU *Student Handbook*.#As part of our efforts to assist and encourage all students towards graduation, TAMIU provides LOAs for students, including pregnant/parenting students, in accordance with the Attendance Rule and the Student LOA Rule.#Both rules can be found in the TAMIU *Student Handbook*.

For parenting-related rights, accommodations, and resources, contact the Parenting Liaison, Mayra Hernandez, at mghernandez@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2265, or visit Student Center 226.

For pregnancy-related rights, accommodations, and resources, contact the TIX Coordinator, Lorissa Cortez, at lorissaM.cortez@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2857, or visit Killam Library 159.

Anti-Discrimination/Title IX

TAMIU does not discriminate or permit harassment against any individual on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, educational programs, or employment. If you would like to file a complaint relative to Title IX or any civil rights violation, please contact the TAMIU Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity/Title IX Coordinator, Lorissa M. Cortez, 5201 University Boulevard, Killam Library 159B, Laredo, TX 78041, TitleIX@tamiu.edu, 956.326.2857, via the anonymous electronic reporting website, ReportIt (https://www.tamiu.edu/reportit) and/or the Office of Civil Rights (Dallas Office), U.S. Department of Education, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620, Dallas, TX 75201-6810, 214.661.9600.

Incompletes

Students who are unable to complete a course should withdraw from the course before the final date for withdrawal and receive a "W." To qualify for an "incomplete" and thus have the opportunity to complete the course at a later date, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must have completed 90% of the course work assigned before the final date for withdrawing from a course with a "W", and the student must be passing the course;

2. The student cannot complete the course because an accident, an illness, or a traumatic personal or family event occurred after the final date for withdrawal from a course;
3. The student must sign an "Incomplete Grade Contract" and secure signatures of approval from the professor and the college dean.
4. The student must agree to complete the missing course work before the end of the next long semester; failure to meet this deadline will cause the "I" to automatically be converted to an "F"; extensions to this deadline may be granted by the dean of the college. This is the general policy regarding the circumstances under which an "incomplete" may be granted, but under exceptional circumstances, a student may receive an incomplete who does not meet all of the criteria above if the faculty member, department chair, and dean recommend it.

WIN Contracts

The Department of Biology and Chemistry does not permit WIN contracts. For other departments within the college, WIN Contracts are offered only under exceptional circumstances and are limited to graduating seniors. Only courses offered by full-time TAMIU faculty or TAMIU instructors are eligible to be contracted for the WIN requirement. However, a WIN contract for a course taught by an adjunct may be approved, with special permission from the department chair and dean. Students must seek approval before beginning any work for the WIN Contract. No student will contract more than one course per semester. Summer WIN Contracts must continue through both summer sessions.

Student Responsibility for Dropping a Course

It is the responsibility of the student to drop the course before the final date for withdrawal from a course. Faculty members, in fact, may not drop a student from a course without getting the approval of their department chair and dean.

Independent Study Course

Independent Study (IS) courses are offered only under exceptional circumstances. Required courses intended to build academic skills may not be taken as IS (e.g., clinical supervision and internships). No student will take more than one IS course per semester. Moreover, IS courses are limited to seniors and graduate students. Summer IS course must continue through both summer sessions.

Grade Changes & Appeals

Faculty are authorized to change final grades only when they have committed a computational error or an error in recording a grade, and they must receive the approval of their department chairs and the dean to change the grade. As part of that approval, they must attach a detailed explanation of the reason for the mistake. Only in rare cases would another reason be entertained as legitimate for a grade change. A student who is unhappy with his or her grade on an assignment must discuss the situation with the faculty member teaching the course. If students believe that they have been graded unfairly, they have the right to appeal the grade using a grade appeal process in the Student Handbook and in the Faculty Handbook.

Final Examination

All courses in all colleges must include a comprehensive exam or performance and be given on the date and time specified by the Academic Calendar and the Final Exam schedule published by the Registrar's Office. In the College of Arts & Sciences all final exams must contain a written component. The written component should comprise at least 20% of the final exam grade. Exceptions to this policy must receive the approval of the department chair and the dean at the beginning of the semester.

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it. The Telus app is available to download directly from TELUS (tamiu.edu) (https://www.tamiu.edu/counseling/telus/) or from the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Distance Education Courses

Online Courses and On-Campus Meetings

Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter J, Section 2.202 (https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=19&pt=1&ch=2&rl=202), defines distance education as the formal educational process that occurs when students and instructors are not in the same physical setting for the majority (more than 50%) of instruction. Distance education includes hybrid and 100% online courses and programs as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB):

- **Hybrid Course** - A distance education course in which more than 50 percent but less than 100 percent of instructional activity takes place when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations.
- **100-Percent Online Course** - A distance education course in which 100 percent of instructional activity takes place when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations. **Requirements for on-campus or in-person orientation, testing, academic support services, internships/fieldwork, or other non-instructional activities do not exclude a course from this category.**

Course Structure

1. Demonstration of skills
2. Independent self - study
3. Audiovisuals
4. Evaluation of student, preceptor and clinical site
5. Practicum instruction

Other Course Materials
To go to the bookstore, click here (https://www.bkstr.com/texasaminternationalstore/home/).

REQUIRED SUPPLIES:

- High quality stethoscope
- Ophthalmoscope and otoscope
- Pen light
- Reflex hammer
- Tuning fork (256Hz recommended)
- Laminated pocket size ruler, pupil size, and visual acuity cards (Rosenbaum)
- Measuring tape
- Lab coat – knee length
- TAMIU graduate student name badge (from ZSC 131).

Clinical Performance

- The professor will make one or more site visits per student in order to further the learning process and to determine student progress. Additional site visits may be made at the professor's discretion.
- As a form of student evaluation for distant practicum, Texas A&M International University Canseco School of Nursing faculty will evaluate synchronous telemedicine consults via telecommunication platforms such as WebEx, Zoom, Teams, or other live stream technologies. Clinical faculty will evaluate MSN graduate students' performance at the clinical site while consulting patients remotely as part of the clinical practicum. This policy allows faculty to evaluate out-of-region students face-to-face or via remote consults synchronously with full consent of the clinical site/Preceptor/ Patient. Preceptors must be available during live stream consults, which will be conducted in an approved medical setting that supports the learning outcomes of each individual course and all HIPAA regulations.
- The clinical performance grade will be determined by the faculty member with input from the preceptor and student. The clinical component of the grade will not be assigned until the end of the semester. Safe clinical practice is mandatory for the successful completion of the course.
- The clinical faculty member will determine whether the clinical performance and log grade with input from the preceptor and the student is either Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory. A competency based evaluation tool will be used.
- One must receive a "Satisfactory=Pass" in the clinical area in order to pass the course regardless of the theory grade. This course is graded Pass/ Fail. Not passing this course will negatively impact your GPA. Safe clinical practice is mandatory for the successful completion of the course.
- In the faculty's professional judgment, if a student is unable to provide safe patient care and if this deficit is such that it cannot be remedied in the given clinical time and within the limits of available faculty or preceptor supervision, the student will be removed from the clinical setting and will receive a grade of "F" for the course.

The following behaviors constitute clinical failure (list not exhaustive):

- Demonstrating unsafe performance and making questionable decisions.
- Unprofessional behavior
- Lacking insight and understanding of own behaviors and behavior of others.
- Needing continuous specific and detailed supervision.
- Having difficulty adapting to new ideas and roles.
- Failing to submit required written clinical assignments in timely manner.
- Falsifying clinical hours.
- Failure to communicate absence or tardiness (in a timely manner) to preceptor and clinical faculty for scheduled clinical hours.

Confidentiality: Nurses are entrusted with a great deal of personal information about their community, populations and individuals to plan comprehensive care. The student role requires that some of this information be shared with faculty and other students in a clinical conference setting. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) regulations provides federal protections for personal health information held

by covered entities and gives patients an array of rights with respect to that information. Students and faculty share the burden of carefully protecting the privacy of all persons concerned.

Student-Instructor Communication Policy and Response Time

Announcements/Course Messages/Emails

Announcements that include reminders and information pertinent to the course will be posted weekly and as a needed basis. Typically, an email response can be expected within 24 – 48 hours, Monday – Friday (except holidays & weekends). There will be a Question/Comment discussion board where students are encouraged to ask about anything that may be confusing or need clarification.

Regularly scheduled virtual office hours via Blackboard virtual space will be on Tuesday from 4 pm-7 pm central time. If another time is needed, send an email with your request & availability. You can contact me by phone (956-326-2458) during these hours. You can expect to receive a return phone call within 24-48 hours.

Student-Instructor Communication Policy and Response Time

Course Communication Guidelines (Netiquette)

There are course expectations concerning etiquette or how we should treat each other online. We must consider these values as we communicate with one another. Visit **Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services' web page on Netiquette (http://www.tamiu.edu/distance/students/netiquette.shtml)** for further instruction.

Accommodations/Accessibility Policy

Texas A&M International University seeks to provide reasonable accommodation for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Director of Student Counseling and to contact the faculty member in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodation. For more information, contact the online at **Office of Disability Services for Students (DSS)**, via phone at 956.326.3086 or by visiting the staff at the Student Center, room 118. A link to the Disabilities Services for Students site has also been included under the "Resources" tab inside the course.

Student Support Resources

The University wishes to have all students succeed in their courses. To provide support to our students, an array of services in the areas of technology support, academic support, student support, and accessibility support may be found at the University. For more information, visit the Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services page on **University Resources and Support Services**.

Computer/Technology Requirements

When participating in distance education courses, it is vital to consider the technology involved in order to have a successful course. Online students will need regular access to a personal computer that runs on a broadband Internet connection.

It is recommended that you meet the technical requirements listed on the Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services' webpage when using the learning management system (LMS) of the University.

NOTE: Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services may check out available webcams to students on a first-come, first-served basis. To check out a webcam, please stop by Killam Library, Room 259, and request an available webcam.

Additional Software. TAMIU Students may access online versions of this software through their Dusty Office 365 account at **https://dusty.tamiu.edu/**. This site also provides students access to download the Microsoft suite for educational use. **See instructions for downloading the Microsoft Office suite**.

Note: Students, if you do not own the required hardware or software or do not have access to the Internet, it will be highly challenging for you to make any progress in this class. However, my goal is to assist you in finding solutions and guide you appropriately most of the required materials can either be found free of charge at TAMIU's library, classrooms, and available computer labs. **Visit Media Services' web page on the availability of on-campus computer labs.** In addition, you may also purchase any of these items at any electronic store.

Learning Management System (Blackboard)

Students are provided with an orientation (*eLearning (Blackboard) Student Orientation*) and access to guides on how to use the Blackboard LMS. Guides may be available at **Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services' Student eLearning Tutorial Videos page** or by contacting the eLearning team at **elearning@tamiu.edu**.

Minimum Technical Skills Expected

When participating in distance education courses, it is vital to consider the technology involved in order to have a successful course. Students in distance education should have knowledge of basic computer and Internet skills, as mentioned on the **Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services' webpage**.

Technical Support Services

Because of the nature of distance education courses, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) computing and information services are vital to the success of online students. This webpage covers contact information for Distance Education Services (Blackboard Support), the OIT Help Desk, and E-mail support: **Technical Support Services**.

Course Evaluation

At the end of this course, students are encouraged to complete a course evaluation that will be distributed to them via email and through a course link.

Accessibility and Privacy Statements on Course Technologies

At Texas A&M International University, we believe that all students should have equal technology opportunities in the classroom. These technologies/sites may also require user data, such as the creation of a username and password. You may find the accessibility and privacy policies of the technologies used in this class on the following pages: **Accessibility Statements and Privacy Statements**.

Syllabus Subject to Change

While information and assurances are provided in this course syllabus, it should be understood that content may change in keeping with new research and literature and that events beyond the control of the instructor could occur. Students will be informed of any substantive occurrences that will produce syllabus changes.