



**Course Syllabus**  
**NURS 4053/4042 Pediatric Nursing Care**  
Robert D. & Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences & Human Services  
Fall 2022

**Meeting Times:** Thursdays from 1- 3:50 in the Centennial Building Room 101; Clinical times will vary

**Faculty Information:**

Dr. Sandra Groth, DNP, RN, CNE

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Office: Centennial Building, Room 440x

Preferred mode of contact: MSU email. Faculty will respond to emails within 24 hours.

Faculty office hours are as follows:

Monday: 1 PM-3 PM

Tuesday: 9 AM-11 AM

Wednesday: 9 AM – 12 PM

Thursday: 10 AM – 12 PM

Friday: By appointment only

**Clinical Faculty:**

Dr. Betha Rutledge, EdD, MSN, RN

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Phone: (940) 357-1008 (use for clinical purposes only)

**Course Description:**

The focus of this course is on the application of holistic nursing principles and concepts used to assist families to achieve their maximum potential. Emphasis is on inter-relationships and intra-relationships of children and their families, as well as appreciation of cultural diversity. Nursing process will be pediatric specific, with special

consideration to developmentally appropriate nursing care and ethical decision-making.

**Credit Hours:**

NURS 4053: 3 credit hours

NURS 4042 (co-requisite): 2 credit hours (90 hours)

**Prerequisites:**

NURS 3412, NURS 3413, NURS 3422, and NURS 3423.

**Learning Experiences:**

- Students are expected to be self-directed in the acquisition of basic nursing knowledge.
- Regular, active, and meaningful participation in the face-to-face class meetings is a critically important component of this course and is essential to your success. Class attendance is expected.
- Class will consist of lecture, case studies, and interactive quizzing.
- Read the assigned readings and come to class prepared.
- Desire-to-Learn (D2L) is an extensive part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact technical support through the Distance Learning office.
- Check your email and course news regularly.

**Course Objectives:**

Objectives	AACN Essentials	DEC Competencies
1. Integrate developmental concepts in providing holistic care to children and child-rearing families.	I, III, VII, VIII, IX	I. A, B, D II. B, D, E, G III. B, C IV. A, B, C, D
2. Use the nursing process to plan for the care of children and child-rearing families to achieve optimal health and wellness.	I, III, VII, IX	I: A, B, D II: A, B, C, D, E, F, G III: B, C, D IV. C, D
3. Integrate trans-cultural nursing concepts and principles in the plan of care for children and child-	I, VII, IX	I: B, D II: A, B, C, D, E, G III: C

rearing families.		IV: D
4. Apply current research findings in planning the care for children and child-rearing families.	I,III, VII, IX	I: A,D II: A,B,C,G III: C IV: C,D
5. Apply teaching-learning principles in the plans of care to optimize the child and child-rearing family's potential for wellness.	I, II,III, VII, IX	I: B, D II: A,B,C,F,G III: B IV: C, D

**AACN Essentials:**

For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/education-resources/baccessentials08.pdf>

**DEC Competencies:**

In the DEC Competencies below the following designations apply: I: Member of the profession, II: Provider of patient-centered care, III: Patient Safety Advocate and IV: Member of the Health Care Team. For further information regarding the competencies identified in each course, refer to

[https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/publication\\_pdfs/Differentiated%20Essential%20Competencies%202021.pdf](https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/publication_pdfs/Differentiated%20Essential%20Competencies%202021.pdf)

**Required Textbooks & Resources:**

1. Tagher, C.G. & Knapp, L.M. (2020). *Pediatric nursing: A case-based approach with Lippincott Coursepoint Plus*. Elsevier. ISBN 9781975134693.

\*\*The package will also include access to other course requirements including PrepU questions, vSims.

**Enrollment Instructions:**

- If you don't already have access to Lippincott CoursePoint+ for Tagher: *Pediatric Nursing: A Case-Based Approach*, redeem your ACCESS CODE and complete registration at <http://thePoint.lww.com/activate>.
- Once you have redeemed your Access Code and are logged in to thePoint, from the "My Content" page, click Launch CoursePoint for Lippincott CoursePoint+ for Tagher: *Pediatric Nursing: A Case-Based Approach*.
- On the content homepage, select "Join a Class", enter your CLASS CODE: and click "Join this Class": **CLASS CODE: D4F147F**

- If you experience any problems, check the code again and re-enter it. If it does not work, contact Lippincott Online Product Support at 1-800-468-1128 or techsupp@lww.com for assistance.

1. Application: Nursing Central Access

2. Application: Top Hat subscription.

- We will be using the Top Hat classroom response system. You will be able to submit answers to questions during our lecture using Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, laptops, or through text message.  
**Course Join Code: 476746**
- An email invitation will be sent to you, but if don't receive this email, you can register by simply visiting our course website:  
<https://app.tophat.com/e/395358>
- You can visit the Top Hat Overview within the Top Hat Success Center which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the system. Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email, the in app support button, or by calling 1-888-663-5491.

3. Application: ExamSoft

### Recommended Resources

1. Morris, D.G. (2018). *Calculate with confidence* (7th ed.). Elsevier. ISBN 9780323396837
2. American Psychological Association. (2019). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). <http://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>. ISBN: 9781433832178

Students are required to have reliable access to the internet and easy access to a printer.

### Evaluation Methods:

Assignments	Percentage
*Unit Exams (4)	75%
Prep-U Adaptive Quizzes	5%

Participation (TopHat, class activities, & Attendance)	5%
Assignments (Concept map x 3, Well Child Developmental Assessment, vSims, Medications to Master)	15%
Total	100%

**Grading:**

Percentage	Grade
90-100%	A
80-89%	B
74-79%	C
65-73%	D
Less than 65%	F

\*Per Wilson School of Nursing policy, students are to achieve an average of at least 74% on unit exams. Students must also achieve at least a 74% in their clinical grades to pass both courses. **Grades will not be rounded up.** The exam average as well as the course average of at least 74% is required to successfully complete this course. If a student does not earn at least 74% exam average, no other grades will be averaged into the course grade, and the student will receive the exam average grade as their course grade. For example, if a student has a 73% exam average, the student will receive a D for the course.

**Graded Assignments:**

The following is a guide to explain how each assignment and class content is meeting specific course objectives.

Course Objective	Assignment
Integrate developmental concepts in providing holistic care to children and child-rearing families.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PrepU quizzing</li> <li>2. vSims</li> <li>3. Well Child Developmental Assignment</li> <li>4. Class activities</li> <li>5. Concept maps</li> </ol>

Use the nursing process to plan for the care of children and child-rearing families to achieve optimal health and wellness.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prep-U quizzing</li> <li>2. vSims</li> <li>3. Concept maps</li> <li>4. Class activities</li> <li>5. Medications to Master</li> </ol>
Integrate trans-cultural nursing concepts and principles in the plan of care for children and child-rearing families.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Class activities</li> <li>2. Concept maps</li> <li>3. Well Child Developmental Assessment</li> <li>4. PrepU quizzing</li> </ol>
Apply current research findings in planning the care for children and child-rearing families.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Class activities</li> <li>2. PrepU quizzing</li> <li>3. Concept maps</li> <li>4. Medications to Master</li> </ol>
Apply teaching-learning principles in the plans of care to optimize the child and child-rearing family's potential for wellness.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PrepU quizzing</li> <li>2. vSims</li> <li>3. Well Child Developmental Assessment</li> <li>4. Medications to Master</li> </ol>

**Prep-U Adaptive Quizzing.** Students will be assigned Prep-U assignments that will correlate with unit content. The assignments consist of adaptive quizzing and must be completed at a level 8 mastery. Each quiz must be **at least 10 questions**. Students may have to take multiple quizzes to achieve a masterly level of 8 with at least 10 questions. If students achieve a level of at least 8, for an attempt of at least 10 questions they will receive full credit. If students achieve a level 8, but have failed to do so with at least 10 questions on any of the quiz attempts, they will receive a 74% for that assignment. If a student achieves a level 6-7, with each attempt consisting of at least 10 questions, they will receive a 74% for that assignment. If the student achieves less than a level 6 mastery, they will receive a 0%. The grades for all the quizzes will be tallied for a total score. Late assignments will not be accepted.

**Class Participation.** Students are expected to participate in class discussion and activities. Pre-class assignments, including pre-recorded lectures, may be assigned to students through TopHat to be completed (although not every week). Pre-class assignments will be assigned through TopHat the Sunday before each class. Assignments will be due before class begins. The late work policy is not applied to these assignments. Late assignments will not be accepted. In addition, the pre-simulation activities will be included in class participation.

**Well Child Developmental Assessment and Anticipatory Guidance.** This is an interview of a child and family of your choosing (distant relative, family friend, but NOT

your own family). The due date for this is listed on the course calendar. The instructions, forms, and grading criteria will be located in D2L (100 points)

**Pediatric V-Sims.** The student will complete a total of five (5) Pediatric vSims. Due dates are listed on the course calendar. Students are **required** to complete the pre and post simulation quizzes. Students are **required** to complete the vSim as follows:

- Students will have two (2) attempts for each V-Sim. The highest score of each Vsim will be recorded as the gradebook. Students are encouraged to take notes during their Vsim experience so that they can make corrections if needed during the following attempts. The student must achieve at least a 74% on all simulations to receive clinical credit. If students do not achieve at least a 74%, the student will have to remediate the assignment. Faculty will be evaluating students vSim progress and will be given feedback if needed during mid-term evaluations. Each vSim is worth 10 points. For example: if a student's highest score was 88%, they will receive 8.8 points out of 10 points. The five scores will be averaged for a total vSim score.
- If a student has any technical difficulties with CoursePoint+ that may inhibit them from completing their assignments on time, they must contact technical support and submit a ticket. Proof of the ticket, with a timestamp, must be submitted to faculty before the due date of that assignment.

**Concept maps.** Students will complete three concept map assignments, they can be completed in PowerPoint or another virtual platform, like lucidchart.com. One concept map will be developed from a patient encounter from the United Regional clinical and the other two will be focused on the two simulations. Students will need to include APA references. See D2L for further instructions, grading rubric, and due date. Each concept map is worth 45 points.

**Medications to Master.** Students will complete a worksheet within the first few weeks of class on the most commonly used medications in pediatrics. This is to prepare students for safe medication administration. Students will need to complete all columns using an evidence-based resource, such as *Davis's Drug Guide* in Nursing Central.

\*Once assignment grades are submitted, assignments will not be re-graded.

### **Exams:**

This course has 4 unit exams. Each exam includes 50 questions, five of which will be clinical math questions. The student will be given 80 minutes to complete each exam. There will not be a comprehensive final exam. All exams, however, are cumulative, meaning students are expected to bring forward knowledge and skills from previous courses and the current course and apply it while answering exam questions.

In this course, faculty will not provide extra blueprints or study guides for exams. It is the student's responsibility to study all covered material assigned in lectures, readings, and

assignments. Exam question type will include multiple choice, select all that apply, and fill in the blank. Each exam will consist of 5 clinical math questions.

Exams are to reflect the student's individual effort, therefore **collaboration, talking during the exam, or having any physical or digital materials or equipment during the exam will be considered academic dishonesty**. A dropdown calculator is available on Examsoft. Exam Guidelines are as follows:

1. Turn all cell phones and electronic devices OFF and leave them in the back of the room with your belongings. If your phone starts ringing or vibrating, it distracts everyone. You will be allowed to turn it off. If it occurs a second time, you will be asked to submit your exam (no matter how many questions you have completed) and exit the room. I do NOT tolerate disruptions during exams!
2. Leave everything EXCEPT your laptop or tablet in the back of the room.
3. Only ONE beverage will be allowed to have within student reach.
4. If you need to use the restroom, do so BEFORE the exam starts.
5. I will NOT discuss the answers during or after class.
6. I will NOT answer questions during the exam. This disturbs everyone during the exam.
7. Prior to exiting the classroom, you MUST turn in scratch paper with your name at the top and display the green Successful Upload screen from Examsoft. If this does not display, help will be provided in uploading your exam.
8. If students are caught cheating, they will receive an automatic "0" for that exam, no exceptions.

Exam rationales to missed questions will be released using the Examsoft platform for testing. Faculty will not review exams with students on an individual basis unless the student is achieving less than a 74% exam average after the second exam. Faculty will not review exam questions under any circumstances, but will provide recommendations for exam and study strategies based on student's exam performance.

### **Course Attendance:**

Students are expected to attend all of the classes in which they are enrolled. Although in general students are graded on intellectual effort and performance rather than attendance, absences may lower the student's grade where class attendance and class participation are deemed essential by the faculty member. Class activities will not be made up due to absences. If a student anticipates missing an exam, **they must notify faculty through e-mail at least 2 hours in advance**. Exams can only be made up for excused absences (student ill, must provide doctor note; ill parent, domestic partner, or child).

If a student has more than 2 excused or unexcused absences, they will be warned by faculty. If truancy continues, a referral will be made to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibility. Students may be dropped from the course for excessive absences (more than 4 for this class) per University Policy.



Additionally, you are expected to employ manners and respect during all classroom and clinical meetings. Meals should be eaten before or after classes and clinical, not during. If you are going to be late to class, you may enter quietly and sit in the back row of the room. Do NOT enter the room late during an exam. Late entry is disruptive to your classmates and the instructor.

### **Midterm Progress:**

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this course will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's WebWorld account. Midterm grades will not be reported on the student's transcript; nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should schedule a meeting with the faculty and seek out tutoring through the Tutoring & Academic Support Programs (link to the website <https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/>).

### **Late Work:**

Any assignments submitted late will be docked 15% of the final score for each day it is late. If it is still not turned in three (3) days after the due date, the assignment will be given a "0".

### **Make-Up Work:**

Classroom work can be made up for excused absences. Excused absences are ill students or students with ill immediate family with proof of a healthcare provider note. Tests can be made up only if students have missed class for an emergent reason (student ill, family member ill, family emergency) and faculty is notified **before the start of class by e-mail**. There will be no extra credit offered in this course.

### **Classroom Etiquette:**

Students are expected to act respectful to all peers, faculty, and guests during face-to-face lectures and in clinical settings. Cell phones must be turned off or placed in silent mode before class begins. Should emergency communication need to be made, the student must step outside of the classroom.

### **Additional Course Requirements:**

1. Students must maintain satisfactory health as determined by the total faculty consensus.
2. Follow APA 7th edition formatting. Use APA approved font type and size (i.e., Times New Roman, 12 point), one-inch margins, and single spacing after punctuation ending a sentence. A title page and reference page is required; no Table of Contents or abstract are needed; and the paper should include level/subject headings.
3. Faculty reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time.
4. Students must maintain current immunization records, current CPR card, validated Health Insurance, and paid liability insurance in Certified Background as required by the Wilson School of Nursing. In order to attend

clinical experiences, each student MUST comply with each of these requirements throughout the entire semester.

5. Students are responsible for all communications sent by faculty via D2L. You are expected to check the site for announcements, assignments, messages, etc

### **Nursing Program Failure Policy:**

Students must meet all course requirements or a grade of F will be assigned.

Students are expected to pass both clinical and classroom components of the course. Failure in either clinical or classroom will result in failure in both. Clinical failure results in a course and clinical grade of F. Classroom failure results in the grade earned in the classroom for both course and clinical.

A student who withdraws/drops or receives a D or an F in two nursing courses must seek reentry to the nursing program to be eligible to continue in the program.

The faculty reserves the right to recommend to the School of Nursing Chair and College of Human Services and Health Sciences withdrawal of a student from the nursing program for health, legal, or academic reasons, particularly if client care is jeopardized. In addition, the student must perform within the ANA Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics.

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

All students are expected to pursue their scholastic careers with honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test or other course work, plagiarism (Offering the work of another as one's own), and the unauthorized collaboration with another person. Students found guilty of dishonesty in their scholastic pursuits are subject to penalties that may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

All written work submitted for evaluation is to be the work of the student who submits it. Citations and references are to be used and documented using APA 7th Edition. The faculty considers collaboration during examinations or obtaining previous test questions from past students as cheating and cheating is in violation of Midwestern Policy. A score of zero (0) will be given for students participating in collaboration of tests or other submitted paperwork with the exception of a required group project.

*By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include, but shall not be limited to, the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.*

## **College Policies**

### **American with Disability Act (ADA):**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

**Campus Carry Rules/Policies:**

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

**Smoking/Tobacco Policy:**

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by MSU TEXAS Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

**Alcohol and Drug Policy:**

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

**Campus Carry:**

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

**Active Shooter:**

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUReady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled “*Run. Hide. Fight.*” which may be electronically accessed via the University police department’s webpage: [“Run. Hide. Fight.”](#)

**Grade Appeal Process:**

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

### **Tutoring and Academic Support:**

Students are strongly encouraged to seek out faculty members to ask any questions regarding the course or content of course. However, if students have additional needs for further academic support, they are also highly encouraged to visit the Tutoring and Academic Support Program.

Tutoring and Academic Support Programs (TASP) provides free walk-in tutoring for MSU students. For help with writing, visit the MSU Writing Center in PY 201B Monday-Thursday from 9-4 and Thursday/Sunday evenings 6-9 in Clark Student Center Commuter Lounge.

For help with specific subject areas, visit McCullough's Tutoring Lounge Sunday-Thursday from 1-9pm. Check the schedule online to see when your subject area is offered. *Remember that you don't need an appointment to utilize these services.*

## **NURS 4042 Clinical Syllabus**

### **Clinical Objectives:**

1. Holistically assess the pediatric patient and their support system(s)
2. Analyze assessment data in formulating and prioritizing holistic nursing care needs of pediatric patients and their support system(s)
3. Discuss evidence-based rationale for selection/modification of nursing interventions in the care of pediatric patients and their support system(s)
4. Safely administer and monitor pediatric medications, intravenous fluids, and nutrition
5. Competently perform common pediatric nursing procedures
6. Recognize and respond appropriately to ethical dilemmas in pediatric nursing care
7. Accurately evaluate the effectiveness of pediatric nursing care
8. Integrate knowledge of child and family development in providing pediatric nursing care
9. Demonstrate professional interaction/communication with children, family members, and healthcare team

### **Pediatric Clinical Assignments:**

- Three concept maps – (UR clinical and sim #1 & 2)
- Two F2F simulation labs with pre-simulation learning activities
- One clinical rotation at United Regional on the Pediatric floor with a concept map

- One clinical rotation at Sheppard Air Force Base in the immunization clinic or pediatric clinic with reflection
- One day at Early Head Start with reflection
- Virtual Sims (5 patient scenarios)
- Well Child Development Assessment with Anticipatory Guidance
- Community engagement assignment at Boys and Girls Club with reflection

### **Clinical Assignments:**

- Students will need to complete preceptor evaluation forms for the clinical experiences at United Regional, Sheppard Air Force Base, and Early Head Start.
- A concept map will be created for the two simulations and the pediatric clinical experience at United Regional.
- A one-page single spaced reflective journal is to be completed for the community engagement project, Early Head Start, and Sheppard AFB clinical. The reflective journal should include a description of the experience, discussion on how clinical objective were met, and how the experience will help to guide their future nursing practice. The community engagement assignment and reflective journals are pass/fail.

Students will still be assigned to clinical faculty. Please see the clinical assignment list to see which faculty you will turn your clinical paperwork into throughout the semester. Paperwork that will be graded by clinical faculty include the concept maps and reflection journals. Students are welcome to contact their assigned clinical faculty member to ask questions about assignments and/or grading.

### **Simulation Requirements:**

Students will complete two face to face simulations. The student is required to be prepared for the simulation activities by completing all pre-learning activities assigned in Top Hat. Students are also expected to bring equipment needed to provide patient care and have resources available, such as Nursing Central and report forms. Students arriving late to the Simulation Center will be considered absent. Absences may be rescheduled, pending availability. Students are expected to wear scrubs and follow the dress code policy for all face to face simulation events. Following sim #1 and sim #2 students will need to submit a concept map per the assignment guidelines.

Please note that the simulation supplies are not safe for human use, thus, they should only be used on the mannequins in the simulation center.

### **Clinical Evaluation:**

This course includes 90 clinical hours. Students are required to satisfactorily complete all the clinical hours in order to successfully complete the clinical component of the course. This includes clinical assignments, in addition to clinical performance in the simulation lab and virtual simulations, and clinical behavior. Any student found not in compliance at any point during the semester will result in a clinical infraction and may

result in a clinical failure. **Evaluations will be provided to each student by faculty during the simulation lab hours and given a “pass or fail” for the simulation. If the student fails, they will be given an opportunity to re-test. Students need to demonstrate consistent improvements over the course of the semester to pass the clinical portion of the course.**

Evaluation will be based on student performance in all clinical settings. Failure of the clinical component of the course occurs when the student receives an unsatisfactory rating in any area of the clinical evaluation tool or does not complete 90 hours of clinical. Absences will be rescheduled at the discretion of the course

### **Clinical Policies:**

Students **MUST** maintain clinical compliance in Castlebranch throughout the semester. Any student found not in compliance at any point during the semester will result in a clinical infraction and may result in a clinical failure.

Students must complete all 90 clinical hours. This means students must complete all the clinical experiences. Failure to complete these hours will result in failure of the clinical component of the course.

Students must follow the guidelines provided by each clinical agency. Students are expected to conduct themselves as health care professionals. Professional conduct is expected during any and all interactions with other health care professionals, patients, and families. Certain behaviors result in an unsatisfactory rating in the professional behavior section of the evaluation rubric. Refer to Student Handbook for further information regarding clinical behavior, dress code, clinical compliance and clinical failure information.

Absences from the patient care clinical must be approved by the instructor. The student must inform the instructor before being absent from the clinical experience. If the instructor does not approve the absence, the student will not have an opportunity to reschedule the absence and will fail the clinical component of the course.

- Reasons for non-approval of a clinical absence are:
  - Failure to notify the instructor prior to being absent.
  - Being absent for a reason other than personal illness or family or personal emergency situation.
  - Failure to show documentation of personal illness or family or personal emergency situation.

### **Infractions Constituting Clinical Failure:**

Failure of the clinical component of the course occurs when the student receives an unsatisfactory rating in any area of the evaluation tool or does not complete all 90 hours of clinical. Absences will be rescheduled at the discretion of the course coordinator.

Clinical is defined as any activity that earns the student clinical hours and includes but is not limited to patient care experiences, simulation experiences, skill practice and testing sessions, orientations, and clinical meetings.

Students who receive five or more infractions within the program are no longer eligible to progress in the program. Students may repeal the decision to be removed from the program by submitting to the Student Affairs Committee a paper that explains why they should be allowed to remain in the program. The decision of the committee is final.

**Infractions constituting a clinical failure (Extracted from current BSN Student Handbook):**

Three incidents of infractions to the standard of professional behavior to include but not limited to:

- Arriving to a clinical experience without completing the pre-clinical assignment even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Not conforming to the dress code even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Not bringing appropriate supplies to the clinical experience even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Unprofessional/inappropriate language or gestures
- Unprofessional/inappropriate behavior such as disrespectful behavior, chewing gum, using tobacco products in non-smoking areas, disruptive behavior, or failure to comply with a written or verbal instruction including reminders to update immunizations and other clinical requirements
- Arriving late to any clinical site even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Non-compliance with the policy to notify the instructor and the agency of a clinical absence prior to the absence or as soon as possible if immediate notification is not possible
- Non-compliance with the policy to receive written prior approval before attending the clinical and/or the policy to notify the clinical instructor of absences prior to attending the clinical or as soon as the student realizes he/she must leave the clinical experience.
- Leaving the premises without permission from the clinical instructor
- Failure to complete assignments by the due dates
- Failure to return from meals or breaks at the assigned time
- Falsification, omissions, and/or lying about a non-patient care situation
- Use of a cell phone or other electronic devices in the clinical area unless given permission by the clinical instructor

Two incidents of infractions to the standard of professional behavior to include but not limited to:

- Disregarding patient confidentiality without malice or intent to disclose
- Patient negligence that does not result in patient injury
- An error in care that does not harm a patient

- Cheating, collusion, plagiarism, or stealing. Cheating/collusion/plagiarism – cheating means intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise; collusion means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit; plagiarism means intentionally representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own in any academic exercise.
- Committing two infractions from the list above as well as one in this list

Infractions to the standard of professional behavior that results in immediate failure of the clinical component of the course to include by not limited to:

- Administering medications without the direct supervision of a faculty member or preceptor
- Failing to check two patient identifiers prior to administering medications.
- Testing positive for illicit drugs or alcohol
- An error in care or patient negligence that harms a patient
- Falsification, omissions, and/or lying about a patient care situation
- Intentionally revealing confidential information
- Placing self, staff or patient at risk of harm due to abandonment of duties and/or sleeping during clinical experiences
- Performing in an unsafe manner.
- Failure to report a patient care error or incident.
- Physical or verbal abuse of patients, patient’s family members, faculty or staff

**Dress Code:**

The goal of the dress code is to present a professional appearance that does not compromise communication, safety, or infection control. Appearance that presents less than a professional appearance will not be allowed. Clinical Uniform:

- School uniform of matching maroon pants or skirt and maroon tunic top is the required uniform.
- Undershirts, if worn should be plain (solid, no adornments or logos, no patterns) and white, black, gray, or maroon that matches the uniform.
- Pants cannot touch the floor and must be hemmed properly. Pants cannot have a cuffed hem.
- When sitting down, bending over or squatting down, or raising arms there can be no gap at the waist between the uniform pant and the top showing skin or underwear.
- No cleavage can be showing.
- Uniform must be well-laundered, without wrinkles, beyond what occurs during typical wear, and fit appropriately.
- Skirts must be knee length or longer, but may not touch the floor, must be properly hemmed and allow for ease of movement.
- Clean and closed toe and heel shoes that are black, gray, white, or maroon that matches the uniform are to be worn.
- Socks and hosiery must match either skin color, uniform or shoes.



- Proper MSU identification (MSU or approved clinical agency name tag and MSU patch).
- The MSU patch is obtainable at the bookstore and is to be sewn on left sleeve, centered and 1" from shoulder seam.
- MSU nametag must contain the name of the university, name of the student, designation of student, and a photograph of the student. The nametag is obtained through Card Services at the Clark Student Center.
- If a student desires a cover, he/she may wear a matching maroon scrub jacket with the appropriate name tag and MSU patch sewn on left sleeve, centered and 1" from shoulder seam.
- Hair must be self-contained and unadorned and must be a natural hair color. Any containing articles such as head wraps, barrettes, bands, or clips must be plain (solid, no jewels, adornments, patterns, or logos) and same color as hair, or white, black, gray, silver, gold, or maroon that matches the uniform.
- Hair may not fall forward past shoulder/neck area or fall over eyes when leaning over at the waist.
- Sideburns, beards, and mustaches must be clean and neatly trimmed.
- Hats or caps are not allowed.
- Short natural and clean fingernails are required. Nail enhancements are not allowed to include polish, dips, tips, overlays, acrylics, or gels. Tips of nails may not be seen when looking at the hands from the palm side up.
- Hygiene must include being clean without fragrances or strong odors.
- No jewelry other than a plain wedding ring (band) and a watch with an analog second hand are allowed.
- Visible body piercings may not contain any jewelry, gauges or spacers.
- If a clinical requires "professional dress" other than the Nursing Uniform, the student will be asked to wear a maroon polo shirt and pants or a skirt that is black, gray, khaki, or maroon that matches the maroon polo shirt with the appropriate name tag.
- Clinical agencies retain the right to refuse access to any student whose appearance is deemed inappropriate. For this reason, visible tattoos should not contain symbols, drawings or wording likely to be deemed offensive.
- The nursing uniform may not be worn when working outside of clinical experiences.

*The information contained in this syllabus is for information purposes only and may change at the discretion of the faculty.*

### **Additional Clinical Information:**

#### **COVID-19 Policies**

All students will need to monitor their health and if they believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 or are exhibiting symptoms related to COVID-19, they will need to self-report on the [MSU Texas Report COVID-19 Website](#). Students will then need to follow any instructions regarding quarantine or isolation as given to them by the Vinson Health Center.

Students at clinical facilities will be required to observe any personal protective equipment (PPE) and vaccination policies of the facility. Students unable or unwilling to comply may request relocation to another facility subject to the above conditions. Relocation is never guaranteed, and students unable to be relocated will have to withdraw from the clinical course.

**Masks** are required in the simulation center during the time the student is with the simulated patient.

Students are encouraged to visit the [MSU Texas Coronavirus Update page](#). If students have any questions about the COVID-19 policy for their program, they should contact their department chair.

**THIS POLICY AND THE CONTENT OF THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO REVISION AT ANY TIME.**

**The Course Calendar is provided on D2L as a separate document.**