



NURS 591/554 – Winter Term Practicum 2024

Faculty

Dr. Missy Travelsted DNP, APRN, FNP-C, PTA

Office Room 3336

The Medical Center – WKU Health Sciences Complex

700 1st Street, Bowling Green, KY 42101

Office – 270-745-4289

Fax 270-745-4336

missy.travelsted@wku.edu

Course Number

NURS 591/554

Course Title

FNP Practicum

Credit Hours

2 credit hour – **up to 120 clinical hours**

(These hours count as credit for NURS 554). NURS 554 is a 5-credit hour course with 300 clinical hour requirement (120 hours children/adolescents, 180 adults/gerontology, *40 hours of specialty hours may be performed with faculty approval*)

Prerequisites

Admission to the Graduate program, completion of NURS 546/547 and NURS 548/549

Course Description

Students will focus on primary care of the children, adolescents, adults, and the aged. Emphasis will be on the health promotion/education, disease prevention, and diagnosis and management of common health problems. The role of the nurse as a primary health care provider in a variety of settings will be explored.

Class Schedule

Students are responsible for setting up their clinical practicum sites and arranging times with the course instructor for site visits. All required scholarly work (clinical SOAP notes, clinical logs, and clinical journals) are to be completed asynchronously using Blackboard, Medatrx, and internet technology.

Course Objectives: At the completion of this course, the student will be able to provide primary care to adults and the aged as evidenced by:

Course Objective	MSN Program Outcomes	DNP Program Outcomes
1. Assessing the health status of each client using appropriate history taking and physical exam skills including a holistic	1. Demonstrate proficiency in the utilization of research and quality improvement, including problem identification, awareness of	1. Critically appraise theoretical concepts and knowledge from nursing and other disciplines and integrate this evidence in developing,

assessment of physical, social, cultural, genetic, and environmental factors.	<p>outcomes, evaluation, and dissemination of research.</p> <p>4. Assume and develop practice and professional roles to meet societal needs to promote high quality, safe, patient care.</p> <p>5. Integrate theory and research from Nursing and related disciplines as a foundation for advanced practice.</p> <p>6. Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of human diversity.</p> <p>7. Integrate theoretical knowledge of health promotion and maintenance and illness/disease prevention to achieve optimal health.</p>	<p>implementing, and evaluating best practices for improved health outcomes.</p> <p>2. Develop, integrate, and evaluate evidence-based health care innovations while considering cultural, economic, ethical, legal, political, and technological issues across diverse health systems and models.</p> <p>3. Use and evaluate information systems and technology to improve clinical decision making, and health outcomes.</p>
2. Collecting and analyzing client data.	Same as above	<p>1. Critically appraise theoretical concepts and knowledge from nursing and other disciplines and integrate this evidence in developing, implementing, and evaluating best practices for improved health outcomes.</p> <p>4. Demonstrate interprofessional collaboration and leadership skills to improve patient and population health outcomes.</p> <p>5. Analyze and apply advanced nursing practice concepts of clinical prevention and health promotion to improve health outcomes in relevant populations.</p> <p>6. Apply the relevant advanced practice role to improve patient health</p>

		outcomes and health care systems.
3. Generating differential diagnoses for clients experiencing common health problems.	Same as above	<p>1. Critically appraise theoretical concepts and knowledge from nursing and other disciplines and integrate this evidence in developing, implementing, and evaluating best practices for improved health outcomes.</p> <p>2. Develop, integrate, and evaluate evidence-based health care innovations while considering cultural, economic, ethical, legal, political, and technological issues across diverse health systems and models.</p> <p>4. Demonstrate interprofessional collaboration and leadership skills to improve patient and population health outcomes.</p>
4. Diagnosing and managing common health problems with the application of evidence-based practice guidelines.	Same as above	<p>1. Critically appraise theoretical concepts and knowledge from nursing and other disciplines and integrate this evidence in developing, implementing, and evaluating best practices for improved health outcomes.</p> <p>2. Develop, integrate, and evaluate evidence-based health care innovations while considering cultural, economic, ethical, legal, political, and technological issues across diverse health systems and models.</p> <p>3. Use and evaluate information systems and technology to improve clinical decision making, and health</p>

		<p>outcomes.</p> <p>4. Demonstrate interprofessional collaboration and leadership skills to improve patient and population health outcomes.</p> <p>5. Analyze and apply advanced nursing practice concepts of clinical prevention and health promotion to improve health outcomes in relevant populations.</p> <p>6. Apply the relevant advanced practice role to improve patient health outcomes and health care systems.</p>
5. Implementing health promotion and disease prevention education.	Same as above	Same as above
6. Collaborating with other health professionals to improve the quality of care.	Same as above	Same as above
7. Referring those problems beyond the scope of practice of the primary care nurse practitioner.	Same as above	Same as above

Clinical Requirements

Each student is expected to follow all clinical guidelines outlined in the WKU School of Nursing Student Handbook and Graduate Nursing Student Handbook. The following list is a synopsis of these requirements but is not an exemption from reading all clinical guidelines.

- Remember to wear professional attire and name badge in the clinical setting.
- Student's family members **may not** serve as clinical preceptors.
- Cell phones should **not** be taken into the patient exam rooms.
- Your medical record, licensure, and CPR requirements **must be up to date**. It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that these requirements are current. Each student should check with Ms. Melissa Hamlin (Melissa.hamlin@wku.edu) to make sure these requirements are complete and up to date. **No clinical hours can be completed until these requirements are met.**
- The NURS 591/554 course coordinator **must** approve your clinical site(s) and preceptor(s) in Medatrax **before beginning clinical rotation with the preceptor at the clinical site**. It is the responsibility of each student to ensure that she/he correctly submits

her/his clinical site(s) and preceptor(s) requests in Medatrax. Instructions for submitting clinical site(s) and preceptor(s) are located under the Help icon in Medatrax.

Office Associate

<p>Ms. Melissa Hamlin Data management & Marketing Specialist Student Medical Records Office 270-745-4392 (MCHC 3339) melissa.hamlin@wku.edu</p>

Required Texts: American Psychological Association (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

All clinical books required in previous clinicals.

Communication

Communication includes verbal, non-verbal, Blackboard, Medatrax, and WKU email. Assignments will be posted in the course syllabus, in Medatrax, and/or in the Blackboard course. Email messages will be sent to individuals and groups of students via Blackboard to only WKU email addresses. Grades will be posted in the Grade Center on the Blackboard course site. Any discussion/concern about a grade must be put in writing via WKU email to the instructor within one week of when the grade is posted to Blackboard.

Course Policies: Academic policies found in the Graduate Handbook and the WKU Graduate Catalog will be followed in this course.

- **American Psychological Association (APA) format (*in-text citations and references*)** is required for written assignments.
- All students are responsible for keeping a copy of written assignments uploaded to Blackboard for grading.
- All students are responsible for assuring that Blackboard assignments are successfully uploaded for grading.
- Policy on written assignments: All students are required to meet pre-established deadlines for assignments.
- Late assignment will NOT be accepted UNLESS arrangements PRIOR to pre-established deadlines have been negotiated with faculty. Please do not request an assignment extension unless **an unforeseen accident or illness** occurs. Failure to plan ahead, vacations, and job requirements are not acceptable reasons to ask for an extension as these reasons do not meet the requirements for an unforeseen event.
- All assignments must be submitted in word documents (.doc or .docx)

Attendance and Clinical Course Requirements

1. Each student will complete a total of **300 direct patient clinical hours** under the direct supervision of an approved clinical preceptor for **NURS 554**. The direct patient clinical hours in **NURS 591** count toward the total **300 hours** required for **NURS 554**. **For Example: NURS 591: 1 credit hour course, the student may complete up to 60 clinical**

Updated 12/7/2023

hours of the total **300** direct patient contact hours **OR** 2 credit hour course, the student may complete up to **120** clinical hours of the total **300** direct patient contact hours required for **NURS 554**. See SOAP Note section in BB.

2. **Logs** are required as documentation of the student's clinical experiences. Logs must be kept up to date in Medatrax. (**IMPORTANT: Clinical logs must be entered in Medatrax within 7 days of encounter in order to count towards your total required course hours**).
3. Each student must complete a signed **Student Evaluation of Preceptor** (site).
4. Clinical site visit(s) must be scheduled with your course instructor and clinical preceptor(s). Please use the Medatrax calendar and fill in your planned clinical dates and hours for the semester. Faculty will then use the Medatrax calendar to schedule a mutual day for your clinical site visit(s).
5. **Preceptor's mid-term and final evaluations of student.** In NURS 591, a **mid-term preceptor evaluation** from the student's primary preceptor is required. If a student's preceptor completed an evaluation in NURS 591, then only the **final preceptor evaluation** is needed in NURS 554.

These documents **MUST** be completed and signed by the student and her/ his receptor. Please check for completion and signage prior to submission to Medatrax.

Evaluation Methods

Each Student must successfully meet all course requirement and have a satisfactory clinical evaluation to pass the course.

This clinical course is graded **pass/fail**. The final course grade will be computed as follows.

Clinical SOAP Note 1 (Submit in Blackboard)	DUE: January 16, 2024
Clinical SOAP Note 2 (Submit in Blackboard)	DUE: January 16, 2024
PCAM 1 (Submit in Medatrax)	DUE: January 16, 2024
PCAM 2 (Submit in Medatrax)	DUE: January 16, 2024

(2 Clinical SOAP Notes & 2 PCAMs are required for this course)

Medatrax: NURS 591/554 utilizes [Medatrax](#), an online medical data tracking system, for recording clinical logs, clinical journals, and tracking clinical evaluations. There will be a charge to each student directly from the company per month. Medatrax will be contacting you directly via your WKU email. You will be using Medatrax to record all clinical logs and evaluations. Tutorials on navigating Medatrax can be found on your Medatrax home page by clicking on the **HELP icon** near the **blue light bulb**. It is here that you will find the **Student Quick-Start Guide** and the **Student Users Guide**. If you need to contact Medatrax, the email address is webmaster@medatrax.com or phone 1-800-647-4838.

Medatrax Requirements	
CLINICAL LOGS	Clinical logs should be completed on each patient and contain the following information: (The following are required on each patient log if completed) 1. Completed demographics – this consist of

Updated 12/7/2023

	<p>completing all questions listed prior to clicking “create” <i>(Interaction Level Legend should be used to record the appropriate interaction level.)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Vitals to include temperature 3. Diagnosis/ICD10 4. CPT 5. Medications (if prescribed at visit) 6. Counseling 7. Interdisciplinary consultation 8. Advanced Physical Exam Checklist
MEDATRAX CALENDAR	Student calendars are located on the Medatrax homepage. You are required to keep your clinical schedule current in the Medatrax calendar. This assists clinical instructors with site visit scheduling.
STUDENT EVALUATION	Students are required to have a <u>mid-term</u> and <u>final evaluation</u> completed by his or her preceptor for NURS 554 . Please have your preceptor complete the <u>mid-term evaluation for NURS 591</u> . These forms are included in the preceptor packet as well as under assignments in Medatrax. The evaluation form must be completed, signed, and dated by the preceptor and student. Completed forms should be uploaded in the assignment section of Medatrax under Mid-term or Final Evaluation.
PRECEPTOR EVALUATION	You must complete an evaluation on your preceptor each semester. These are located under evaluations on the Medatrax homepage.
COMPETENCIES	These are to be completed by the end of the semester (NURS 554). You will receive an email from Medatrax when this evaluation is open.

BLACKBOARD REQUIREMENTS	
SOAP NOTES	SOAP note rubric is located under SOAP notes on the course homepage. This is also where you will submit SOAP notes under the corresponding due date.
JOURNALS	Students are <u>required</u> to submit a <u>journal</u> with each soap note. The journal should be 1-2 paragraphs in length and discuss

Updated 12/7/2023

	students' individual clinical experience including, challenges, accomplishments, observations, and/or self-assessment. The journal should serve as a reflection of your clinical journey.
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Campus Resources: As a student in this course, you have access to the WKU Library and to the WKU Writing Center either online or in person. Students are expected to utilize the WKU Library for research studies to support their scholarly work. If students have difficulty with writing, APA citations, and/or APA references, they are expected to seek assistance at the WKU Writing Center.

Blackboard: Access to the **WKU Blackboard (Bb)** can be found through the Western Kentucky University homepage by using the Quick Links drop down box and clicking on My WKU. You are responsible for checking for course updates and changes and you **MUST** have a WKU e-mail account/address for rapid communication with the instructor. WKU assigns all students an email account. **It is all students' responsibility to check their WKU email account once every 24 hours for emails and notifications, as well as making sure that their email inbox is not full.** All email communication is to be through your WKU email account.

Technical Support: It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with technology and Blackboard nuances and observe WKU technology recommendations that can be found on the Information Technology Department website. The phone number for IT is 270-745-7000. Since this course is web-based, there may be an occasion(s) in which students cannot avoid technical difficulties. **If you have technical difficulties that interfere with the submission of a timely assignment, you must notify the course instructor via email prior to the deadline and you must include your IT case number in your email or a copy of your email from IT that contains your IT case number.** Reported technical difficulties will be validated with WKU's IT department.

Academic Honesty:

"Western Kentucky University nursing students are expected to demonstrate a high standard of academic honesty in all aspects of their academic work and college life. Without intellectual integrity there cannot be genuine learning. Academic dishonesty represents a direct attack on this integrity. In taking tests and examinations, completing homework, laboratory and clinical work, writing papers, and using information technology, students are expected to demonstrate honesty. Cheating, plagiarism or other forms of academic dishonesty will lead to a failing grade on the assignment and/or a failing grade in the course. Repeat occurrences of this type of behavior can result in dismissal from the program" (Western Kentucky University, School of Nursing Student Handbook, 2014, p. 16).

"Academic Dishonesty-Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the coursework in which the act is detected or a failing grade in the course without the possibility of withdrawal. The faculty member may also present the case to the Office of the Dean of Student Life for disciplinary sanctions." "A student

Updated 12/7/2023

who believes a faculty member has dealt unfairly with him/her in a course involving academic dishonesty may seek relief through the Student Complaint Procedure” (Western Kentucky University Graduate Handbook, 2014-2015, p. 41). The Western Kentucky University Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities can be found in the Western Kentucky University Undergraduate Catalog.

AI tools prohibited: Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are not permitted for any type of work in this class. If you choose to use these tools, your actions will be considered academically dishonest and a violation of the [WKU Student Code of Conduct](#).

Plagiarism: Students’ work is expected to be the result of their own thought, research or self-expression. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the information, ideas, organization or phrase of another source without appropriate acknowledgment or credit given, either intentionally or because of gross negligence. Any act of plagiarism by a nursing student is not acceptable. Please review Western Kentucky University SONAH Policies, Handbooks & Forms at

<https://www.wku.edu/nursing/> OR

https://www.wku.edu/nursing/left_nav/policies_handbooks_forms.php

Student work will be checked using plagiarism detection software.

Disability Services: In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu . Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX/Discrimination & Harassment: Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU’s [Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation](#) (#0.070) and [Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#) (#0.2040). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Executive Director, Office of Institutional Equity/Title IX Coordinator, Ena Demir, 270-745-6867 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are **“Responsible Employees”** of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator

or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.

Course Changes: Faculty reserve the right to make changes in the course syllabus including the specific methods for deriving the final grade as the situation may require. Students will be notified in writing when such changes are required via Blackboard announcements and/or WKU e-mail.

The WKU Graduate School and SONAH/DNP Handbooks provide policies. These are followed by the faculty in this course.

https://www.wku.edu/nursing/left_nav/policies_handbooks_forms.php

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Thanks,

Dr. Travelsted