NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH

Nursing Program 2025-2026 Student Handbook



I. OVERVIEW

The policies and procedures in this handbook pertain to both Traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing and RN-BSN Online students unless otherwise specified.

DISCLAIMER

This handbook describes departmental requirements and policies at time of distribution. Implicit in each student's enrollment is an agreement to comply with the departmental requirements and policies that the department may modify to exercise properly its educational responsibility. This handbook is subject to change and students will be notifiedof the change. Towards the goal of continuous quality improvement, changes in the handbook will be distributed to students, with student signature of receipt.

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HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The nursing program at Norfolk State University began as an associate degree program that was established in 1955 and was one of the first in the nation. The program was part of the original experiment in associate degree education, referred to as the Cooperative Research Project. The Project originated at Teacher's College, Columbia University under the direction of Dr. Mildred Montague.

The baccalaureate degree program began in 1981 as part of the Virginia Enhancement Plan to integrate state-supported institutions of higher education and began as an RN to BSN program. The baccalaureate degree program now consists of two (2) tracks. The traditional baccalaureate completion track enables students who have declared nursing as their major and have completedall prerequisite courses to complete their degree in five (5) semesters. An upper-level online baccalaureate track enables qualified RNs with an associate degree or a diploma to complete thecourse requirements for the baccalaureate degree.

The Bachelor of Science Degree Program has approval from the Virginia Board of Nursing andhas continued accreditation with conditions from Accrediting Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). Addresses for the agencies appear below:

ACEN
3390 Peachtree Road NE
Suite 1400
Atlanta, GA 30326

Virginia Board of Nursing
Perimeter Center
9960 Maryland Drive; Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23233-1463

MISSON STATEMENT

The mission statement of the Nursing Program embraces the mission statement of the parent institution and the philosophy of the Nursing Program. Through exemplary teaching, scholarship, and outreach, the Department aims to prepare selected individuals for diverse nursing roles in multiple settings. Further, the Department strives to foster the development of a sense of social responsibility, personal growth, and life-long learning in its learners without regard to race, gender,socioeconomic status, age, disability, or national origin. The Department aims to encourage leadership in the participation of research and utilization of its findings to promote optimal health of the community. Finally, the Department aspires to promote the development and implementation of programs in response to assessed health needs of diverse communities, fosteringthe growth of productive global citizens.

PHILOSOPHY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH

The Nursing Faculty embraces the mission of the University, which has historically provided educational programs responsive to the needs of the community. The philosophy of the nursing program provides a holistic set of beliefs and values that help shape academic programs and learning environments.

The nursing faculty at NSU believes that nurses are collaborative partners in complex healthcare environments. Nursing has the responsibility to continue to develop and expand the body of nursing knowledge through research such that client outcomes, nursing practice, and nursing education are enhanced. This responsibility is met through excellence in teaching and learning. The faculty believe that teaching and learning is an interactive process between teacher and learner, the outcomes of which include changes in cognitive, psychomotor, and affective behavior. This process promotes self-understanding and motivation for continued learning and personal growth, thereby enhancing the development of the individual as a contributing, responsible member of the discipline of nursing and a global society. The nursing faculty are committed to promoting an educational environment that values, respects, and reflects diversity.
The core values reflect the values and beliefs of the nursing faculty, staff and students
at NSU:

Caring
We demonstrate respect for human dignity. We exemplify compassion when interacting with others. We exhibit patience, empathy, and sensitivity in a non-discriminatory manner.

Collaboration
We demonstrate cooperativeness, flexibility, and responsiveness to the needs of others. We respect the diversity, unique talents, and perspectives of all individuals. We promote open and honest communication among faculty, staff, and students.

Diversity
We promote a culture respectful of all people, cultures, ideas, beliefs, identities, socio-economic backgrounds, and perspectives.

Excellence
We establish high standards of performance in teaching, scholarship, and evidence- basedpractice. We embrace creativity, perseverance and innovation while striving to enrich thecommunities we serve.

Integrity
We are committed to personal, academic, and professional honesty. We demonstrate ethical decision making and responsibility in all actions.

DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT STATEMENT

Students enrolled in the Department of Nursing and Allied Health will be required to participate in several department-specific assessment activities. Assessment strategies selected are evidence-based and appropriate for students enrolled in nursing programs. The activities may include tests, surveys, focus groups, portfolio reviews and open discussions. The primary purpose of the assessment activities is to determine the extent to which the department's programs meet the University, Department, regulatory and accrediting agencies standards for excellence in nursing education. Where appropriate, and when given proper notice, selected assessment findings may be used in the calculation of students' course grades. The cost of most assessments is included in the student fees assessed for a clinical course.

- **End-of-Program Student Learning Outcomes:**

Statements of learner-oriented expectations written in measurable terms that express the knowledge, skills, or behaviors that the students should be able to demonstrate upon completion of the nursing program regardless of the nursing program option. End-of program student learning outcomes must be consistent with standards of contemporary nursing practice.

- **Role-Specific Professional Competencies:**

Expected, measurable levels of graduate performance that integrate knowledge, skills, and behaviors. Competencies may include, but are not limited to, specific knowledge areas, clinical judgments, and behaviors based upon the role and/or scope of practice of the graduate.

End-of-Program Student Learning Outcomes and Role-Specific Professional Competencies

Curricular Concept	End of Program Student Learning Outcome Upon completion of the BSN program, the student will be ableto:	Role-Specific Professional Competencies
Safety	Demonstrate safe, competent, evidence- based nursing care to individuals, families, groups, communities, and diverse populations by employing leadership concepts, skills, decision making, and professional accountability in avariety of settings.	a. Demonstrate nursing behaviorswhich are guided by scientific evidence that promotes a safe patient environment. b. Identify the benefits and limitations of selected safety-enhancing technologies. c. Apply the nursing process to provide care in assigned patientcare setting. d. Demonstrate effective use of strategies to reduce risk of harm.
Evidence – Based Practice	Apply research findings, based on data, to promote quality and safety for the client, nurse, and healthcare team members, while proposing critical thinking questions based on evidence- based practice and processes thatmay improve current clinical practice.	a. Apply current evidence-based research when implementing steps of the nursing process. b. Use clinical reasoning/clinical judgment to make decisions to ensure accurate and safe care in all nursing actions, including addressing anticipated changes in the client's condition. c. Integrate research findings to improve current and relevant clinical practice. d. Evaluate patient outcomes utilizing evidence-based research and revise the plan ofcare to make appropriate modifications. e. Use critical thinking to interpret data to promote quality care and safe practice

Communication	Use appropriate interpersonal and communication skills to promote a culture of caring and safety which fosters disease prevention and health promotion.	a. Communicate effectively verbally, non-verbally in writing or through information technology. b. Utilize therapeutic communication skills when interacting with patients and support persons. c. Demonstrate public speaking and active listening skills. d. Demonstrate interpersonal communication skills. e. Demonstrate professional writing and communication skills while assessing personal critical thinking skills. f. Demonstrate professional writing and communication skills to explain key principles in critical thinking
Inter-professional Collaboration	Promote inter-professional collaboration by synthesizing theories from nursing, the natural and behavioral sciences, and the humanities to promote a culture of caring and safety, within simple to complex organizational systems.	a. Demonstrate effective communication skills (verbal and charting) with all membersof the health care team when making decisions and planning care. b. Identify which inter- professional healthcare team- member, and when to communicate collected data. c. Demonstrates respect for cultural diversity while providing culturally sensitivecare. d. Collaborates with inter- professional health team members in the management ofclients with actual or potential health problems.
Quality Improvement	Employ principles of quality improvement, health care policy,and fiscal effectiveness to initiate both microsystem and/orsystem wide changes to incrementally improve the system and foster continuous capabilities for change.	a. Identify methods to deliver carein a timely and cost-effective manner. b. Identify processes/projects that improve care in the microsystem/macro-system. c. Participate in the analysis of variance reporting to promotesystem improvement.

Information Management	Use information managementand innovative technology to develop and enable system changes.	a. Apply the use of CIS to document interventions related ɒ achieving nurse sensitive outcomes. b. Utilize information technology ɒ improve patient care outcomes and create a safe careenvironment. c. Demonstrate the value of nurse-created data in the implementation of nursing interventions. d. Apply safeguards and decision-making support tools embeddedin patient care technologies to support a safe practice environment. e. Evaluate data from all relevant sources, including technology, to make informed decisions regarding the delivery of care. f. Apply patient care technologies as appropriate to address the needs of a diverse population.
Leadership	Demonstrate effective leadership and management skills as a member of the health care team, utilizing an understanding of organizational structure, mission, vision, philosophy, and values.	a. Employ leadership and management theories when interacting with members of the healthcare team. b. Demonstrate accountability for nursing care given by self or delegated to others in all healthcare settings. c. Practice within the legal and ethical frameworks of nursing practice in accordance with organizational guidelines. d. Apply management skills and knowledge of organizational structure, mission, vision, philosophy, and values while practicing in various healthcare settings.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The NSU Department of Nursing and Allied Health is responsible for providing education without regard to disability while assuring that academic and technical standards are met. This document defines the non-academic criteria for advancement through and graduation from the Nursingprograms at Norfolk State University.

The following technical standards describe the essential functions that a student is expected to demonstrate in order to fulfill the requirements of a nursing education program, and thus, are required for advancement through and graduation from the program. The technical standards for each category identified below are consistent with the expectation of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, including changes madeby the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. The technical skill areas include motor, sensory/observation, communication, cognitive and behavioral.

Motor Skills

•GENERAL: A student must have sufficient motor function to execute movements essential to providing effective healthcare activities required of a nurse.

•SPECIFIC: A student must possess the sensory and motor skills to perform inspection, palpation, percussion, auscultation and other diagnostic maneuvers, basic laboratory tests and diagnostic procedures. Such actions require coordination of gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium and functional uses of the senses of touch and vision.

•SPECIFIC: A student must be able to perform basic life support including CPR, transfer and position patients with disabilities, physically restrain adults and children who lack motor control, and position and reposition him/herself around the patient and chair in a sitting or standing position. A student must promote and support the ability of co-workers to perform prompt care. A student must be able to use and calibrate equipment. A student must possess the ability to move safely within any confined client setting and assist patients with physical weaknesses. A student must be able to stand and/or sit for prolonged periods of time.

Sensory/Observation

•GENERAL: A student must be able to acquire information through demonstrations and experiences in basic sciences and nursing courses consistent with standards of nursing care.

•SPECIFIC: Such information includes, but is not limited to, information conveyed through physiologic, pharmacologic, microbiological and microscopic images of microorganisms and tissues in normal and pathologic states, written documents and images.

•GENERAL: A student must possess auditory, visual, and tactile abilities sufficient for observation and assessment necessary to provide nursing care.

•SPECIFIC: A student must be able to use sight, hearing and touch necessary to perform examinations, diagnose and treat conditions requiring nursing care.

Communications

•GENERAL: The student must be able to communicate in ways that are safe and not unduly alarming to patients.

•SPECIFIC: A student must have sufficient facility with English: to retrieve information from texts and lectures and communicate concepts on written exams and patient charts; elicit patient backgrounds; describe patient changes in moods, activity and posture; and coordinate patient care with all members of the healthcare team. A student must be able to communicate in lay language so that patients and their families can understand the patient's conditions and, thereby, be more likely to comply with treatment and preventive regimens.

Cognitive

- GENERAL: A student must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate and synthesize complex information and demonstrate acquired knowledge across multiple care settings.
- SPECIFIC: A student must be able to comprehend three-dimensional relationships and to understand the spatial relationships of structures. Problem solving requires all of these intellectual abilities. A student must be able to perform these problem-solving skills to ensure appropriate and timely patient care. A student must be able to make sound and rational decisions.

Behavioral

- GENERAL: A student must possess the mental health required for full use of his/her intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients and the development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with patients.
- SPECIFIC: A student must be able to adapt to changing environments, display flexibility and learnto function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of patients. Compassion, integrity, concern for others, interpersonal skills, interest, and motivation are all personal qualities that will be assessed during the admissions and educational processes. A student must be able to manage apprehensive patients with a range of moods and behaviors in a tactful, professional manner so as not to alienate or antagonize them. A student must be able to accept criticism and respond by appropriate modification of behavior. A student must be able to interrelate among colleagues, staff and patients with honesty, integrity, respect, and nondiscrimination.

II. NURSING PROGRAM POLICIES

A. Grading Policy

- The grading scale for the nursing programs is as follows:

A 96.5-100

A- 93.5 – 96.49999...

B+ 90.5 – 93.49999...

B 87.5 – 90.49999...

B- 84.5 – 87.49999...

C+ 80.5 – 84.49999...

C 77.5 - 80.49999...

C- 74.5 – 77.49999...

D+ 71.5 –74.49999...

D 67.5 – 71.49999...

D- 62.5 – 67.49999...

F 62.499999999 and below

ONLY THE FINAL GRADE WILL BE ROUNDED. The FINAL COURSE GRADE will ONLY be rounded according to the number value in the tenth place (i.e. 77.5 = C; 77.4 = C-). Course assignments, tests, quizzes, unit tests/exams, final test/exam will not be rounded. Students must earn a grade of "C" or above in all courses in the curriculum. For didactic courses that have a related clinical (laboratory/practicum) component, a student must satisfactorily complete both components of the course package. An overall course average of 78% is required for successful completion of the theoretical/didactic component. Additionally, a grade of pass (P) is required for successful completion of the clinical (laboratory/practicum) component of the course package. Students who fail EITHER portion of the course package WILL NOT be allowed to matriculate in the nursing program. The nursing program grading scale applies to course assignments and exams, as well as the final course grade.

B. Testing Policy

The night before testing, charge the computer. The day before testing, ensure equipment function, if needed, contact technical support prior to testing. Take care of all personal needs to allow completing the testing in one sitting.

All watches must be removed, backpacks and cell phones must be placed at the front of the classroom or in the designated area. Cell phones should be turned off. Failure to do so will result in a grade of **ZERO (0)**

Required Monitoring Resources: If off-campus, Respondus Lockdown with Monitor or Proctor U monitored is required. The faculty will designate the appropriate monitoring resource for the course/test.

- You are being recorded, therefore, dress appropriately as done when coming into a face-to-face class environment.
- Ensure the room contains lighting which allows face to be visible in the camera.

Drug Calculations Examinations for Pre-Licensure Students

- Students in clinical courses must pass a dosage calculation exam achieving greater thanor equal to 85% prior to administering medication using the nursing program's rounding rules (Appendix A).
- Students will be given two attempts to pass the dosage calculation exam with a score of85% or greater.
- Students that are not successful on the first attempt will be given a second attempt. Students will be required mandatory, written, and full remediation with the instructor prior to second attempt. Full remediation will be submitted via Blackboard. If the student is not successful on the second attempt, which should be given no later than the second week of the semester, the student will be administratively withdrawn from the course. Failure of the dosage calculation examination will count as an internal course failure and will affect program progression.
- Students that withdraw or fail the course based upon results of the dosage calculation exam are not permitted to continue in the program and must apply for readmission, if eligible

OASIS Testing:

- Prior to testing: If needed, obtain calculator and scrap paper from instructor.
- Scrap paper must be returned to the instructor.

Instructions for testing in OASIS, the Testing Center, Remote Tests (including quizzes)

- Enroll in OASIS before the semester starts
- Perform an Environmental Scan.
- During testing, the student should be alone in their designated space (this includes the room should be without pets).
- Identification- Use NSU Identification only.
- Scan the desk, include a 360-perimeter scan (Includes scanning to the left and right of your testing area) immediate environment.
- Place 2 blank sheets of scrap paper on the desk and one pencil.
- Ensure equipment functionality.
- Turn on the microphone and maintain the microphone in the on position throughout the exam.
- Check that your face is visible in the center of the screen, and it must remain in this position throughout the test.
- At the end of the test, student to hold up and tear the scrap paper multiple times then discard.
- Read any pop-up displays and do not disable any screen functions.

Non-compliance with the stated Testing Instructions

- Test scores will result in the student receiving a zero (0) for the test grade.

Standardized Testing (ATI) Policy

To ensure fairness, integrity, and accuracy in assessment, the following policies apply to all ATI (Assessment Technologies Institute) standardized tests administered in the Nursing Program:

- **Testing Integrity**

Any **non-compliance** with testing protocols or **use of unauthorized assistance** during an ATI exam will result in immediate **termination of the exam**. The student will receive **no credit**, and the grade will be recorded as a **zero (0)**.

- **Testing Requirements**
    - Students will complete a **composite exam** for each ATI subject area at the end of each semester.
    - A comprehensive **ATI exit exam** will be administered at the end of the program.

- **Final Semester Requirements**

In the **final semester**, students must achieve a **minimum score of 90%** on the ATI comprehensive exit exam to pass the course.

C. Written Work

All written work (papers, tests, etc.) become the property of the Department of Nursing and Allied Health. Unless otherwise indicated, all written work submitted to the Department of Nursing and Allied Health should be formatted in accordance with American Psychiatric Association (APA) guidelines.

D. Progress in the Nursing Program

- Nursing courses are to be taken in a sequential order per applicable curriculum guide.
- A grade of "C" or above is required in all courses in the program of study - nursing and non- nursing courses.
- Students who earn an overall course average of less than 78% in any nursing course are not permitted to matriculate in the nursing program.
- The failure of any two nursing courses in the nursing program will result in immediate dismissal from the program, without the option to reapply later.
- If a failing student withdraws from a course, the failing "W" will be counted as an internal course failure and will affect program progression. The student will be subjected to readmission guidelines of students with previous course failures.
- Steps for removal of an "I"- University policy for "Incomplete Grade" can be found in NSU University Student Handbook. This policy will be followed by the Department of Nursing and Allied Health.
- Students must complete their respective Nursing program within 5 years after being admitted to the professional nursing program.
- Nursing students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 in order to graduate.
- The GPA is not rounded up: Thus, a GPA of 2.49 is not 2.5. Additional courses will be required to raise the GPA to 2.5. Students cannot graduate if the cumulative GPA is not 2.5.
- If a student does not score greater than 900 on any specialty final standardized exam prior to final semester, the student must complete prescribed remediation assigned by course instructor.
- In NUR 463, students are required to score 900 on the HESI EXIT Exam. If the student does not achieve a score of 900 on the first attempt, students will be allowed a 2nd attempt. If after the 2nd attempt the student does not achieve a score of 900, the student fails NUR 463 and must reapply to the program (if this constitutes the only course failure in the program).

E. Student Behavior/Performance Monitoring Policy

- All students are monitored throughout the program by their mentor/advisor, faculty, and program coordinator; pre-licensure students must meet with their mentor/advisor at least three times per semester.
- Documentation of areas of concern is made on the Student Performance Monitoring Form (**Appendix B**). This form is used to provide feedback to the student and the student's advisor. Student performance is monitored on a regular basis to ensure student learning and success in the nursing program.
- Students are held responsible for their actions and the consequences of their actions. Disruptive or rude behavior will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal of students from the classroom, clinical sites in keeping with the NSU Department of Nursing and Allied Health's Core Values.
- Students are expected to be on time for class examinations, laboratory and clinical experiences. Students who are late may be denied admissions to face to face classroom sessions or clinical sites (direct patient care or clinical labs).
- Food/Drink is PROHIBITED in the Classroom/clinical Labs.
- The use of cell phones for **PERSONAL USE IS PROHIBITED** in the classroom, clinical sites and clinical laboratory areas. Students must adhere to individual clinical facility policies regarding cell phone use. Agency phones should be used for official business only.

F. Attendance Policy

- The Nursing Program is governed by the University's policy relative to class attendance. Attendance at all classes is expected. Not more than 20% of class meetings (excused and/or unexcused) may be missed by a student. At the discretion of the instructor, a student whose absences exceed 20% of scheduled class meetings for the semester or term may receive a grade of "F" for the course (Norfolk State University Catalog, Ed.).
- Clinical attendance is a critical and necessary element of nursing education. Absence and tardiness from the clinical area is not acceptable. Tardiness is defined as being up to seven minutes late to the clinical site or classroom, online clinical (if required) and/or on-campus lab. Two or more instances of tardiness will constitute one absence. Two absences (excused or unexcused) will be considered grounds for failure of the clinical section.
- Students who will be absent MUST call or text the clinical instructor at least 2 hours prior to the start of the clinical. No call/no show will be considered grounds for clinical failure.
- A minimum total of 500 direct patient care hours are required to complete the pre-licensure programs. Students who do not complete the minimum of 500 clinical hours will not be eligible for graduation.
- All absences from on-campus laboratory, off-campus clinical experiences and online clinical experiences will be documented.
- **ABSENCE FROM FINAL EXAMINATIONS-** If a student misses a final examination because of an emergency, students should notify the instructor within 48 hours after the examination was scheduled. Excuses for missing a final exam are issued by the Office of Student Services/Judicial Affairs only with the consent of the instructor. Such excuses are given only in **EXTREME EMERGENCIES**, and official, written documentation MUST be presented before an excuse is issued. Failure to follow the procedure outlined for absence from final examinations will result in a grade of "0" for the examination, and a final grade will be computed and given for the course. If a student is absent from a test, the student will take a different test than the one administered to the class. This test may be of a different format as well (essay, short answer, etc.).
- Students with a university approved clinical absence may be required to make-up the clinical hours.

G. Clinical Setting Guidelines

- Students must be prepared to attend off campus and online clinicals at the times and locations as assigned. If the student is not prepared for the clinical day, the student may be sent home. Students should eat prior to arrival at the clinical facility. Students may not report to the patient care areas consuming food or drink nor chewing gum.
- Students must come to the clinical site prepared with a pen, stethoscope, watch with a second hand, and notebook with paper.
- There is limited space at the clinical facilities to accommodate backpacks and textbooks. Please check with your clinical instructor regarding what resources you need to bring to the clinical site.
- All students are to park in designated areas as outlined by the clinical facility. Students are not to park in "Patient" parking areas.
- Students completing greater than 4 hours of clinical will be assigned a 30-minute meal break by the clinical faculty. Students may purchase meals in the agency cafeteria or bring their own.

- Students may not leave the clinical site (this includes off campus and online clinicals) at any time during the clinical experience.
- Students may not be in the patient care areas without the presence of the clinical faculty, unless otherwise instructed by course professor. All clinical procedures should be completed under faculty supervision unless the student is deemed competent by a clinical instructor.
- Sign the Norfolk State University Confidentiality Agreement (**Appendix K**)
- Students in clinical courses are required to:
- Maintain and submit the Clinical Tracking Form in conjunction with the clinical instructor.
- All required clinical forms are in the Clinical Forms Manual which will be distributed to students by faculty.
- Clinical courses are evaluated on a pass/fail basis. If a student passes the clinical course but fails the classroom (face to face and virtual) course, the student must repeat both the clinical course and classroom courses.

H. Dress Codes (Face to Face and Virtual)

Dress Code for Classroom
Students are expected to attend class dressed neatly and well groomed. Clothing should be clean and in good repair. For safety reasons, students are expected to be clean-shaven without facial hair. All students are expected to wear appropriate undergarments. Caps and sunglasses (unless accompanied by a doctor's note) should be removed in the classroom. The following is the required classroom attire:

- Solid navy blue top and bottoms, or
- Solid hunter green top and bottom,
- No mixing colors between top and bottom sets,
- Wear solid colored scrub jacket (any color) or long sleeve white shirt under the scrub top, and
- Nursing shoes for class same as in clinical settings.
- No headphones, no earphones, no hair rollers, pins or hair bonnets are allowed in classrooms/clinical areas.
- Students should not come to campus wearing the same clinical uniform that was worn at their clinical site earlier in the day. This practice is intended to reduce the transmission of potentially infectious organisms or hazardous materials from the clinical setting to the community. The lab instructor reserves the right to determine what is appropriate.

Dress Code for Clinical and Laboratory Sessions

- All students must report to their clinical and/or lab site in the approved NSU nursing student uniform. This consists of NSU scrub uniform, white lab coat (jacket), white hose (socks) and white shoes. Also, the student is required to have a watch with a second hand, bandage scissors, stethoscope, black ink pen, pen light, name tag and pocket-size notebook. Students should not wear their school uniforms while working on other jobs. Students who report to the clinical site without the approved clinical attire will be sent home. In addition, students must adhere to the following:
- **Shoes and Attire** - Students should always obtain and wear the specified school uniform (or the specified appropriate attire for community and psychiatric clinical) in the clinical areas. Standard White Nursing Shoes (sneakers, tennis shoes, crocs, and clogs are not acceptable) and hose/socks should be worn with the clinical uniform. Clothes and shoes must be clean, non-stained, fabric pressed

and free of wrinkles, in good condition, well-maintained and not in need of repair. Scrub jackets are not allowed.

- **Jewelry** - Students are allowed to wear one pair of small post earrings and a plain band ring. Students must remove jewelry from piercings of other areas of the body, clear piercing is allowable. Chains/necklaces/bracelets if worn should not be visible.

- **Hair** - All students must have hair off the collar in such a fashion that it will not fall forward into a work area or brush across a client. No hair color or hair accessories. No head scarves and uncombed wraps. When in conflict, we must comply with the clinical partner facility. Agency's policy - For safety reasons, students are expected to be clean-shaven without facial hair.

- **Fingernails** - Acrylic/artificial nails are prohibited. Nails must be neat and no longer than one-quarter inch past the nail bed. Nails should be bare and free of polish.

- **General Appearance** – Makeup should not be excessive, no perfume or aftershave. False eyelashes are not permitted. There should be no sweatshirts, hooded, or zip jackets worn over the uniform.

- **All tattoos must be covered** – To cover tattoos, white long sleeves are required under uniforms and cover makeup should be applied to tattoos which show elsewhere.

- **Nametag** – Student nametags and picture ID are to be worn on the left side of the uniform top at all times when in the clinical setting.

- **All students must wear the official NSU white lab jacket.**

Psychiatric and Community Health Clinical

In addition to standard dress code policy listed above:

- ✓ NSU Green Polo Shirt (available in Book Store).
- ✓ Black scrub pants (available in the Book Store).
- ✓ White lab coat (agency dependent).
- ✓ Standard Black Nursing Shoes. No sneakers.

I. Student Incidents in the Clinical/Laboratory Settings Policy

Any students involved in an incident related to laboratory and or clinical experiences must adhere to the following:

Any incident must be reported immediately to the laboratory/clinical faculty and program coordinator and/or clinical coordinator. In addition, the Director of Nursing and Department Chair must be notified within 24 hours of the incident. The Department of Nursing and Allied Health Student Incident Report Form is to be completed and signed by the student, laboratory supervisor/faculty, and program coordinator. If referral for treatment is indicated, the student must report to the Student Health Services. The completed incident form should be returned to the program coordinator within seven (7) days of the incident. The program coordinator will file all completed incident report forms with the Administrative Assistant to the Chairperson of the Department of Nursing. The Department of Nursing will maintain a file of completed incident forms for a period of seven (7) years.

Clinical/laboratory faculty will have copies of the Department of Nursing Student Incident Report Forms available in the clinical /laboratory setting. A sample of the form is in **Appendix E** of the Department of Nursing and Allied Health Handbook.

Students who are unable to obtain appropriate follow-up at the facility when the incident occurred should call Spartan Health Center @ 757-278-3360. After hours' assistance may be obtained from the Healthcare Provider on call for Student Health Services by calling NSU Campus Security at 757-823-

8102.

Exposure Protocol for Nursing Students
**NOTE: NURSING STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THIS PROTOCOL. ALL MEDICAL CARE WILL BE AT THEIR EXPENSE AND WITH THEIR CHOICE OF HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL.

Significant Exposures

- Contaminated needle stick.
- Puncture wound from a contaminated sharp instrument.
- Contamination of any obviously open wound, non-intact skin or mucous membranes by saliva, blood, or a mixture of both saliva and blood.
- Exposure to the client's blood or saliva on unbroken skin is not considered significant.

Post-Exposure Evaluation and Follow-Up
An exposure incident is defined as a specific eye, mouth, or other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or potential (puncture, laceration) contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials and/or substances.

Student Reporting Responsibility

- If a student nurse has been exposed to a source that is positive for HIV, AIDS, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, has high risk factors (IV drug abuser, history of multiple- unprotected sexual contacts, homosexual, hemophilia, etc.) or the source is unknown, the student is expected to notify the appropriate faculty member immediately.
- COVID-19 Students are to report symptoms associated with COVID-19 to the Spartan Health Center 757-278-3360.

Evaluation and Care of Affected Area

Assess type of injury and severity and apply the following care:

- Severe lacerations are to be sent for immediate evaluation and treatment to the ER.
- Wound care for minor punctures requires immediately squeezing to bleed the wound, then wash with soap and water, clean with alcohol and apply a dressing.
- Eye splashes will require flushing with sterile saline for 5-10 minutes, immediately or as soon after exposure as possible.
- Splashes to the mucous membrane (i.e., inside mouth) also require immediate flushing with water.
- Splashes to non-intact skin require immediate washing with soap and water, clean with alcohol and apply dressing.
- Exposure to the client's blood or saliva on the unbroken skin is not considered significant. This type of exposure must be followed with vigorous hand washing.

Prophylaxis Treatment
If exposure injury is the result of a puncture or laceration, a tetanus/diphtheria booster may be indicated in accordance with CDC guidelines. If source patient is HBV, HCV, RPR, or HIV positive, high risk (IVDA, homosexual, hemophiliac, etc.) or unknown, the student is entitled to be evaluated by a physician and offered prophylaxis treatment for these diseases.

J. Health Requirements

Note: Documentation of all initial and ongoing health requirements must be submitted prior to beginning the program, at the beginning of each semester as well as at the beginning of each clinical rotation. Students whose health records are not complete will not be allowed to report to their assigned clinical agencies until all documentation is received. Students who incur two or more absences for failure to submit proof of health requirements and/or failure to maintain compliance will fail the course.

Students must provide evidence of good health (fitness for clinical) by providing proof of a complete physical exam including:

- Students are required to be able to meet all Technical Standards as outlined in the Technical Standards policy. A note from the student's physician indicating fitness to return to class and clinical will be required if the student becomes physically unable to perform per the standards.
- PPD annually, unless prohibited; in which case a chest x-ray and/or TB questionnaire is required.
- Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) titers or immunizations are required.
- A positive varicella titer or 2 varicella vaccinations are required whether or not the student has had chicken pox. A negative varicella titer indicates non immunity and requires two varicella vaccines.
- Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap) booster should be received every ten (10) years throughout the life span.
- Students must receive the meningitis vaccine or sign the waiver form (see Appendix C).
- Students must receive the entire hepatitis series or sign a waiver. All health professionals risk exposure to blood and blood products, therefore a waiver is discouraged.
- Flu vaccination is required annually in the current flu season (fall). Students that refuse to take the flu vaccination may be denied clinical privileges by the clinical agency.
- All students must provide a jpeg or PDF of their COVID-19 vaccination. Students who refuse to take COVID-19 vaccination may be denied clinical privileges by the clinical agency.

All students are required to obtain and show proof of having received a COVID booster.

K. Pregnancy Policy

Students who are pregnant on entry to the program, or become pregnant during the program must:

- Advise their Course/Clinical Instructor, Clinical Coordinator and their Program Coordinator of the pregnancy in writing immediately during the admission process or immediately after obtaining the diagnosis.
- Obtain a written clearance from their medical provider stating that the student is physically able to safely complete the course requirements inclusive of clinical assignments. The notification should include a statement indicating that she can perform the duties of a Student Nurse as outlined in this Handbook throughout the course of the pregnancy.
- Immediately notify the Course/Clinical Instructor, Clinical Coordinator, and Program Coordinator, in writing, of any complications, problems and/or restrictions that occur during the pregnancy. This written statement will become a part of the student's clinical and medical files.
- Determine, after consultation with their medical provider, if they are able to meet the stated requirements of the course during the pregnancy. If the student is unable to complete the semester because of the pregnancy, she will be required to follow the withdrawal policy as outlined in the Student Handbook.

L. Other Certifications/Requirements

Since completion of clinical rotations is a **mandatory component** of the Nursing Program, any restrictions on clinical placement due to criminal history **may prevent a student from fulfilling program requirements**, ultimately affecting graduation and licensure eligibility.

Individuals who do not give permission to conduct the criminal background check/drug screen or who fail to provide the reports as required will not be allowed to matriculate or continue enrollment in the Nursing Program. Students who do not have an up-to-date record on file of all required immunizations, health requirements, insurance, CPR certification, drug screen, and criminal background check will be administratively withdrawn from all nursing classes.

Clinical documentation for all enrolled students will be collected, filed, and may be released, if requested, to clinical agencies/clinical sites to which the student reports (Appendix D). If a student refuses to consent to the release of requested information, the student will not be allowed to attend the clinical experience and will fail the course. Upon refusal, the student will have to drop/withdraw from the course or be administratively removed from the course.

- **CPR -** The Department of Nursing and Allied Health requires that all students successfully complete American Heart Association Health Care Provider Course CPR/Basic Life Support Certification for health professionals (1 man, AED, 2 man, adult, child) in the month prior to starting in the nursing major and maintain the certification while a student in the program. It is the student's responsibility to maintain and provide documentation of a current CPR certification at all times.

- **Malpractice Insurance -** Students are required to secure liability insurance ($2,000,000/4,000,000) prior to beginning the program as specified in the offer of admission letter and to maintain same throughout the program.

- **Criminal Background Check** - Students are required to submit a criminal background report (criminal history and sex offender searches.) The independent vendor (Castle Branch) has been identified by the Department of Nursing and Allied Health to provide the criminal background check. Students are responsible for initiating the background check by registering and paying on the Castle Branch website.

- **Drug Screen** - 10 Panel Drug Screen is required and is to be completed through Castle Branch via Lab Corp lab Company via urinalysis. A positive finding on a urinalysis drug test will prevent enrollment in the program for one year. Students must consent to the screening and will report for screening per guidelines. The unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited on campus and in clinical sites and any violations of this policy shall subject a student to disciplinary action up to and including permanent dismissal.

M. Transportation

Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from clinical facilities. The clinical facilities are located primarily within the five major cities surrounding the University. Public transportation is available, and car-pooling is encouraged. The University assumes no responsibility for the transportation of students.

N. Inclement Weather Policy

- When inclement weather occurs, students are still expected to participate in clinical and classroom sessions unless otherwise notified by the instructor.
- To ensure that all classes meet the required number of instructional contact hours, the method of offering continuous instruction in the event of class cancellation or University closure due to inclement weather is to provide course content, assignments, and activities via Blackboard as the course management system and the virtual classroom.
- If the University is closed due to inclement weather, University officials will notify students, faculty and staff via "Everbridge" – our emergency alert system. Students are to sign up via the following link: https://member.everbridge.net/index/1332612387831954.
- Information about the closure of NSU will also be posted on the following:
  - Website bulletin board (www.nsu.edu)
  - Spartan Net (Message of the Day)
  - University's switchboard voice mail (823-8600)
  - Message marquee on Brambleton and Park Avenues
- Additionally, the following communications channels are used during times of inclement weather:
  - WTKR News Channel 3
  - WVEC Channel 13
  - WAVY Channel 10

O. Disability Services

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) STATEMENT
In accordance with Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, we ask if you have a disability or think you have a disability, please contact the:

Office of Accessibility Services/International Student Services (O.A.S.I.S.).
Contact Information: Accessibility Services (O.A.S.I.S.)
Location: James A Bowser Building, Suite 121 Telephone: 757-823-2009 Fax: 757-823-2640

P. Social Media and Cell Phone Use

The use of social media and other electronic communication is expanding rapidly. Social Media is an exciting and valuable tool when used wisely. Nurses and nursing students must recognize that they have an ethical and legal obligation to always maintain Patient Privacy and Confidentiality.

The following are to be adhered by Nursing Students at all times:

- You are strictly prohibited from transmitting by way of any electronic media any patient- related image. In addition, nurses are restricted from transmitting any information that may be reasonably anticipated to violate patient rights to confidentiality or privacy, or otherwise degrade or embarrass the patient.
- You must not share, post or otherwise disseminate any information or images about a patient or information gained via the nurse/patient relationship with anyone unless there is a patient-care-related need to disclose the information or other legal obligations to do so.
- You must not identify patients by name or post or publish information that may lead to the identification of a patient. Limiting access to postings through privacy settings is not sufficient to ensure privacy.

- You must not refer to patients in a disparaging manner, even if the patient is not identified.
- You must not take photos or videos of patients on personal devices, including cell phones. Nursing students should follow agency policies for taking photographs or videos of patients for treatment or other legitimate purposes using agency-provided devices.
- Do not engage in online social contact with patients or former patients. Online contact with patients or former patients blurs the distinction between a professional and personal relationship. The fact that a patient may initiate contact with the student nurse does not permit the student nurse to engage in a personal relationship with the patient.
- You must promptly report any identified breach of confidentiality or privacy.
- You must be aware of and comply with agency policies regarding use of agency-owned computers, cameras and other electronic devices, and use of personal devices in the workplace.
- You must not make disparaging remarks about agency, university, faculty, or classmates. Do not make threatening, harassing, profane, obscene, sexually explicit, racially derogatory, homophobic or other offensive comments via any type of social media.
- You must not post content or otherwise speak on behalf of the clinical site unless authorized to do so and must follow all applicable policies of the clinical site.
- You must not include the name of the agency or unit on which you are assigned on any method/type of social media.
- Consequences of Non-compliance include but are not limited to:
- The Department of Nursing and Allied Health can lose the Clinical Site where the incident occurred.
- The Nursing Student can be suspended or terminated from the program depending on the severity of the incident.
- All faculty members who become aware of any breach of confidentiality or privacy must complete a Student Performance Monitoring Form and submit it to the Department Chair.
- All incidents will be reviewed by the Department Chair. The Chair will consult with the faculty members and determine appropriate action required.

Q. Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense in the Nursing Program, with consequences that extend beyond the classroom. It not only compromises the integrity of the educational process but also puts patient safety at risk and undermines the ethical standards of the nursing profession.

Students who fail to comply with the following rules associated with academic honesty are subject to immediate dismissal from the nursing program without the option of future readmission.

- In keeping with its mission, the University seeks to prepare its students to be knowledgeable, forthright, and honest. It expects and requires academic honesty from all members of the University community. Academic honesty includes adherence to guidelines established by the University for the use of its libraries, computers, or other facilities.
- “Academic or academically related misconduct” includes, but is not limited to: unauthorized collaboration or use of external information during examinations; plagiarizing or representing another’s ideas as one’s own; furnishing false academic information to the University; falsely obtaining, distributing, using, or receiving test materials; obtaining or gaining unauthorized access to examinations or academic research materials; soliciting or offering unauthorized academic information or materials; improperly altering or inducing another to alter improperly any academic

record; or engaging in any conduct which is intended or reasonably likely to confer upon one's self or another unfair advantage or unfair benefit representing an academic matter.

- All students are expected to maintain high ethical and moral standards. An important component of this is the Honor Code (see below). All students are expected to attest to the following statement in all written work, quizzes, and examinations; this statement is to be written or typed on every assignment submitted by a student.

- Students found in violation of this policy will be referred to the Dean of Students.

Forms of Academic Dishonesty in Nursing

- **Cheating**
  Using unauthorized materials during exams, copying from others, or employing technology to gain an unfair advantage.

- **Plagiarism**
  Presenting another person's work or ideas as your own without proper citation.

- **Falsification**
  Creating or altering documents, such as clinical records, patient charts, or medication logs.

- **Clinical Dishonesty**
  Examples include signing in for a clinical shift without being present, leaving early without permission, failing to provide required care, or documenting care that was not actually delivered.

Consequences of Academic Dishonesty

- **Academic Penalties**
  Students may face failing grades on assignments or in courses, suspension, or dismissal from the Nursing Program.

- **Professional Impact**
  Dishonest behavior can affect eligibility for licensure, employment opportunities, and professional reputation.

- **Ethical Implications**
  Violations of academic integrity erode the foundational values of nursing: honesty, integrity, and accountability.

The Importance of Academic Integrity

- **Patient Safety**

Trustworthy, ethical practice is essential to ensuring patient safety and high-quality care.

- **Professional Standards**

Nursing education upholds academic integrity as the bedrock of ethical, competent nursing practice.

- **Long-Term Implications**

Dishonest academic habits can carry over into clinical practice, increasing the risk of errors and harm to patients.

Honor Code

On my honor, I pledge to do work to the best of my ability with NO assistance on graded assignments or tests. I also pledge to report any breach of the honor code to the appropriate faculty member.

R. Graduation Requirements

The University awards the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree to those students who successfully complete the requirements set forth by their particular degree track. Candidates must complete an application for graduation and pay the required University fee(s). Graduating nursing students are

expected to check with the Registrar and their Advisor or Department Head concerning completion of requirements for graduation.

Candidates for graduation from the Department of Nursing and Allied Health shall complete their respective curriculum with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above. All courses in the curriculum must be completed with a grade of "C" or above. Graduates are expected to attend the commencement ceremony and to adhere to the University dress code. The University hosts two commencement ceremonies annually in December and May. Information regarding graduation, commencement, including fees, will be disseminated by the Office of the Registrar.

- All requirements must be completed successfully according to departmental curricular guidelines before you can be cleared for graduation.
- The academic transcript is the official document of degree completion.
- If transcripts for employment or graduate school purposes are needed, students must indicate "HOLD FOR DEGREE" on your transcript request if the degree information is required. Otherwise, students will have to pay for another transcript request.
- E-mail notifications of graduation status will be sent to the NSU e-mail address along with any outstanding financial obligations. Transcripts and diplomas will not be released if money is owed to the University.
- If student has received an "I" for a course, the student must meet the requirements for removal of the "I" before the student can be cleared for graduation.

S. Nursing Pinning Ceremony

This ceremony is the occasion to dedicate yourself to the tenants of the profession in preparation for graduation. All requirements must be completed successfully according to departmental curricular guidelines before you can be cleared for the Nursing pinning ceremony. Further details on the pinning ceremony are presented prior to the end of the program.

The following dress code has been implemented to project a professional appearance. It is mandatory that you follow the dress code to participate in the pinning ceremony.

- **White leather/leather-like nursing shoes, no Crocs and Croc-like (NO colored logos)** and white hose/socks must be worn. Clothes and shoes must be clean, non-stained, fabric pressed and free of wrinkles, in good condition, well-maintained and not in need of repair. The clothes must be an appropriate size. **Dresses are to be no shorter than knee length**. Undergarments must provide full coverage and **be natural in color**.
- **Jewelry**: Students are allowed to wear **one pair of small post earrings and a plain band ring**. Students must **remove jewelry from piercings of other areas of the body**. **Chains/necklaces/bracelets are NOT PERMITTED.**
- **Hair**: All students **must have hair off the collar** and **should not fall forward**. Hair should be in natural tones. **No outrageous hairstyles**. **No headscarves, uncombed wraps or hair embellishments**. The nursing cap must be able to lie flat on the head.
- **Fingernails**: **Acrylic/artificial nails are prohibited**. **Nails must be neat and no longer than one-quarter inch past the nail bed**. **Nails should be bare and free of polish, no appliques, designs, or accessories.**
- **General Appearance**: Makeup, perfume or aftershave **should not be excessive**. **False eyelashes are not permitted**. Gentlemen's facial hair should be neatly groomed.

- **All tattoos must be covered**, and **band aids are not to be used for this purpose**. **If you have tattoos you must meet with the members of the Student Committee.**
- **Students must meet with the committee before the rehearsal**.
- Students will be pinned only by the nursing faculty, No exceptions.

To attend the pinning ceremony, **it is mandatory** that the students attend the dress rehearsal.

The Student Committee Chairperson has the final decision and departmental support. No EXCEPTION.

It is not mandatory that the student participate in the pinning ceremony, however, it is recommended.

T. Readmission Policy

Readmission to the nursing program is highly competitive and is based upon classroom and clinical availability (face to face and virtual). Readmission is not guaranteed. If a student has been dismissed from the program related to a Level 3 Behavior Infraction (see Student Performance Policy), they are ineligible for readmission indefinitely. If a student earns a grade of C- or below in one (1) nursing course, or has withdrawn from the program in good standing, and is eligible for readmission into the nursing program, the follow steps are required:

- Student must apply to repeat the course with the next cohort by completing a readmission application (**Appendix A**) and submitting the application to the admissions coordinator for review by the Admissions, Promotion and Retention Committee.
- Traditional BSN students: Effective January 2022, student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater for both new and readmission applicants.
- RN to BSN students: Student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or greater and meet current admission requirements.
- If a student has had a lapse in continuous enrollment of the nursing program, the student must demonstrate previous course competencies through cognitive and psychomotor assessments through skills check off and drug calculation test. If the student is unsuccessful after two attempts demonstrating the previous course competencies through cognitive and psychomotor assessments, the student will not be eligible for readmission.
- Readmitted students must complete a background check and drug screen if there has been a lapse of more than a calendar year in continuous enrollment in the nursing program.
- It is recommended but not required that the student audit previous nursing courses if applicable.

U. University Academic Student Concerns

(Grievance and Appeal Process)

The Nursing Program adheres to the University Academic Student Concern process as detailed in the University Student Handbook. Please refer to the University Student Handbook for information regarding concerns about grades or other assessments and/or concerns involving a faculty member.

Students with issues, concerns or complaints should follow the Nursing Program Student Chain of Communication (**Appendix G**) and follow the Nursing and Allied Health Student Request Guidelines in utilizing the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology Student Resolution Form (**Appendix H**).

Nursing and Allied Health Student Resolution Requests

Purpose

The purpose of the Student Resolution Request Form is to serve the needs of undergraduate and graduate students who believe that they have been unjustly awarded a final course grade, or to resolve other matters pertaining to academic progression and performance when unfair treatment is suspected.

It is expected that ALL Nursing and Allied Health students will use professional approaches to understanding professor feedback. This necessitates employing a " Learning Attitude" which seeks to understand how to improve your knowledge and skills as opposed to simply seeking a specific grade on an assignment or test. In our department, grades are earned based on carefully developed assignment instructions and grading rubrics. It is strongly recommended that you meet with your instructor and seek full clarification of assignment expectations ***before*** you submit the assignment to help you earn the grade you seek.

The basis for a final grade review using the Student Resolution Request process is that the final grade was awarded through prejudice or caprice.

Prejudice- a favoring or dislike of something without good reason. b. unfriendly feelings directed against an individual, a group, or a race. Prejudice (Merriam-Webster, 2024)

Caprice-a. a sudden, impulsive, and seemingly unmotivated notion or action. B. a sudden, usually unpredictable condition, change, or series of changes. (Merriam-Webster, 2024)

The burden of proof rests with the student, and students must initiate the review within 14 days of final grades being posted.

Use of this form applies to final course grades and does not apply to the following:

- Discontent with the course calendar or assignment due dates.
- Requests for assignment extensions.
- Disagreement with earned grades on examinations, assessments, or assignments that are a part of a course.
- Requests that override syllabus statements, policies, or procedures.

Procedure

Note: Students and faculty are required to follow the established procedures for requested resolutions. At no point should students attempt to bypass the steps of this process, as this will create delays in the efficient and effective review of your concerns.

The process involves the following steps and may be resolved at any of the following levels:

1. The student first meets with the **Course Instructor** to discuss their concerns. If the issue is not resolved, the student may submit a formal request for review.

2. The student and instructor (preferably together) meet with the **Program Director** for guidance and review of concerns, and to ensure all documentation is present prior to submitting it to the Chair of the Department.

3. The student then submits the Student Resolution Request form, along with required documents, to the **Chair of the Department of Nursing and Allied Health**. The student and Chair to discuss the concern. If the student's issue is still not resolved, the student can request further review.

4. The Chair submits the form and accompanying documents to the **Associate Dean of the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology** who reviews the matter. The student and instructor (preferably together) with.

*If the above steps do not resolve the matter, then the student may initiate a formal written appeal through the **Faculty/Student Grievance Committee to the Provost and the Dean of Students** Office for review and recommendation.

III. CENTER FOR INNOVATIVE NURSING EDUCATION (CINE)

Mission Statement
Utilizing simulation technology and expert faculty to prepare our nurse graduates for a smooth transition into a challenging health care environment. Our nurse graduates will be empowered with the cognitive, affective, and psychomotor skills needed to provide competent nursing care to individuals, families, and the community at large.

CINE Policies
To maintain an environment of professionalism and promote professional development, students and faculty are required to adhere to the Center for Innovative Nursing Education (CINE) dress code. Students participating in learning activities in the CINE Lab must be dressed in a manner that is consistent with Norfolk State University's Nursing Program clinical dress code (fully dressed in uniform) or they must be in professional attire with a lab coat (this rule applies to all students who are dressed in their civilian scrubs or professional attire). Student's hair must also be properly groomed and above the collar while in the CINE lab.

While in the CINE Lab:

- Name Tags are to be displayed at all times.
- Cell phones and paging devices must be silenced.
- Children are not permitted.
- There is no eating or drinking.
- All students must be in full nursing uniform during skills labs, simulation and during practicum evaluation.

Supply Bags
The supply bags provided by the Department of Nursing and Allied Health and the supplies and equipment used in the Center for Innovative Nursing Education are for demonstration and simulation purposes only. The sterility of the supplies is not guaranteed. The supplies and equipment are not to be used on humans or animals.

Clinical Skills Requirements
Clinical Skills Evaluation Guidelines (face to face and virtual)

- It is expected that students perform their skills to in its entirety.

- A reasonable amount of time will be granted to execute each component of the clinical skills evaluation.
- Students will adhere to the honor code. Students are not allowed to review information, or converse with their peers once they have entered the evaluation area (CINE LAB).
- At the completion of evaluation, students will be given the opportunity to verbally correct their assigned procedures or skills.
- Faculty will not provide cueing, coaching or feedback during skills evaluation. Remember this is a test. Students will be debriefed at the completion of the evaluation.
- Students must always maintain a professional demeanor.
- During clinical skills evaluation, the evaluator may simulate the voice of the "client". Students will be held accountable for the information provided via the "client".
- Following the clinical skills evaluation, students are prohibited from sharing information regarding the practicum until all students have been evaluated.
- Students who do not successfully complete all components of the clinical skills evaluation on the first attempt are required to complete a minimum of two hours of skill remediation in the CINE LAB during open lab prior to the day of re-evaluation. Students who do not successfully complete all components of the clinical skills evaluation on the second attempt are required to complete a minimum of ten hours of skill remediation in the CINE LAB during open lab hours prior to the day of re-evaluation. Students who do not successfully complete the clinical skills evaluation on a third attempt will receive a failing grade for the lab portion of the course. Receiving a failing grade for the lab portion of a course will prohibit the students from advancing in their courses of study. See CINE LAB student statement of understanding (**Appendix K**).

IV. EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

AA. Computer Resources

NSU ONLINE http://www.nsu.edu/oel/services-and-support

Blackboard Tutorials and Orientation

Blackboard tutorials help you to access course content, take tests, submit assignments, use SafeAssign, and perform other course-related activities.

To help you get comfortable with the online course environment, please enroll and complete the Blackboard (Bb) 101 Student Orientation. You can move through the course at your own pace. Completing the orientation course will help you succeed as an online student.

To access the Blackboard orientation:

Log in to My NSU, then Blackboard.

Select the "Student" Tab, the Bb 101 Orientation. Click "Enroll" to self-enroll in the course. Submit.

Help and Tech Support
http://www.nsu.edu/oel/help-and-tech-support

For Blackboard assistance, please email nsuonline@nsu.edu, call toll free (757) 823-8678, or submit a ticket. You may also access Blackboard help by visiting the Blackboard Help website.

Wireless Access: (http://www.nsu.edu/wifi/) Get help configuring your devices for wireless access.

Blackboard Support: (http://www.nsu.edu/blackboard) Log into Blackboard, get support and watch Blackboard Tutorials.

Help Desk: (http://www.nsu.edu/blackboard/) Contact the OIT Client Services for problems with account access, IT-related issues and other issues concerning NSU computers.

For students who need computer equipment such as laptops and webcams, please contact the phone numbers below for assistance:

757-823-8141 – **NSU division of Student Affairs**

757-823-2152 –**Dean of Students**

Library.nsu.edu resource: (http://library.nsu.edu/screens/resources_distance.html)

BB. Veterans Affairs
The Veterans Affairs Office serves as a liaison between the NSU student veteran and dependents and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). Eligible student veterans, active servicepersons, dependents, and reservists are assisted with the processing of VA forms for DVA education benefits; are advised about certain procedural requirements and certify enrollment of veterans and dependents to the DVA. The main goal of the Veterans Affairs Office is to provide timely and proper service for educational assistance benefit programs and other supportive services to the veteran and eligible dependents enrolled at Norfolk State University. The Veterans Affairs Office (VAO) is located on the third floor of the Student Services Center. The VAO phone number is (757) 823-2586 or email veteransaffairs@nsu.edu

CC. Counseling Services
The Counseling Center offers a variety of services designed to enhance the overall educational experiences of students at the University. Free counseling services are available 7 days per week and 24 hours/day for all students. These services include individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, and outreach programs. The Counseling Center phone number is (757) 823-8173.

DD. Nursing Program Student Governance
Selected nursing students will serve on the following departmental committees for a term of one year.

- Administrative and Faculty Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Student Committee
- Student/Faculty Liaison Committee

The Student/Faculty Liaison Committee is composed of representatives of students and faculty from each program. The Committee meets on a regular basis to discuss issues and concerns brought forth

by both the faculty and the student body. Students should use their student representatives to address their concerns. Student representatives will be elected by the student body as follows:

1st Year Traditional Student
2nd Year Traditional Student
RN to BSN Student

EE. Student Advising and Mentoring

- Each faculty member has posted office hours for the purpose of advising and mentoring students. Advisees are encouraged to consult their advisor on any matter pertinent to their academic pursuits. Students will retain the same advisor/mentor throughout their entire course of study at NSU.
- Faculty Mentors should meet with their student advisees at least three (3) times per semester
- Student requesting faculty recommendation statements (**Appendix F**) need to submit a written request at least two weeks prior to due date.
- Students with concerns or complaints should be directed to and follow the Chain of Command (**Appendix G**).
- The Department Chair holds office hours by appointment only. Appointments should be made in advance by contacting the Administrative Specialist on the fourth floor nursing office in NGE. The Administrative Specialist can be reached by phone at (757) 823-9013.

FF. Student Activities

NSU Student Nurses Association
The NSU Student Nurses Association is a member chapter of the Virginia Nursing Students' Association (VNSA) and the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA). The VNSA is a student managed organization that represents over 1400 future nurses throughout Virginia. VNSA fosters the professional and personal development of student nurses by providing educational resources, leadership opportunities, and career guidance. The Norfolk State University Chapter of the Student Nurses Association of Virginia is open to all interested nursing students (pre-nursing and nursing students) in good academic standing.

Undergraduate Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority, Inc. (Eta Beta)
Eta Beta Chapter is the undergraduate chapter of Eta Chapter, Incorporated, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Incorporated, a professional organization of registered nurses and nursing students. The goals of Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Incorporated are to promote the education, character development and service obligation of nurses and nursing students as it builds a corps of nursing leaders. The chapter is open to all interested nursing students in good academic standing. Eta Beta Chapter is a member of Norfolk State University's Counsel of Independent Organizations (CIO). Students will be notified when enrollment resumes.

Bachelor of Science Degree Honor Society (BSN Honor Society)
The BSN Honor Society is for all Bachelor of Science Degree Nursing Students. The purpose of this honor society is to recognize students in the bachelor's degree program who have demonstrated academic excellence. Inductions are held during the spring semester.

Appendix A

Commented [JM1]: Add instructions page from Ms. Lans

Application for Continuation/Readmission

This form is to be used for any student who fails a Nursing Course.

DATE _____

NAME _____

Last First Middle

_____

PHONE Home Work Cell

HOME ADDRESS City State County Zip

LOCAL ADDRESS City State County Zip

PREVIOUS NAME (If applicable):

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING

Last date of attendance at NSU?

LIST COURSES FAILED/or WITHDREW:

Name of Course Semester Taken Year taken

Have you attended any other institution of higher learning since you were last enrolled at NSU? If "Yes," please specify institution: YES NO

In what major?

Did you graduate? YES NO

If yes, what degree was earned?

If no, what was your reason for leaving?

Describe your perception of the contributing factors that lead to your failing a course in the Nursing program at Norfolk State University your reasons for failing a course in the Nursing program at NSU:

Describe your reasons for seeking continuance/readmission to the Nursing program at NSU:

Describe what you have done to prepare for readmission and what you will be doing differently to be successful in the nursing program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Recommended Not Recommended

Comments:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Appendix B
Student Performance Monitoring Form

STUDENT'S NAME	DATE
COURSE	FACULTY
STUDENT'S ADVISOR	
BEHAVIOR INFRACTION LEVEL **1-Verbal Warning** ( ) One instance of tardiness – class/clinical ( ) Two occasions of leaving class early ( ) Unsatisfactory clinical performance ( ) Insufficient class preparation **BEHAVIOR INFRACTION LEVEL** **2-Written Warning** ( ) One Clinical Absence ( ) Two instances of tardiness– class/clinical ( ) Inappropriate behavior (disrespectful; threatening; side conversations) ( ) Sleeping in class or clinical ( ) Dress code violations in class or clinical **BEHAVIORAL INFRACTION LEVEL** **3-Program Dismissal** ( ) Violation of Social Media Policy ( ) Use of cell phone during class/clinical ( ) Violation of testing guidelines/and practices ( ) Integrity Violation ( ) Two clinical absences	**COURSE GRADES/CLASSWORK NOTIFICATION** ( ) Limited class participation ( ) Assignment late, poor or incomplete ( ) Examination score below78% ( ) Course grade below 78% ( ) Cumulative GPA Less than 2.8 ( ) Other **Mandatory remediation applies for any exam score in any class lower than 78%**
( ) Other Behavior Level _____	
More than 2 instances of Behavior Level 1 per semester results in course failure. More than 1 instance of Behavior Level 2 per semester results in course failure. **ONE** instance of Behavioral Level 3 results in immediate program dismissal.	
FACULTY COMMENTS STUDENT COMMENTS **Faculty signature:**_____ **Date:** _____ **Student signature:**_____ **Date:** _____	

Appendix C

State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Waiver of Immunization against Meningococcal Disease

The Code of Virginia (Chapter 340 23-7.5) requires that "All full-time students, prior to enrollment in any public four-year institution of higher education, shall be vaccinated against Meningococcal Disease." Institutions of higher education must provide the student or the student's parent or other legal representative detailed information on the risks associated with the Meningococcal Disease, and on the availability and effectiveness of any vaccine. The Code permits "the student or if the student is a minor, the student's parent or the legal representative to sign a written waiver stating that he/she has received and reviewed the information on Meningococcal Disease and detailed information on the risks associated with Meningococcal Disease and on the availability and effectiveness of any vaccine and has chosen not to be or not to have the student vaccinated.".

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Birth date:_____ Term/Year of first enrollment: _____

NSU Student ID Number: _____

Please check and sign applicable areas

☐ I have received and reviewed detailed information on the risks associated with Meningococcal disease.

☐ I have received and reviewed information on the availability and effectiveness of any vaccine (against meningococcal disease).

I choose **not** to be vaccinated against meningococcal disease.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

As the parent or other legal representative, I choose **not** to have the student named above vaccinated against meningococcal disease.

Signature:_____ Date: _____

Appendix D
Student Consent to Release Information to Clinical Agencies/Sites

As a student enrolled in one of the nursing programs at NSU, I understand that the following information may be collected, will be filed, and may be released, if requested to clinical agencies/clinical sites at which I may participate in clinical experiences.

1. Health requirements:

    a. PPD (or Chest X-ray).
    b. Seasonal influenza vaccination
    c. Measles, Mumps, and Rubella titers and/or vaccination.
    d. Hepatitis B titers and/or vaccination.
    e. Varicella titers and/or vaccination,
    f. Tetanus/Tdap vaccination
    g. Meningitis vaccine and/or waiver
    h. Criminal background check
    i. CPR certification (healthcare provider)
    j. Malpractice Insurance
    k. Drug Screen

I further understand that if I refuse to consent to the release of requested information that is required of all students who participate in the affiliation, I will not be allowed to obtain the clinical experience and will fail the course. Upon refusal, I may drop/withdraw from the course or will be administratively removed from the course.

_____	_____	_____
Student name (printed)	Student signature	Date

Appendix E
Student Incident Report

Investigate all INCIDENTS: Help stop incidents by discovering how and why this one happened. Determine and correct the basic cause of the incident in the laboratory/clinical sites and help to prevent incidents in the future. Please type or print the information requested below and return to the Program Coordinator within 24 hours of the incident.

Name of Injured_____ Student ID_____Birthdate_____

Home Address _____
Number & Street City or Town State Zip

INCIDENT

Date Incident Occurred

Time__A.M.__P.M.

Date reported_____

Time_____A.M.__P.M.

Where Did Incident Occur (Building) (Room) _____?

Brief description of how the accident occurred (Be specific and name any objects or substances involved and state what the employee was doing when injured).

_____

_____

_____

Exact location of injury (Indicate the part of the body affected, e.g., right or left, upper or lower, index finger or thumb, etc.).

_____

Did injured visit a physician? _____YES _____NO

What should be done to prevent repetition?

Has it been done_____YES__NO If not, give reason

Was student instructed regarding hazards in the lab/clinical _____YES _____NO

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

Faculty Comments

Faculty's Signature_____ Date _____

Appendix F
Request for Faculty Recommendation

Directions:

1. Submit this request for faculty recommendation to desired faculty, allowing a minimum of two weeks for completion.

2. Attach a Resume or other personal information that will help the faculty member write the recommendation.

Date request submitted _____ Date needed _____

Request submitted to faculty (faculty name) _____

Request submitted by (student name) _____

Dates of association and in what capacity, did you know the faculty member (for example, semester, year and what course you had with the professor)

I hereby give permission for _____ to write a letter of recommendation to:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address:_____

City/State/Zip: _____

Recommendation is sought for (specify award, position, etc.)

Student Cumulative GPA _____ Most recent nursing major GPA _____

On a separate sheet of paper:

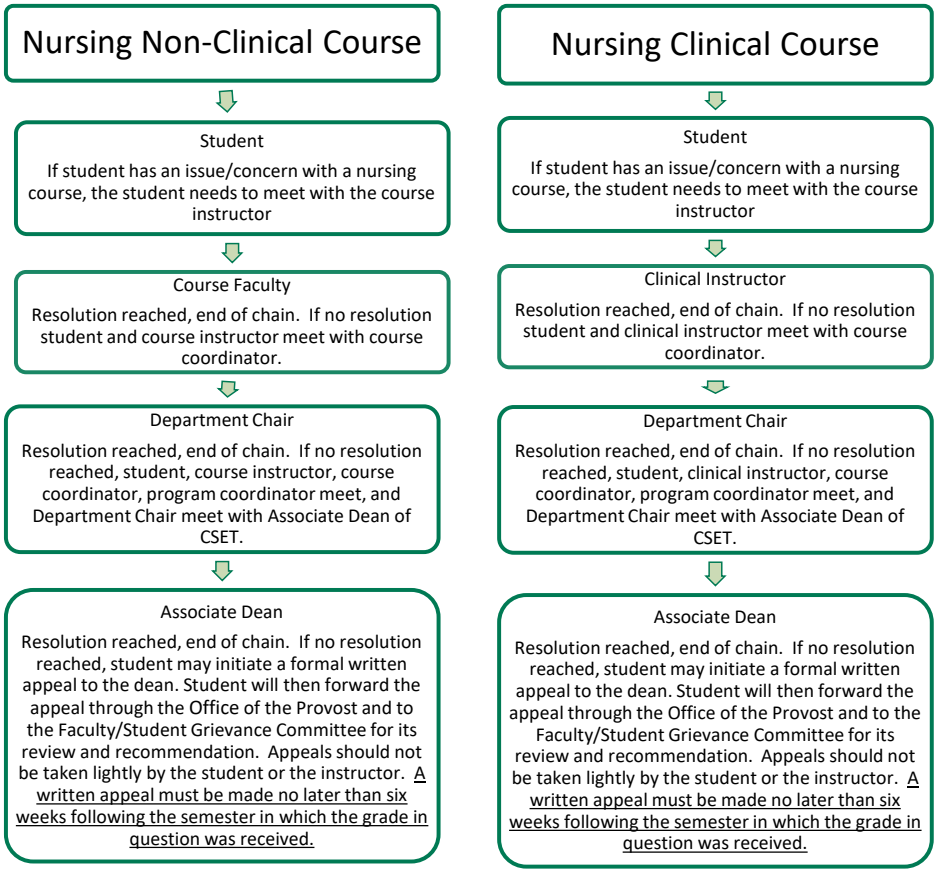
1. Describe professional, student, or community service activities in which you have been involved. Include any committees on which you have served or offices that you have held.
2. Describe any relevant work experience, internships or externships that you have had.
3. Describe pertinent volunteer activities.
4. Describe other activities, awards, or qualities that you feel should be highlighted in this recommendation.

I verify that the data supplied with this request is accurate. I waive/do not waive my right to review a copy of this letter at any time in the future.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Appendix G

NSU Nursing Program Student's Chain of Communication



Appendix H

College of Science, Engineering, & Technology Student Resolution Form

Student Information		
Full Name (please print)	Today's Date:	
Local Address:	City	State and Zip
Local Phone Number	Cell Phone Number	
Email	Permanent Address:	
City	State	Zip
Student Department/Major		
Department:	Program Major/Program:	
Student ID#		
Student /Faculty Resolution Information		

STEP ONE:

Students are encouraged to discuss their concern or academic challenges through conferences with the appropriate instructor and/or staff.

1. Have you made an attempt to **resolve this concern with the individual instructor/staff?** Yes No

. **Briefly describe your academic related concern or issue**? Specify any pertinent dates, faculty/staff you dealt with, and major academic concern etc. Use additional paper, if necessary. Attach any documentation that will help describe the concern and substantiate your allegations. (i.e. medical documentation, incomplete grade form, syllabus highlights, substitution request, correspondence, etc.).

. As a result of your conference, please provide the **findings or outcome:**

Were you satisfied with the outcome of this resolution process? Yes No

If you answered no, what outcome did you hope to achieve after the informal conference:

By signing this form, I acknowledge my understanding that information contained in this resolution document will be confidential to the extent possible. Furthermore, information may be shared with university officials to conduct a thorough investigation. I certify that all information provided on this form is accurate.

Student Signature and Date: _____

Faculty/Staff Signature and Date: _____

Where this process does not result in a satisfactory resolution, the student may proceed to the **STEP TWO Resolution Procedures** by submitting this **completed form with required signatures (faculty/staff)** to the Department Chair for review.

Department Chair Document of Resolution

STEP TWO

4. Department Chair Approval of Request

Yes No Please provide a summary and/ or comments regarding the resolution outcome of your student conference.

Student Signature and Date: _____

Department Chair Signature and Date: _____

Is the above decision acceptable to the student? Check one box Yes No

_____ I hereby appeal this decision to Step Three, Dean/Associate Dean Level.

ACTION TAKEN BY DEAN/ASSOCIATE DEAN'S OFFICE

STEP THREE

****Steps One and Two must be completed & signed prior to review by the Dean/Associate Dean's Office.***

5. Dean/Associate Dean
Please provide a summary and/ or comments regarding the resolution outcome of your student conference.

Check the appropriate resolution:
__Dept. Counseling/Advising __Faculty Conference __Upheld Dept. Chair Decision ___Referral
__Academic/Student Affairs __Disabilities Office ___Student Counseling Center ___Student Success Center

Student Signature and Date: _____

Associate Dean/ Dean's Signature and Date: _____

Is the above decision acceptable to the student? Check one _____ Yes _____ No

_____I hereby appeal this decision to Step Four, Office of the Provost.

Appendix I.
Clinical Lab Remediation Form Part I (remediation request)

Directions: Please Print

Date: Remediation Form was submitted: _____

Faculty Submitting Request: _____

Student Name: _____

Student contact email address: _____

Which program is the student enrolled? _____

Course # _____

Please provide a description of the problem/ concern (s)

_____

_____

Please describe your remediation plan and include deadlines if applicable.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Clinical Lab Remediation Form Part II

Remediation plan implemented by faculty:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Faculty Comments:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Student Comments:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Did the student successfully complete remediation plan? Yes No

The signatures below denote that I have read and understand the above

Student Signature _____ Date _____

CINE Lab Faculty Signature _____ Date _____

Faculty Signature _____ Date _____

Clinical Lab Remediation Form Part III

Remediation plan implemented by faculty:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Faculty Comments:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Student Comments:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Did student successfully complete remediation plan? Yes No

The below signatures denote that I have read and understand the above.

Student Signature _____ Date_____

CINE Lab Faculty Signature _____ Date _____

Faculty Signature _____ Date _____

Appendix J

Nursing and Allied Health Department Student's Dress Code for the Nursing Pinning Ceremony

The following dress code has been implemented to project a professional appearance. It is mandatory that you follow the dress code to participate in the pinning ceremony.

A. White leather/leather-like nursing shoes, no Crocs and Croc-like (NO colored logos) and white hose/socks must be worn. Clothes and shoes must be clean, non-stained, fabric pressed and free of wrinkles, in good condition, well-maintained and not in need of repair. The clothes must be appropriate size. Dresses are to be no shorter than knee length. Undergarments must provide full coverage and be natural in color.

B. Jewelry: Students are allowed to wear one pair of small post earrings and a plain band ring. Students must remove jewelry from piercings of other areas of the body. Chains/necklaces/bracelets are NOT PERMITTED.

C. Hair: All students must have hair off the collar and should not fall forward. Hair should be in natural tones. No outrageous hairstyles. No head scarves, uncombed wraps or hair embellishments. The nursing cap must be able to lie flat on the head.

D. Fingernails: Acrylic/artificial nails are prohibited. Nails must be neat and no longer than one-quarter inch past the nail bed. Nails should be bare and free of polish, no appliques, designs, or accessories.

E. General: Appearance-Makeup, perfume or aftershave should not be excessive. False eyelashes are not permitted. Gentlemen's facial hair should be neatly groomed.

F. All tattoos must be covered, and band aids are not to be used for this purpose. If the student has tattoos, they are required to meet with the members of the Student Committee.

G. Students must meet with the committee before the rehearsal.

In order to attend the pinning ceremony, it is mandatory that the students attend the dress rehearsal. It is not mandatory that the student participate in the pinning ceremony, however, it is recommended.

I have read and understand the pinning dress code policy. I will abide by it, or I understand that I will not be able to participate in the pinning ceremony or any other activities associated with it.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Appendix K

NORFOLK STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing and Allied Health

Handbook Acknowledgements and Signature Page

Students are expected to examine critically, analyze, and otherwise evaluate the University, its programs, policies and procedures using processes that appeal to reason and do not compromise the academic mission, climate or integrity of the University. Students are expected to assume full responsibility for and will be held liable for their individual actions.

I (Full name/Student ID#)_____ have read and understand the entirety of this Nursing Program Handbook and agree to abide by all policies, procedures, and guidelines set forth by the program and the University.

Honor Code

On my honor, I pledge to do work to the best of my ability with NO assistance on graded assignments or tests. I also pledge to report any breach of the honor code to the appropriate faculty member.

I understand and agree to comply with the NSU Honor Code.

NAME (Print)_____

SIGNATURE_____

DATE _____

Social Media/Cell Phone Policy

I have read and understand, and will abide by, the social media and use of Cell Phone regulations.

NAME (Print)_____

SIGNATURE_____

DATE _____

Student Confidentiality Statement

The Nursing Program has distinct expectations of students regarding the confidentiality of patient related information, including classroom (face to face and virtual) content, clinical content, and student's individual acquisition of information.

Student Agreement Form

I am aware that as a student I will receive information about patients in written form and in verbal discussions with faculty and agency staff. I agree to abide by Federal HIPAA guidelines and individual agency policies related to the sharing of patient information. I understand that I am to hold all information in strict confidence and will consult a Nursing faculty member prior to sharing any part of clinical or classroom (face to face and virtual) content related to patients. I agree that I will not send or receive patient information via electronic means unless instructed to do so by a Nursing faculty member. I understand that I am not to share any patient information from class or clinical with individuals who are not a part of that class or clinical experience, including my family and friends. I understand that violation of confidentiality laws/policies may result in my immediate dismissal from the Nursing program.

Failure to sign this form will result in dismissal from the nursing program.

NAME (Print)_____

SIGNATURE_____

DATE _____

CINE Lab Student Statement of Understanding

ALL NURSING STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ADHERENCE TO THE ESTABLISHED CINE LAB POLICIES.

I have reviewed, understand, and will abide by the established NSU Nursing Program's policies contained within the Nursing Handbook and the statements listed above as they relate to the CINE Lab.

NAME (Print)_____

SIGNATURE_____

DATE _____