



Northampton Community College

Classroom and Clinical Behavioral Expectations for the Student of Professional Nursing

The rigorous discipline of nursing demands that nursing students fully engage in the learning and role formation necessary to become a professional nurse. Classroom and clinical education is of paramount importance for this transformation. Because the focus of our study is the human person, our nursing behaviors, even as learners, must demonstrate values of academic honesty, accountability, compassion, commitment, and adherence to legal, ethical, and professional standards both in the classroom and the clinical agency. Inherent to these professional behaviors is the simple expectation that each student's work, except where documented, is wholly their own; and, that each student's assignments, assessments, quizzes and examinations are performed without unfair or illegal advantage. The nursing student will have access to numerous outlines and study guides created by the instructor specifically for this course. Use of any materials not distributed by nursing faculty during the time frame of student's enrollment in the course may be a violation of the college's *Academic Honesty Policy*. It is the student's responsibility to obtain verification from the instructor whether or not these materials may be used without penalty. Nursing students enter into trust-based relationships with patients, peers, faculty and agency staff for the purpose of providing care to vulnerable persons. Therefore, nursing students have a high duty to ensure the integrity of their own academic preparation, as well as the integrity of the Nursing Program. Specific examples of personal violations of academic honesty are listed below. Penalties for personal violations many include course failure. If the student has knowledge that professional trust has been broken and/ or that the integrity of an experience, assignment, assessment, test, or examination has been violated, the nursing student is expected to notify the faculty or Dean of Students.

Examples of student violations:

- Use of unauthorized materials during an assessment, quiz, test or examination.
- Providing or receiving unauthorized assistance during an assessment, quiz, test or examination.
- Practicing any form of deceit in an assessment, quiz, test, examination or paper.
- Posing as another student or allowing another student to pose as one's self during an assessment, test, examination or clinical assignment. This violation includes on- line assignments, assessments, tests and examinations.
- Recording, transcribing, using or distributing any part of a previously administered assessment, quiz, test or examination.
- Buying, selling, improperly obtaining or using any assessment, test or examination in advance of its administration.

The following are departmental guidelines for test taking in the department of nursing.

Calculators are permitted during quizzes and examinations. The student understands that scientific or advanced calculators, PDAs or cell phones are NOT permitted. Nursing students must come prepared with a "simple" calculator. Students who "forget" a calculator will not be allowed to borrow from another student!

- Backpacks and other belongings must be placed at the front of the room prior to the beginning of the exam. The only items students should have at their desk is a simple calculator and a pencil or two.
- Scrap paper (if allowed) will be handed out by the instructor and collected with the test copy. Students are NOT allowed to use their own scrap paper.
- Students may NOT wear hats with a brim during testing.
- Students may NOT have beverages with a label on the container during an examination or test. Any beverage must have the label removed prior to the beginning of an exam.
- Tests will be printed as double sided documents.

The NCC nursing student is expected to abide by the requirements and policies contained in the *Practical Nursing or Associate Degree Nursing Student Handbook*. Specifically, the nursing student will abide by the following expectations:

- The student will attend all classroom, laboratory, and clinical experiences.
- The student will be prepared for all classroom, laboratory and clinical experiences.
 - It is expected that the student prepare prior to arriving at all classroom and laboratory experiences. The student will understand that faculty will not permit a student to leave class or lab to print handouts, outlines or articles provided by faculty.
 - It is expected that the student prepare prior to arriving at every clinical experience. Students should be well prepared to discuss each assigned patient's case history, pathophysiology, plan of care and medication regimen. Any student arriving unprepared may be dismissed from clinical and subsequently given an unexcused absence for the experience. The student will be required to make up the experience at the discretion of Faculty and/or the Director of Nursing.
- The student will communicate and interact with others in a respectful, professional manner.
- Students are expected to respect one another and the faculty. Students understand that only one person speaks at a time during classroom and laboratory experiences. Students also understand that talking amongst one another during class or lab will not be tolerated.
- The student understands that foul language or sexually explicit language or comments will not be tolerated in the classroom, laboratory or clinical setting.
- The student will also agree to avoid the use of foul or sexually explicit language or comments in conversation or in the form of written communication (email).

- Any student engaging in aggressive, disrespectful, unethical or sexual harassing behavior toward any person encountered through this course of study, including patients, peers, staff persons, visitors or faculty will be directed to leave or be escorted off the clinical unit or NCC campus by security. This behavior will also require a conference with faculty and the Director of Nursing, as well as the Dean of Students.
- The use of cell phones in the classroom, laboratory or clinical setting is not permitted. The use of cell phones includes making calls, checking voice mail and text messaging. Cell phones are expected to be turned off (not on vibration mode) for all classroom, laboratory and clinical experiences.

The student will assume responsibility for their own learning.

- Students are expected to check blackboard and their Northampton e-mail on a daily basis. Important announcements may be posted on blackboard at any given time and it is the expectation that students take responsibility for their education and periodically check the course blackboard site and/or their Northampton e-mail account.
- The student understands that the course faculty cannot cover every detail of theoretical knowledge in the classroom or laboratory setting. The student is responsible for reading and understanding theory discussed in the course textbook and supplemental readings provided by the faculty.
- The student understands that all written work be submitted as a hard copy. Electronic submission is not permitted and will not be accepted.
- The student understands that extensions for assignments will not be granted.

This document has been prepared so that every student enrolled in the nursing programs at Northampton Community College will understand what is expected in regard to classroom and clinical conduct. The student must understand that failure to comply with these stated expectations will have a negative impact on his or her overall course grade, and may also affect progression in the Nursing Program.

Reviewed annually.