Clinical Nurse Specialist Role Immersion
NUR 864 Sections 732 & 736
6 Credits (1 credit theory/5 credit clinical)
Online Course
Spring 2015

Course Description: Synthesis, integration, and clinical application of the essential concepts and knowledge associated with the roles of the clinical nurse specialist (CNS).

Course Objectives: At the end of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate process leadership skills by engaging in change and policy setting that influences the quality of health care within a system.
2. Synthesize theory and research findings to promote efficient use of resources.
3. Demonstrate leadership role characteristics in collaboration with members of the health care team to impact organizational effectiveness for improving patient health care outcomes.
4. Engage in outcome evaluation methods to analyze system characteristics and organizational effectiveness.
5. Demonstrate proficiency in the clinical nurse specialist role competencies across the three spheres of influence.
6. Assume responsibility for professional growth, lifelong learning and health practice leadership

Prerequisites: NUR 862 and (NUR 841 or concurrently) and NUR 801 and NUR 803 and NUR 805 and NUR 809 and NUR 815 and NUR 860

Co-requisites: None

Professional Standards & Guidelines: The curriculum is guided by the following documents:


Lead Faculty: Valerie Pfander MSN, RN, ACCNS-AG, CPAN
Instructor
East Lansing, MI 48824-1317
E-mail: brook210@msu.edu
Office Hours: Mondays 6:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m, additional times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.
Kathleen Poindexter, PhD, RN, CNE
Asst. Professor, coordinator
A109 Life Sciences
East Lansing, MI 48824-1317
E-mail: poindex9@msu.edu
Office Hours: Fridays 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (call or virtual). Additional times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.

Clinical Faculty:
- Kathleen Bair MSN, RN, AGCNS
  Instructor, Clinical
  MSU College of Nursing
- Linda Hansen MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, ACCNS-AG
  Instructor, Clinical
  MSU College of Nursing
  Toll Free #: 1/800/605-6424
  E-mail: hansen99@msu.edu
  Office Hours: Wednesdays 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.
  Additional times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules

Office hours (in-person, telephone, or technology) will be arranged with the individual student to meet the needs of the student & faculty schedules

Faculty responsibilities:
- Professor Pfander will be responsible for the overall didactic lessons, exams and overall course. Contact Prof. Pfander with any questions regarding exams, lessons and grading.

- Dr. Poindexter is the program coordinator and is responsible for program oversight, scholarly projects and clinical placements.

- Professor Bair is a clinical faculty responsible for providing oversight to an assigned group of students in the clinical settings. Responsibilities include communication with faculty, preceptors, and students on a regular basis. Additional responsibility includes evaluation of student clinical performance and clinical written assignments.

- Professor Hansen is a clinical faculty responsible for providing oversight to an assigned group of students in the clinical settings. Responsibilities include communication with faculty, preceptors, and students on a regular basis. Additional responsibility includes evaluation of student clinical performance and clinical written assignments.

Students are to contact their assigned clinical faculty for clinical related concerns and theory faculty for theory course issues.

Faculty Contact:
Faculty are available via email or by phone throughout the week. Please use the email located within the course D2L program to contact the appropriate faculty member. Email ought to be addressed to the specified faculty only and not to the entire class in an effort to reduce overall course emails and inappropriate messaging. Every effort will be made to return your email or call
as soon as possible generally within 48 hours during regular week days. In an emergency contact
the faculty directly via phone or CNS concentration Coordinator. **Note: During the weekends and
Holidays faculty members may not be available to respond to calls or emails.**

**Required Texts:**

guide to planning care* (10th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier Health Sciences.

American Geriatrics Society. (2014). *Geriatrics at your fingertips* (16th ed.). Mechanicsburg, PA:
Fry Communications. Order online at https://fulfillment.frycomm.com/ags/gayf/order_form.asp


Hamric, A. B., Hanson, C. M., Tracy, M.F., O’Grady, E.T. (Eds.). (2014). *Advanced
practice nursing: An integrative approach*. (5th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Saunders
Elsevier


**Required Resources, References, & Supplies:**

D2L Help Line
1.800.500.1554 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
517.355.2345 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
Always check with the D2L Help Line first!

**Learning Methodologies:**

This online course is supported by the D2L course management system. A lesson plan will be
available weekly and located in module folders. The lesson plan will include the weekly
objectives, competencies, presentation, required readings, class and clinical student activities.
A complete set of folders will be available in the course that includes a course overview, assignments,
grading rubrics, drop boxes, and discussion forums. Students are required to review all course
materials prior to beginning the introductory lesson.

This course is not based on a self-paced learning model. Weekly assignments are due to be
posted by 2355 (11:55 pm Eastern Standard Time [EST]) on **Tuesday** evenings unless
otherwise instructed by the faculty or noted in calendar. Instructions will be found in the
weekly lesson plans & in course announcements.
As adult learners, it is expected that students will complete relevant readings and study the identified weekly topics. Students are held accountable for reviewing assignment rubrics to determine how your work will be evaluated. Students are encouraged to contact the appropriate faculty with questions or for clarification of expectations.

The expectation is that students will be prepared to participate/engage in the class discussions, activities, and apply learned content within the clinical setting. It is expected that students will search literature outside of the assigned textbook readings and suggest/share relevant findings with faculty and classmates. If faculties post a question, the expectation is that it will be answered. If faculties email a student, it is expected that the student will respond that they have received the email communication.

It is expected that students will be active participants in the classroom via D2L.

**Access to NUR 864 through D2L**

You can access the class by going to http://d2l.msu.edu
The course will not open until the **official start of the MSU spring semester**.
Technical problems with the use of D2L should be referred to the D2L Help Desk & not emailed to course faculty. The toll free D2L help line number is listed above.

If you have difficulty during a timed assignment, you need to contact the D2L Help Desk so a communication log is created. If you do not do this, faculty have no way to determine that you actually experienced problems and you may not be allowed to resubmit your work.

The course will close **May 15, 2014 @ 1700** (5:00 pm, ESDST).

**Evaluation Methods, Parameters & Activities:**

Grades will be determined by adding all of the course activities (both theory and clinical) together and arriving at a specific number. Each course activity has been assigned a percentage (%) which translates to weight of the activity compared to the totality of the course.

- **Class activities (assignments) throughout the semester**
  - A brief explanation of each is provided below
  - Additional and more specific information can be found in D2L & the course calendar
- Progress in the course will be discussed individually with each student as needed
  - Progress reports/evaluations and strategies for achievement will be completed for those students not earning 80% at mid-semester
- Active, relevant, professional and ethical participation (in the clinical setting, via email, online, by telephone, or in person) is expected
- Communication that is deemed unprofessional, negative, unacceptable or detrimental to student learning may be deleted from the course by the faculty
  - Any communication that is deleted will not count toward earning course points
- Late assignments will not be accepted and 0 points will be assigned to the activity
  - Unless prior arrangements have been made with the faculty
- Students must complete **every** assignment, in a timely manner, in order to pass NUR 864, it is not an option to not complete an assignment
  - If a student has an emergency situation, the expectation is the lead or clinical faculty will be contacted prior to the assignment due date and time to make alternative arrangements.
• Directions for submission of all written work must be followed for formatting accuracy.
• Documents not submitted utilizing the course format will either not be accepted or receive a point deduction per faculty discretion.

**Precepted Clinical Practicum**
- 220 hours over the semester *(minimum)*
  - The clinical experience is preceptor supervised
  - Faculty guided and graded
  - Approximately 16 – 20 hours per week with a certified CNS (preceptor) for 14 weeks *(guideline)*.
  - Pass/Fail related to essential individual characteristics and clinical comportment *(assignments are graded)*.
  - *If a student does not pass clinical, they will receive a 0.0 in NUR 864 and will not be able to proceed in the program*
- Clinical objectives must be developed and shared with clinical faculty prior to beginning clinical hours
- Mid-semester assessment and Final evaluation:
  - Preceptor portion needs to be completed and forwarded to clinical faculty
  - Clinical faculty will arrange date/time with individual student and preceptors to discuss semester expectations, midterm and final assessments.
- Dress code for all students is white lab coat with MSU College of Nursing ID at all times.

**Didactic:**

**Proctored Examinations**
- 3 exams
  - Exam 1 is 50 points
  - Exam 2 is 50 points
  - Exam 3 is 100 points
- 30% of overall grade
- D2L course testing, password protected, and timed *(90 minutes)*
- Questions will reflect knowledge, application, and evidence-based information that requires analysis/synthesis of previously learned material
- Proctored exams will be arranged by students at designated testing centers only. Designated testing centers are sites at which testing is routinely administered by personnel whose job description includes proctoring tests. All sites and proctors are subject to the approval of the course faculty administrator. Additional information will be available in the D2L course site.

**Discussion Forums**
- 2 over the semester
- 10 points each = 30 total points
- 10% of overall grade

**Performance Appraisal Assignment**
- 1=100 points
- 10% of overall grade

**Evidence-based Policy & Procedure Assignment**
- 1 = 100 points
- 10% of overall grade
**Documentation of competency achievement and clinical hours**
- Pass/No Pass (mandatory)
- Reviewed 2 times throughout the semester

**Reflective Journal**
- 2 each over the semester
- Reflection = 15 points each = 45 total points
- 25% of overall grade

**Synchronized Clinical Seminar (Dates to be determined)**
- 3 over the semester
- Pass/No Pass
- One hour each (minimum)
- Mandatory!
- Through Zoom
- Access instructions will be provided by clinical faculty
- **Specific times will be announced**

**Executive Summary and Agency Presentation**
- 15% of overall grade
- Executive summary of scholarly project, implementation and evaluation plan.
  Presentation to agency administration in conjunction with preceptor.

**Scholarly Project Paper**
- Pass/no pass (must be a minimum of 80% per rubric)
- Specific components of the project will be due at several times during the semester.
  - 10 minute presentation at MSU day of graduation or students may arrange for a webinar presentation.
  - More specific information will be provided early in the semester on D2L.

**Clinical: (must pass all elements of clinical to pass the course)**

**Grading**

A grade of 3.0 must be achieved in order to pass NUR 864 and progress in the nursing program. The MSU 4.0 grading system will be utilized to report final course grades.

Points will be rounded to whole numbers using the 0.5 rule. Points at ≥ 0.5 will be rounded up while those < 0.5 will be rounded down to the nearest whole number.
The following point scale will be used for final grade determination:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94 – 100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>87 – 93</td>
<td>3.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>80 – 86</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>75 – 79</td>
<td>2.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 – 74</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>65 – 69</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 – 64</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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Point Determination Will Be As Follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>OVERALL %</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theory Assignments</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Forums</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10%</td>
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</table>

Clinical Assignments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>OVERALL %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reflective Journal</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence-based Policy &amp; Procedure</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Appraisal</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Summary</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competency and Hours Documentation (mandatory)</td>
<td>P/F</td>
<td>On-going</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarly Project</td>
<td>P/F</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precepted Clinical Practicum</td>
<td>P/F</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synchronized Clinical Seminars Mandatory</td>
<td>P/F</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pass</td>
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TOTAL 100%

Organizational Confidentiality
Protection of the privacy of the organization by confidential reporting is an expected ethical responsibility of students in this course. Like patient confidentiality, we do not disclose information about employees or the organization, except on a “need-to-know” basis. In oral or written discussions of the clinical experience complete anonymity is required.
Clinical Site Dress Code/Professionalism:
Make sure to dress and conduct yourself in accordance with agency policy and your prospective role of a Clinical Nurse Specialist. Ask your preceptor about the appropriate dress for the different course activities that is in accordance with the College of Nursing professional dress policy. While in the clinical area students will wear MSU Lab Jackets and they must wear their MSU nametag at all times.

Attendance Policy
Students are expected to log into weekly lessons, activities, and actively participate in any discussions on the unit message boards as required. Scholarly interchange is vital to everyone's understanding of the material.

University & College Policies:
The College of Nursing expects that students will demonstrate professional behavior in all situations. Specific expectations for clinical and other professional venues can be found in the appropriate handbook. You are responsible for reviewing and acting in accordance with the policies and procedures found in the following sources, including the following topics: Professionalism, Academic Integrity, Accommodations for Students with Disabilities, Disruptive Behavior, Attendance, Compliance, and Progression.

- CON Student handbook http://nursing.msu.edu/handbooks.asp
- Information for Current Students—including Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations for Students http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html
- Academic Programs http://www.reg.msu.edu/UCC/AcademicPrograms.asp

Academic Integrity:
Academic Honesty: Article 2.3.3 of the Academic Freedom Report states: “The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards.” In addition, the College of Nursing adheres to the policies on academic honesty specified in General Student Regulation 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or the MSU Web site www.msu.edu.)

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in this course. Students who violate MSU rules may receive a penalty grade, including but not limited to a failing grade on the assignment or in the course.

Please read each part of the following site to fully understand your responsibilities and the position of the University regarding:
- cheating,
- plagiarism,
- MSU regulations, ordinances and policies regarding academic honesty and integrity
- Academic integrity links http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/honestylinks.html
Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated in the College of Nursing. Any student involved in academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Academic Affairs and the Office of Student Services in the College of Nursing and a grade of 0.0 may be issued for the course.

Lectures, quizzes and examinations must remain the property of the College of Nursing and must not be copied from the Internet for use with others. **Any quiz or exam should not be printed.**

**Printing an exam or quiz will be considered academic dishonesty.** According to university policy, consequences for academic dishonesty may include failure of the course, expulsion from the major, or expulsion from the university. You are advised to complete and submit your own work. The exams are NOT group projects and must not be shared with other students in any way.

Online discussions and other course activities are confidential and should not be shared or discussed with others who are not enrolled in the class. The course provides an opportunity for each course participant to express his/her ideas and all are expected to do so. All ideas need to be respected in discussions and exercises. Any “group projects” (that are required) still require individual work as a minimal expectation, and individual work will be graded.

For further information you can access any of the following sites:
- International Studies and Programs
  [http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/international/index.html)

**Disruptive Behavior:** Article 2.3.5 of the Academic Freedom Report (AFR) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.3.10 of the AFR states that "The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility."

General Student Regulation 5.02 states: "No student shall . . . interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes . . .) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary process.

**Attendance:** Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course. See the Ombudsman’s web site for a discussion of student observance of major religious holidays, student-athlete participation in athletic competition, student participation in university-approved field trips, medical excuses and a dean's drop for students who fail to attend class sessions at the beginning of the semester.

**College of Nursing Policies:** Professional Development Guidelines are found in the CON MSN Student Handbook at the CON website. Students are responsible for the information found in the CON MSN Student Handbook.
# NUR 864: Course Calendar

**Spring 2015**

**Coding:** Green – clinical faculty activity  
Blue: didactic faculty activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK, DATE</th>
<th>CONTENT</th>
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</table>
| Week 1  
Jan 12-20th | • Introduction to the course  
• Interviewing  
• Productivity model  
  o Structure, process outcomes  
  o Performance appraisal | • *Duffy* - chapter 1, 2  
• *Hamric* - chapter 23  
• *Hickey* - chapter 3 | • Read syllabus  
• May begin clinical hours as soon as approved by your clinical faculty  
• Clinical Objectives & proposed clinical schedule due **January 14th**  
Wednesday Jan. 14, Group Zoom meeting for all students: 6:00 pm EST |
| Week 2  
Jan 21-27th | • Evaluating organizations & systems | • *Fulton* – chapter 22, 23 | • Begin clinical hours once objectives approved |
| Week 3  
Jan 28- Feb 3rd | • Group Work  
  o Process & performance  
  o Process analysis  
  o Project management | • *Hamric* – chapter 24  
• *Fulton* – chapter 21 | • Scholarly Project Revisions (through methodology) due **February 3** |
| Week 4  
Feb 4-10th | • Institutional Review Board Training and Application Process  
  o CITI modules (update as necessary)  
  o Review internship site policy and process for IRB applications and committee oversight | To be determined  
Institution (internship specific) | • Performance Appraisal due **Feb 10** |
| Week 5  
Feb 11-17th | • Nurse Sensitive Outcome Indicator: Failure to rescue  
  o Structured rounding  
  o Rapid response systems | *Fulton* – chapter 35 | • Discussion Forum #1 due **Feb 17th**  
• 1st Synchronized Clinical Seminar with faculty **February 11th**  
(starting at 6pm)  
•  

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| Week 6 Feb 18-24th | • AHRQ  
  - AHRQ  
  - Interprofessional Collaboration systems/organizations level  
  - Transitions of care | *Fulton* – chapter 35 | • Exam #1 – on February 19th between 1400 – 1600 hours (EST) |
| Week 7 Feb 25- Mar 3rd | • Impact of Health Care Reform on health care systems & the role of the APRN:  
  - Value based purchasing  
  - Accountable care organizations  
  - CNS impact models | *Readings from outside the textbooks* | • Mid-semester preceptor evaluation due to clinical faculty by February 25th  
 • Reflective Journal #1 due February 27th: include group process analysis of 2 multidisciplinary meetings |
| Week 8 Mar 4-7, Mar 15-17 | • Models of practice across the continuum: Part I  
  - Case management  
  - Finance  
  - Budgeting  
  - DRG’s  
  - Risk management  
  - Discharge planning  
  - Infection prevention  
  - Home health | *Fulton* – chapter 23, 24  
 *Duffy* – chapter 16, 20, | |
| Week 9 | SPRING BREAK  
 March 9th-13th  
 No clinical hours! | | |
| Week 10 March 18-24th | • Models of practice across the continuum: Part II | *Readings from outside the textbooks* | • Evidence-based policy & procedure Assignment: due March 24th |
| Week 11 March 25—31st | • Ethical foundations  
  - Moral distress  
  - Social justice | *Hamric* – chapter 13, | • Discussion Forum #2 due March 31 |
| Week 12 April 1-7th | • End of life  
 • Palliative care  
 • Referrals | *Fulton* - chapter 33, | • Exam #2 – on March 26th between 1400 – 1600 hours (EDT) |
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</table>
| Week 13    | • Crisis intervention for the patient  
            • Families across the continuum  
              o Dynamics  
              o Place in health & wellness | • *Fulton* – chapter 15 | • Scholarly Project DUE: April 14th  
                                         • Executive summary 14th |
| April 8–14th |         |                  |          |
| Week 14    | • Finalization of clinical internship & Scholarly Project  
            • Prepare 10 minute presentation of Scholarly Project | | • Exam #3 April 16th - between 1400 and 1600 hours EDT  
                                         • Preceptor Evaluation due to clinical faculty April 21st |
| April 15–21st |         |                  |          |
| Week 15    | • Wrap up |                  | • Clinical hours must be completed by April 24th  
            • Reflective Journal #2 due April 24th  
            • 2nd Synchronized Clinical Seminar April 22 – time to be announced  
            • Final evaluation to be scheduled with clinical faculty |
| April 22–28nd |         |                  |          |
| Week 16    |         | Presentation of Scholarly Project (date and time to be announced) |          |
| April 29   |         |                  |          |
| Classes End May 1st |         |                  |          |

**Friday May 8th Graduation for MSN students**

The faculty reserves the right to revise the course calendar as deemed appropriate and necessary. Students will receive advanced notice of any changes via email. A revised and dated calendar will be posted in D2l.