UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS
SCHOOL OF NURSING

Course number/Title
NURS 761 Clinical Synthesis

Prerequisites
NURS 744 or NURS 750R

Credit
1
Semester
Fall

*Course Faculty

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* Note: all course faculty may be available to meet at other times. Please e-mail your course faculty member if you need to set up a meeting.

Course Description
 This course serves as a culminating experience in the program. Students develop a scholarly written clinical project proposal that addresses a significant gap in clinical practice. The project proposal will be disseminated by students via a professional oral project presentation.

Course Objectives	MSN Program Outcomes
1. Synthesize competencies that demonstrate integration of program	Program outcomes 1-9

Course Objectives	MSN Program Outcomes
outcomes.	
2. Synthesize competencies of evidence-based practice, cultural appropriate patient-centered care, disease prevention and health promotion, social equity and health disparities, role of the advanced practice nurse.	4. Utilize a systematic, scholarly approach to translate, apply, and disseminate evidence based research in clinical or educational settings.

*Required Textbooks
American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, D.C., Author.

*Textbooks and web sites used throughout this program will be important in the development of CPP.

Teaching Strategies
This course is conducted in an online, asynchronous format. Instructional strategies include reading/review of all content-which may include narrative text, links, audio, and videos contained within the Let's Get Started, Essential Information, Assignment, Grade Book, E-mail and Learning Module areas of the course. Peer dialogue exchanges are encouraged on the Discussion Board. The Discussion Board serves as an area to post general questions regarding the course and to view any new information from course faculty. There is also a discussion board set up for students to communicate to each if they would like.

Topical Outline
The purpose of the Clinical Project Proposal (CPP) is to demonstrate synthesis and application of all MSN program outcomes and integrate NONPF competencies in a systematic and scholarly manner. This is accomplished through the development of a scholarly, written CPP, development of a poster power point (ppt), a follow-up oral poster presentation of the CPP, and finalization of the NP portfolio. The flow of the course is structured to assist you in completing the CPP in sections, as well as a final, collated submission. The completed CPP paper is important to do first so it can inform you as you develop your poster and prepare for your oral presentation. **Please refer to the course calendar in the Essential Information area for all due dates.**

Weeks 1 & 2: Developing the Problem Description section of the CPP
Weeks 3 & 4:   Developing the Clinical Guideline/ Best Practice section of the CPP
Weeks 5 & 6: Developing the Research Evidence section of the CPP
Weeks 7, 8,9: Developing the EBP Plan & Evaluation section of the CPP
Weeks 10 & 11: Assembling the final, revised collation of the CPP
Week 12:   Developing poster power point (ppt)
Weeks 13 & 14: Preparing and practicing oral presentation of CPP
Friday of Week 14 Participating at poster session and orally presenting the CPP
Week 15: Finalizing the NP portfolio

Course Evaluative Methods
Evaluation is a continuous process and is the responsibility of both student and faculty. A letter grade is earned by the completion of course objectives and is a composite of the points received on assignments.

School of Nursing Grading Scale

93-100 = A	90-92 + A-	88-89 = B+	83-87 = B
80-82 = B-	78-79 = C+	75-77 = C	70-74 = C-
68-69 = D+	63-67 = D	60-62 = D-	59 or below = F

*** **A B or better plus a "pass" on the final, NP portfolio is required to pass this course.*****

Important Notes about Assignments and Course Grade
➔ **All assignments are required to be submitted, regardless of grade.**
➔ **All Late assignments will incur a 5 point/day penalty**.
➔ **All written assignments are due on the dates specified in the course calendar.**
➔ **Due times for every written assignment is no later than 11:59 pm Pacific Standard Time (PST).**

This course is worth a possible 100 points, plus a "Pass" on the finalized NP portfolio.

Overview of Assignments
Written CPP: is composed of four sections. The sections are submitted, one at a time, throughout the semester. Each section is worth a number of points (see below in Assignments and Point Breakdown section). So it is imperative that initial submissions reflect your best written product. Course faculty will assign a grade for each section and return the section to you with feedback. All returned sections are then revised accordingly and assembled into one, collated paper and submitted, along with your iThenticate summary report (iThenticate is the antiplagiarism software used by the UNLV Graduate College. You will receive more information about setting up your free iThenticate account and running your CPP through it). It is important to note that the entire written CPP (all four sections) cannot exceed 10 pages (exclusive of title page, references and appendices). Especially in the third and fourth sections, use of tables/figures will be helpful. This way, you can briefly introduce and explain what will be displayed in the related appendix.
Poster Development: will occur after the final collation of the written CPP is submitted. You will use one of the UNLV SON templates (to be provided during the semester). After you have developed the ppt, it is submitted for a grade. You must use any feedback you receive from your course faculty to revise the poster ppt. You will be given instruction as to when the final version of your ppt must be submitted in order to be uploaded for your on-site poster presentation.
Poster Presentation: occurs on campus near the end of the semester. You will not need to print off your poster. It will be displayed on the large screen. Your ppt poster (which has been reviewed to reflect any feedback you received from your course faculty) will be the basis for your 10 minute presentation. Participation in this day also includes listening to peers present their CPP proposals, engaging in discussion and Q & A's and providing written peer feedback for each presentation.
Finalized NP portfolio: is the finalized version of the portfolio you have been building throughout the program. The work you need to do to finalize the portfolio includes developing a cover page,, providing a statement of short (1 year) and long (5 year) professional goals, updating your resume and assuring that all papers required for inclusion in the portfolio have been revised, approved by the faculty member who was assigned to you early in the program, and uploaded to the portfolio. Additional information will be provided as the semester progresses.

*Assignments and Point Breakdown

Assignment	Description	Possible points
Assignment # 1: Written Problem Description section of the CPP	This is the first section of the written CPP. It introduces the purpose and focuses on describing a problem or gap note in clinical practice that that calls for a change in advanced nursing practice.	10
Assignment # 2: Written Clinical Guideline/ Best Practice section of the CPP	This is the second section of the written CPP. It describes a known clinical guideline or best practice that is supported by the research evidence that will address the problem identified as well as operational definition. The section also explains why the benefits of implementing the clinical protocol outweigh the advantages of current practice.	15
Assignment # 3: Written Research Evidence section of the CPP	This is the third section of the written CPP. It compares and contrasts 3-4 primary research studies that support the implementation of selected clinical guideline or best practice. The strengths and limitations of the studies are described (problem/purpose, sample, research design, instruments, data collection methods, statistical analysis, and interpretation of findings including statistical/clinical significance).	20
Assignment # 4: Written EBP Plan & Evaluation section of the CPP	This is the fourth section of the written CPP. A plan, (including timeline) for implementing and evaluating the practice change including the specific clinical protocol is advanced. This section describes the personnel who will implement and evaluate the clinical protocol (and any training and resources needed); the feasibility of implementing and evaluating the clinical protocol (including how to gain administrative and staff support); how implementing the clinical protocol will promote safe, cost-effective, and quality practice; and, a measurable process of evaluation.	25
Assignment # 5: Written, final, revised collation of the CPP	The final CPP is a demonstration of scholarship using written communication. It reflects al feedback/edits provided on individual sections from your course faculty. All sections are collated together, the reference list is merged, all appendices are in proper order and a title page is added.	10
Assignment # 6: Poster development power point (ppt)	The poster provides a highly visual method as a backdrop to the oral presentation that will accompany it. It is developed on the UNLV ppt template that has been provided in the course. The poster needs to be very logical and well organized to accommodate the 800 word count limit.	10
Assignment # 7: CPP oral presentation	This is a demonstration of scholarship using oral communication. You will provide a 10 minute oral presentation, using the ppt poster you have created as talking points that is logical, interesting and persuasive to an audience of program faculty and your peers.	10
TOTAL POSSIBLE COURSE POINTS		**100**
Assignment # 8: Finalized NP portfolio	You have been building your NP program portfolio since you started the program. It addresses the program outcomes and the NONPF competencies. Since you have only added required assignments that reflect all the feedback and edits of your faculty throughout the program, it should represent your best work. The finalized portfolios are maintained by the SON as evidence of your acquisition of the program outcomes and NONPF competencies. Portfolios can also be used by you in your career, such as with potential employers and other academic programs.	Pass/fail

NOTE: Be sure to follow the detailed evaluation rubrics for all assignments that are located in the Essential Information area of the course

Additional Course Information
- Your success in this course depends on your active participation. Check into the course every day. Be sure you check your e-mail each time you login.
- Your course faculty check into the course Monday through Friday and will reply to all queries received between Monday and Friday, 5 pm, Pacific Standard Time within 24-48 hours. Queries received on weekends or holidays may not be answered until the next business day.
- Ask any questions you have. If it is a general course question, you may post it on the Ask the Course Faculty discussion board. This is often helpful as other students may have the same question you do. If you have a question or issue of a personal nature, please e-mail your course faculty.
- Be sure to take the time to view the course orientation video and review the entire course.
- If you have any WebCampus related, technical questions, contact the IT help desk at 702-895-0777. Phone support is available from 7am – 11pm, seven days a week, including holidays. You may leave voice mails 24 hours a day or submit help requests at ithelp@unlv.edu.
- Make sure you have your computer set up for optimum use. Take the time now to prepare by assuring that you have a strong Internet connection, preferably a wired connection, not a wireless connection, use Mozilla Firefox, which is the preferred browser for WebCampus, install a video player, preferably Quicktime, update your Flash player, and turn your speakers on before listening to any audios.
- Do not be deceived by the fact that this is a 1 credit course with a 10 page paper and presentation. This course requires a lot of thought time, significant time in the literature, and a great deal of time writing multiple drafts to create good products as well as practicing to deliver a professional presentation. Do not procrastinate.
- Set your mind toward having a great, final semester!

COURSE AND SCHOOL OF NURSING POLICIES:

CONFIDENTIALITY

An important part of nursing ethics is maintaining the client's confidentiality. Therefore, written work submitted to the instructor must NEVER contain his/her full name. Client's problems must not be discussed with family or friends. If the School of Nursing ascertains that a client's confidentiality has been violated, the student violating the confidence will be subjected to disciplinary action.

ACADEMIC DROP POLICY

A student who is registered for a course may drop that course (and receive no grade) on or before the day when 60% of the course is completed. The registrar determines the exact date. After this point, no drops will be allowed even with the instructor's permission. Please check the course schedule (online) for this date.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

It is up to the student to log onto WebCampus as much as daily to assess for any further information or changes that may occur during the semester other than what is documented in the tentative weekly class schedule. The student is expected to take responsibility for their own learning. It is a faculty member's discretion and prerogative to determine what is and is not acceptable behavior in his or her classroom (i.e., late arrival, wearing hats). Also, classroom occupants are at the discretion of the instructor (per UNLV General Counsel). Although there is no policy prohibiting bringing children to class, it falls within the Student Conduct Code, Section Two, III. K. and L. relating to "disrupting" the classroom and/or university operations. See http://studentlife.unlv.edu/judicial/student.html.

CIVILITY

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing defines civility by respecting others and honoring differences to provide a safe and supportive learning and work environment. Civility encompasses behaviors expected by the profession of nursing, which includes students, faculty, and staff members. The UNLV SON expects students to demonstrate civil behavior at all times.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS
Late work will incur a 5 point/day point deduction. If a student has an emergency or extenuating circumstance, please be in touch with the course faculty as soon as possible for consideration of late work without penalty. Notifications for request of extension should be sent to the course faculty via WebCampus email only. Student **may not** leave a voice message or email at any other mailbox (Rebel mail, UNLV mail) Students are responsible to know the time zone which UNLV is in and be aware that assignments are due to this course in Pacific Standard Time (PST).

DROP/WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE
A student may drop or withdrawal from full semester courses during the free drop period without a grade. No drops or withdrawals will be permitted after the end of the free drop period. A student who stops attending class and fails to drop/withdrawal from the course electronically will receive a grade of "F". **If the student is failing at the time of withdrawal, the School of Nursing will consider the class as an unsuccessful completion in consideration of progression in the program. Please note when dropping a course electronically it is the student's responsibility to print a copy of the drop verification that the drop was successfully executed. A student who officially drops a class and are no longer registered for credit or audit are ineligible for further attendance in that class.**

INCOMPLETE
An incomplete "I" grade can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed at least three-fourths of the semester but for reason(s) beyond the student's control, and acceptable to the course faculty, cannot complete the last part of the course and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. A student who receives an incomplete "I" is responsible for making up whatever work was lacking at the end of the semester. The incomplete must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of "F" will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete "I" do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the "I" grade.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS
You will need a computer, and Microsoft Word computer program.
♦ Word Processing Program: Microsoft Word preferred. Please use most current version.
♦ Presentation Program: such as PowerPoint.

GETTING HELP in WEB-CAMPUS
http://ccs.unlv.edu/scr/support/webcampus/using.asp
You can call the Help Desk: 702-895-0761 if you have questions or need support

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES
Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning. Successful completion of this course requires participation with WebCampus based learning, reading of required/recommended materials, and meeting on campus for scheduled clinical workshops. Each student should monitor his/her progress

throughout the semester, and ask for help when necessary. Numerical averages as calculated above convert to letter grades consistent with those published in the School of Nursing Student Handbook.

COURSE FACULTY RESPONSIBILTIES
Students may need additional help throughout the semester. The course faculty is expected to maintain weekly office hours. Office hours will be posted on the bulletin board of the faculty member's office and they are also listed in the syllabus. Special arrangements could be made for meeting outside the documented office hours at the discretion of the instructor. Keep in mind with an online course, faculty members are available to answer questions in a different manner.

NOTE: The course faculty reserves the right to make changes as necessary to this syllabus. If changes are necessitated during the term of the course, the course faculty will immediately notify students of such changes both by individual email communication and posting both notification and nature of change(s) on the course announcement board.

TEACHING EVALUATIONS
In order to evaluate the effectiveness of teaching at UNLV, it requires course evaluations to be administered at the end of each course. Teaching evaluations are a very important piece of assessment data and it is important that the reliability, validity, and legitimacy of these instruments be maintained.

Your evaluation of instruction is a vital part of maintaining and improving the nursing program's quality and a professional responsibility as well. Your instructors give great weight to your assessments and suggestions for course improvement. Each semester, we modify the courses based on these evaluations so that the courses are improved for the incoming class of students, a type of continuous quality improvement. Finally, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education bases part of its accreditation of our program on whether we make course improvements responsive to student evaluations. We appreciate your assistance with this important part of your student career.

<p align="center">UNLV School of Nursing
Evaluation of Instruction Questions
Delivered on-line by the UNLV Evaluation & Assessment Center</p>

1. *This course increased my knowledge.*
2. *The course provided sufficient opportunity for me to learn.*
3. *The course challenged me intellectually.*
4. *The instructor made a significant impact on my understanding of course content.*
5. THE COURSE OBJECTIVES WERE CLEAR.
6. MY GRADES ADEQUATELY REFLECTED THE QUALITY OF MY PERFORMANCE IN THIS COURSE.
7. THE INSTRUCTOR'S EXPECTATIONS FOR ASSIGNMENTS WERE CLEAR.
8. THE INSTRUCTOR'S ASSESSMENTS REFLECTED WHAT WAS COVERED IN THE COURSE.
9. The instructor was well prepared for each session.
10. The instructor's explanations were clear.
11. The instructor was concerned with whether or not the students learned the material.
12. The instructor was available for consultation with students.

Key-- color or font: *Learning Ratings*   ASSESSMENT RATINGS   Instruction Ratings

UNIVERSITY POLICIES
ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and are encouraged when faced with choices to always take the ethical path. Students enrolling in UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV's function as an educational institution.

An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is "using the words or ideas of another, from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources." See the *Student Academic Misconduct Policy* (approved December 9, 2005) located at: http://studentconduct.unlv.edu/misconduct/policy.html.

COPYRIGHT

The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves **with** and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. **You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The university will neither protect nor defend you nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws.** Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional information can be found at http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (DRC)

The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A 143, http://drc.unlv.edu/ 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. If you feel that you have a disability, please make an appointment with a Disabilities Specialist at the DRC to discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor before or after class to discuss your accommodation needs.

POLICY ON RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS
Any student missing class quizzes, examinations, or any other class or lab work because of observance of religious holidays shall be given an opportunity during that semester to make up missed work. The make-up will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It shall be the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor no later than the end of the first 14 calendar days of the course, **September 20, 2016,** of his or her intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit:
http://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531

CONSENSUAL RELATIONSHIPS
UNLV prohibits romantic or sexual relationships between members of the university community when one of the individuals involved has direct professional influence or direct authority over the other. For further information, see http://hr.unlv.edu/policies/consensual.html.

FERPA
The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, commonly known as FERPA, is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. Students have specific, protected rights regarding the

release of such records, and FERPA requires that institutions adhere strictly to these guidelines. Only UNLV school officials with a legitimate educational interest can access student records. This is not a right of every UNLV employee. Those who have the right to access student records are held responsible for the information.

Transparency in Learning and Teaching—The University encourages application of the transparency method of constructing assignments for student success. Please see these two links for further information:

https://www.unlv.edu/provost/teachingandlearning
https://www.unlv.edu/provost/transparency

INCOMPLETE GRADES
The grade of I – Incomplete – can be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session but for reason(s) beyond the student's control, and acceptable to the instructor, cannot complete the last part of the course, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. Graduate students receiving "I" grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the time indicated, a grade of F will be recorded and the GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete do not register for the course but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the I grade.

REBELMAIL
By policy, faculty and staff should e-mail students' Rebelmail accounts only. Rebelmail is UNLV's official e-mail system for students. It is one of the primary ways students receive official university communication such as information about deadlines, major campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the university. Students' email prefixes are listed on class rosters. The suffix is always @unlv.nevada.edu. **Emailing within WebCampus is acceptable.**

TUTORING AND COACHING
The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring and academic assistance for all UNLV students taking UNLV courses. Students are encouraged to stop by the ASC to learn more about subjects offered, tutoring times, and other academic resources. The ASC is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Students may learn more about tutoring services by calling (702) 895-3177 or visiting the tutoring web site at http://academicsuccess.unlv.edu/tutoring/.

UNLV WRITING CENTER
One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 702-895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/