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COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

SCHOOL OF NURSING  
Graduate Programs

Psychiatric/Mental Health  
Nurse Practitioner Preceptor Manual

*Innovation and Excellence in Nursing Education*

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**Vision**

Innovation and excellence in nursing education to promote a healthy society.

**Mission**

The mission of the School of Nursing is to prepare students from diverse populations to provide professional nursing across the continuum of health. Faculty in the School of Nursing promote innovation and excellence in nursing education through practice, scholarship, teaching and service at both the baccalaureate and graduate level.

**Core Values**

Excellence, Professionalism, Student-centered, Innovation, Respect.

**Philosophy**

The Graduate Program prepares students for advanced practice roles in nursing and to be accountable for clinical and organizational decision making based on scholarly evidence, principles of ethics, relevant theories and health care policy. Upon completion of the Graduate Program, the advanced practice nurse is prepared to provide leadership in the analysis of factors influencing health and the subsequent implementation and evaluation of strategies for improving health in a multidisciplinary, globally aware, culturally sensitive manner.

(Revision 02/05/09)



Dear Preceptor:

This site has been prepared to orient you to the Psychiatric-Mental Health Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner program and to your role as a clinical preceptor. We greatly value your contribution to the knowledge base and experience of our students.

All students participating in clinical placements in the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program are Registered Nurses who are enrolled in graduate studies in the School of Nursing in a program leading to the Master of Science in Nursing degree. Students complete a year of full time study or may attend part time to complete basic requirements prior to enrolling in their clinical specialty option, which is typically done in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of full time graduate study.

The Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program consists of three clinical placements, typically begun in the Fall, and carried through Spring and Summer semesters. The Fall and Spring clinical courses are paired with a theory course in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing and the summer course includes some theory as well as clinical experience. You are being asked to precept a student who is out in the field to gain clinical experience toward their degree. Students will also receive ongoing supervision from faculty in the WSU School of Nursing while they are in their field placements.

Please call, (316) 978-5756 or email, [Victoria.Mosack@wichita.edu](mailto:Victoria.Mosack@wichita.edu) with any questions you have about our program or your role as preceptor. Thank you again for taking the time from your busy practice to share your expertise with our students.

Sincerely,

Victoria Mosack, ARNP, Ph.D.

## **PRACTICE PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER**

Prerequisites for the program are statistics and an undergraduate nursing research course approved by the School of Nursing. The APRN-PMH track is 49 credit hours.

Courses reflect a philosophy that the Advanced Practice Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse is educated in skills necessary for provision of holistic care based on an understanding of biological, psychological, social, and spiritual dimensions of the individual seeking health care. As such, advanced practice psychiatric nursing at WSU is a blending of the best of the roles of the clinical specialist and the nurse practitioner.

### **Core Courses Core Course Credit Hours**

N 701 Advanced Health Assessment	2
N 702 Advanced Health Assessment Lab	1
N 703 Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Nursing Practice	3
N 715 Advanced Nursing Practice Roles	1
N 793 Advanced Pathophysiology I	4
N 795 Applied Drug Therapy	3
N 801 Health Care Systems: Policy and Politics	3
N 806 Evidence Based Nursing Practice/Outcomes of Care	3
N 826 Evidence Based Nursing Project I	2
N 828 Evidence Based Nursing Project II	2

### **Psychiatric-Mental Health**

#### **SPECIALIZATION COURSES**

N 728 Advanced Practice Technology and Skills	3
N 819 Foundations of Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	3
N 822 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practicum I	4
N 854 Diagnosis & Management of Mental Disorders	3
N 856 Transition to PMHNP Advanced Practice Role I	1
N 921 Complex Issues in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing	3
N 922 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practicum II	4
N 923 Transition to PMHNP Advanced Practice Role II	1
N 952 Advanced Nursing Practice Preceptorship	3
Comprehensive Examination	0

## **Role of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program Clinical Preceptors**

### **Preceptor Overview**

The philosophy of the WSU Advanced Practice Nurse in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing program is to prepare students to function in a variety of psychiatric/mental health care settings. Students gain experience working as collaborative members of the health care team. The APN-PMH student is prepared to practice clinical skills, including health assessments, advanced psychiatric assessments, diagnosis of psychiatric conditions, mental status examinations, pharmacological assessments and management, psychiatric management of patients with problems in living or psychiatric disorders utilizing various treatment modalities such as individual, family or group psychotherapy, psychoeducation, and consultation. Clinical experiences are supported by faculty and preceptor supervision and oversight.

### **Preceptor Statement**

Preceptors assist course responsible faculty and are practitioners who provide direct teaching to students appropriate to the course and program objectives. Preceptors for clinical specializations may include both advanced practice nurses (ARNPs) and non-nurse practitioners (usually physicians). Each preceptor must be credentialed and state licensed to practice in his/her specialization. National certification is highly encouraged although not required in Kansas for ARNP status. Preceptors must have educational preparation and/or extensive practice experience appropriate to his/her supervisory responsibility. Newly prepared preceptors must have at least one year of practice experience in the specialization. Orientation to the preceptor role, including program requirements, expectations for oversight and evaluation of students, are provided for each specialization. Student evaluation is the responsibility of the faculty with input from the preceptor. Experiences with preceptors are evaluated by students and faculty to enhance program development and student learning activities. Documentation of preceptor qualification is maintained in the School of Nursing.

The WSU nursing department, students and preceptors each have a responsibility regarding the clinical experience of the student. The preceptor's responsibilities include:

## **Responsibilities of Preceptors**

1. Provide the student with an orientation to the practice setting and clear expectations.
2. Assume primary responsibility for the actions and education of the student in the clinical setting, including
  - assist the student in finding clinically relevant activities to meet requirements
  - case assignment
  - supervision or consultation when the student has questions regarding clinical cases
  - communication with the student and WSU faculty about student progress toward educational goals
3. Evaluation of the student with regard to:
  - Reliability
  - Information gathering ability
  - Physical examination techniques
  - Problem-solving
  - Clinical judgment
  - Patient rapport and education
  - Professional relationships
  - Knowledge base
  - Recognition of limitations
4. Complete and return the **PMH Student Clinical Evaluation Form** promptly at the end of each semester.

### **• Requirements of School of Nursing and Course Instructor in PMH Nursing**

Clinical courses in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing at WSU are planned and overseen by the clinical course instructor. Preceptors may contact the clinical instructor for questions, student problems, or to collaborate on student requirements or student's clinical activities.

Instructor responsibilities:

- Oversee student learning contracts and goals
- Coordinate terms of student placement, as needed, to meet learning requirements for the student
- Offsite back up Supervision of student's clinical experiences
- Provide teaching regarding clinical skills and intervention tools
- Assess student functioning
- Communicate with preceptors about student progress or problems
- Handle all administrative tasks related to student's progress in the program toward degree completion

## **Clinical Requirements for PMH Students**

### **Required Rotations:**

During phase II of the APN-PMH program, a series of clinical rotations provide the student with the opportunity to experience the practical application of the knowledge obtained in theory and lab classes. The student's rotation is individually structured to provide a wide variety of clinical experiences to meet educational goals. The following practicums are scheduled according to individual students needs.

#### Nursing 822 Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing Practicum I

This course is an intensive clinical experience in which the student assesses the individual client, and plans, implements and evaluates nurse-therapist strategies with individual clients. Learning regarding psychiatric theories of psychotherapy and tools and techniques for individual counseling accompanies the practicum.

#### Nursing 922 Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practicum II

This practicum is an intensive clinical experience in which the student analyzes group processes and initiates and evaluates therapeutic strategies with groups. Emphasis placed on the performance of group therapy as well as psychiatric assessment which includes interpretation of relevant data, differential diagnosis, and development and implementation of management plans. Appropriate interventions to promote the group process are emphasized. Note: Practicum hours are 4:1 making a total of 240 clinical hours for the practicum.

*(Required Rotations continued on next page)*

#### Nursing 952 Advanced Nursing Practice Preceptorship

A concentrated clinical practicum in the student's specialization health care setting that emphasizes the management of care for individuals. Students synthesize concepts and principles from previous classes and clinical experiences, applying theoretical and research content to acute, chronic, urgent and/or common health problems. Preceptorship is in a clinical agency appropriate to the student's clinical interests. Practicum hours are 4:1 making a total of 180 contact hours for the practicum

### **Attendance**

The student must contact the preceptor and instructor prior to an absence or change in schedule. The student is responsible for arranging make up of missed days of a practicum. If a student has greater than five absences (40 hours or greater) due to illness or other circumstances they may be required to repeat the clinical rotation.

## Learning Objectives

The student will construct a contract with specific learning objectives to accomplish during each clinical rotation. Learning plans will be reviewed and endorsed by the clinical instructor, preceptor and student. The contract serves as an outline of learning objectives during to clinical rotation.

## Guidelines for Clinical Activity for PMH students

The following guidelines will be applied during the clinical rotations for students.

Students cannot provide patient care without adequate preceptor supervision. The APN-PMH students, like all students, have varying degrees of skill and experience and must be assigned accordingly. The following guidelines should be observed:

1. Treatment procedures should always be approved by the Preceptor prior to implementation (life threatening emergencies are the exception).
2. Students cannot admit or discharge patients without direct preceptor guidance.
3. An Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner or Physician should always review student activities and oversee management of cases.
4. Students agree to perform nursing interventions in accordance with the standards for practice set by the Kansas Board of Nursing *Nurse Practice Act* and *the Scope and Standards of Practice for Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing Practice* as delineated by the American Nurses Association.
5. Any unethical behavior is subject to dismissal of a student.

## PMH Clinical Evaluation Form

The **PMH Student Clinical Evaluation Form**, located at the end of this preceptor manual, must be completed at the conclusion of each clinical experience or semester rotation.

*For more information contact:*

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Wichita State University  
School of Nursing –Graduate Program

**Evaluation Form for Psychiatric Mental Health MSN Student Clinical Experience**

Course _____ Semester _____	Needs Work	Minimal Skill Level	Average Skill Level	Above Average Skill Level	Excellent Skill Level
<b>Assessment of MSN Student Competencies:</b>					
Case formulation/Assessment skills					
Applies DSM-IV criteria to make differential diagnoses					
Identifies client risk factors (physical and mental)					
Treatment Planning and Goal Setting					
Articulates awareness of cultural and individual differences in assessment and treatment planning					
Behaves respectfully toward clients and others					
Uses Critical thinking skills					
Integrates theory into practice					
Uses relevant research and clinical literature in provision of care					
Plans and implements psychoeducation approaches with psychiatric patients and their families					
Applies clinical principles of psychopharmacology					

\*\*mark N/A if does not apply or if no opportunity to observe this skill.  
You may also attach additional pages for further comments.

<b>Assessment of MSN Student Competencies:</b>	Needs Work	Minimal Skill Level	Average Skill Level	Above Average Skill Level	Excellent Skill Level
Communication skills with other professionals					
Identifies outcome measures and appropriately evaluates outcomes of interventions					
Identifies legal and ethical issues in practice setting					
Behaves in an ethical manner with clients					
Refers appropriately for further assessment or treatment as needed					
Documents work appropriately and thoroughly in a timely manner					
Contributes to positive working environment					
Behaves in a professional manner (reliable, consistent, arrives on time, dependable, etc)					
Identifies appropriate scope of practice					

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_  
MSN Student Clinical Preceptor WSU Instructor

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Date