



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

College of Science

**School of Nursing
Master of Science**

Graduate Student Handbook 2014

“Nursing is an art; and if it is to be an art, requires as exclusive a devotion, as hard a preparation, as any painter’s or sculptor’s work; for what is the having to do with dead canvas, or cold marble, compared with having to do with the living body –the temple of the spirit...It is one of the fine arts; I had almost said, the finest of the arts.”

Florence Nightingale

PREFACE

This handbook is designed to provide information and guidance to graduate students in nursing at California State University, Stanislaus. It will give present and prospective students an overview of the purpose and goals, program course offerings, requirements for admission and application procedures for the Master of Science in Nursing program.

The information contained in this handbook is consistent with that in the current University catalog found on the CSU Stanislaus web site. The handbook contains pertinent information to assist with progression through the program. However, students should review the CSU Stanislaus Guide to Graduate Studies and the University catalog, which are more comprehensive. It is the student's responsibility to understand the information in all three documents.

The handbook may not address all student questions or concerns. Hence, if a student has problems or questions that need further clarification or resolution, the Graduate Assistant Director or another member of the nursing faculty should be contacted.

General inquiries regarding the nursing graduate program should be directed to:

Carolyn Martin, RN, FNP, PhD
Graduate & RN-BSN Assistant Director

College of Science
School of Nursing
California State University, Stanislaus
One University Circle
Science 1 –Room 209-E
Phone: (209) 664-6591
Fax: (209) 667-3690

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
I. UNIVERSITY	
History of the University.....	4-5
University Information.....	6
Students' Rights and Responsibilities.....	7
What You Need to Know – Campus Numbers and Websites.....	8
The University Library.....	9
Student Conduct.....	10-12
II. SCHOOL OF NURSING	
School of Nursing Room Locations.....	13
Staff and Faculty.....	14
History of the School of Nursing.....	15
Mission Statement.....	16
School of Nursing Philosophy.....	16-17
Goal Statement.....	17
Student Learning Outcomes.....	17-18
Student Representation at Faculty Meetings.....	19
III. GRADUATE STUDY IN NURSING	
AACN Essentials of Masters Education.....	20-22
Core and Concentration Courses.....	23-25
Requirements for Continuation in the Program.....	26
Grading Scale.....	26
Master of Science in Nursing (MS) Roadmap.....	27-28
Admission Criteria.....	29-31
Program Requirements.....	32-33
The BRIDGE Program.....	34
RN-BSN Roadmap.....	35-36
Dual Concentration.....	37
Health Policies and Requirements Policy.....	38-43
Academic Dishonesty Policy.....	44-45
Physical/Emotion/Legal Requirement Policy.....	46-48
Culminating Experience.....	49-50
Criteria for Completion.....	50
Graduate Scholarships and Funding.....	51
School of Nursing Graduate Coordinator.....	51
Communication Resources.....	52

California State University, Stanislaus

History of the University

California State University, Stanislaus is one of the twenty-three California State Universities, which comprise one of the largest systems of public higher education in the western hemisphere. The University derives its name from the Indian warrior Estanislao of the northern Yokut Indians. A mission Indian, named for the patron saint of Poland and martyr of the Eleventh Century, Estanislao escaped or left the fathers and returned to his own village on the river that now bears his name. From the banks of his river he waged a war against the Spanish, battling on two occasions the great General Marino Vallejo. Some historians contend that Estanislao won both battles; others say he inflicted heavy losses on the Spanish but was driven from his home. No one is sure what happened to the great chief, but his memory and name live on in the tradition and determination of California State University, Stanislaus.

The former College, now University, which bears this Indian chief's name was opened in 1960 at the County Fairgrounds where it operated except during the yearly county fair when it moved to Turlock High School. The first year there was a student body of 756 juniors, seniors, and graduate students with just fifteen full-time faculty. In 1965 the College was moved to its present 230-acre site and the College was awarded University status in the spring of 1985. Currently the annual enrollment is approximately 7500 students.

The first buildings constructed were the Library/Administration Building and the Classroom Building. The Performing Arts Complex opened in the fall of 1970, providing space for the departments of art, drama, and music. This multi-purpose project includes a modern, functional 300-seat Main stage Theater for drama productions, recitals, concerts, and lectures. The music facility features a 200-seat recital hall, and the art area is highlighted by spacious and modern equipped studios as well as a gallery for shows.

The original Science Building was completed in 1972 and vacated in 2007 when the new Science building was completed.

The University Union opened in 1978 and was renovated and expanded in 1992. These facilities have become the center for students during their leisure hours. In this complex is housed the Associated Students, the American Language and Culture Program, recreation center, lounges, multipurpose room, study and conference rooms. Dedicated in 1981, the Campus Health Center provides basic medical services, health maintenance, and health education. Services cover examinations for illnesses and injury, diagnosis and treatment of common health problems, laboratory x-rays, and medications as needed. Health education and counseling for prevention of illness and health maintenance, as well as referrals to specialists, are also provided.

The Village is a unique student-housing complex, which opened in 1993 and housed 356 students. Phase III of construction was completed in Fall 2004 with new additions, it now houses 648 students. It is complete with laundry facilities, computer lab, recreation room, cafeteria courtyard with barbecue areas, 3 play courts, 2 swimming pools and a spa.

The Dining Hall Complex includes a cafeteria with a capacity for seating 500, with a smaller dining room for private meetings, workshops, conferences, and Mom's dining room.

Physical education facilities include a Fieldhouse, Gymnasium with seating for 2,300, softball and baseball diamonds, soccer field, a vita-course, tennis courts, an all-weather track, and a swimming pool.

Phase II of the Vasche Library was completed in 1989, doubling the size of the original building.

Ground breaking ceremonies for the 130,000 square foot Professional Schools Building took place on October 11, 1996. Occupancy began Fall 1998. This building, now named Demergasso-Bava Hall, houses faculty offices and classrooms, including the Nursing Department Offices and Clinical Skills lab.

Beginning in August of 1998, the CSU Stanislaus Stockton Center moved from the Delta College campus to its current site at 612 East Magnolia Street, Stockton. Many upper division classes are offered at the Stockton Campus.

The Mary Stuart Rogers Educational Gateway Building opened in 2002. It houses Admissions and Records and other Administrative Offices and Student Services. The Rogers Faculty Development Center and the Flora and Burnell Snider Recital Hall opened in 2003.

In January 2014, the School of Nursing moved to the Science 1 building.

University Information

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING/CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER

This center offers personal and career counseling and workshops. All of the services are free to the students as a result of the student fees paid at registration time.

UNIVERSITY TUTORING CENTER

This center is located on the first floor of the Library. It offers one-on-one tutoring by appointment in most subjects, with 35 drop-in (no appointment needed) hours in mathematics. This center also provides tutoring specifically for the Writing Proficiency Screening Test (WPST) and Graduate Record Exam (GRE). A writing skills specialist can assist students with writing, reading, and grammar needs. The telephone number is 667-3642

UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTER

The University Health Center is staffed by physicians and nurse practitioners and provides basic medical services, health maintenance and health education. Medical services cover examinations for illness and injury, diagnosis and treatment of common health problems, laboratory, x-rays and medications as needed. Most services are at no cost because of your payment of student fees. There is a discounted fee for lab work. Prescriptions are filled at a discounted rate. The telephone number is 667-3396.

STUDENT NEWSPAPER

"THE SIGNAL" is the name of the student newspaper which is published weekly throughout the academic semesters. There are boxes all around the campus where students can pick up a copy of the newspaper. We encourage you to secure copies and read them. This is one of the best sources to keep up with what is happening on the campus from student perspectives. Important information, such as add and drop deadlines, is published as well as all the social and cultural activities available on the campus. **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:**

UNIVERSITY DOCUMENTS RELATING TO STUDENTS' RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- I. The University has developed a Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities that are supported by the School of Nursing. A copy of this document is available from the Office of Student Services.
- II. The University has developed campus regulations, grade assignment and grade appeal procedures to which the School of Nursing adheres. These documents are printed in the University Catalog.
- III. A student may seek redress on any CSU Stanislaus regulation by petition. There is an appointed University-Wide Petitions Committee composed of five faculty members, one of whom chairs the committee, and the Director of Academic Advising as the administration's representative. The petition form is available at the Enrollment Services Office.
- IV. On campus parking regulations require students who wish to park on campus to purchase a sticker or daily permit and park in areas designated as student parking. Parking violations are enforced and citations given for infractions. A brochure entitled "Parking Traffic Information" is available from the Department of Public Safety on campus.
- V. Disabled students, who may need to have academic adjustments, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Appropriate academic adjustments will be agreed upon by the Director of Disabled Students Services, related program professionals, and the student prior to course work and placement in field work. Academic adjustments refer to adaptations for a professionally verified disabled student as related to supportive services. Such adjustment does not refer to a variance of academic and technical standards requisite for the issuance of a credential. Students are responsible for initiating the process. A copy of the Policy and Procedures for Disabled Students is available from the Disabled Students Office in the Mary Stewart Rogers Building.

Note that all student services are available to enrolled students. Students taking classes at the distance sites are encouraged to utilize these services as needed. Call the individual office for day and evening hours.

What You Need to Know

CAMPUS

Information Line: 209-667-3122
[Outreach](#)

CSU Stanislaus Web Address:
www.csustan.edu

Emergency Numbers

Emergency: 911
 On campus: 9-911

Public Safety - Turlock

8:00 a.m. - 5:00p.m.: 667-3114
Weekends/Holidays: 668-1200

Public Safety – Stockton

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.: 993-3469

School of Nursing 667-3141
www.csustan.edu/Nursing

Academic Services

<http://www.csustan.edu/EnrollmentServices/Admissions->

Academic Advising- School of Nursing	667-3141
Request for Information	667-3123
Student Records & Transcripts	667-3264
Admissions Requirements	667-3152
Campus Tours	667-3811

Enrollment Services

<http://www/csustan.edu/EnrollmentServices>

Admissions	667-3152
Cashiers	667-3406
Enrollment Services Info Line	667-3151
Financial Aid & Scholarships	667-3336
Registration Help Line	667-3039

Student Affairs

<http://studentaffairs.csustan.edu>

Counseling Services	667-3381
Career Services	667-3661
Disabilities Resource Center	667-3159
TDD	667-3582
First Year Programs & Advising	667-3304
KIVA Bookstore	667-3161
Library	667-3231
Testing Services	667-3157
Tutoring Center	667-3642
Writing Center	667-3465
WPST Program	667-3069

Maps and Directions: <http://www.csustan.edu/maps-directions>

The University Library

One area on the campus that you will be using frequently during your education is the University Library. It is located on the second and third floors of the Vasche Library Building.

Check the Library web page for hours. <http://library.csustan.edu/hours/index.html>

We are most fortunate in having a superb Library with excellent staff.

Please read this excerpt taken from the University Catalog about the Library:

Located on the second and third floors of the Vasche Library Building, the library facility provides workstations which access the library's electronic resources, an electronic classroom, spaces for individual and group study, and a reading room.

The University Library provides major educational, cultural, and information services and resources to the University and the community. The library's mission is to support and supplement classroom and independent learning; facilitate and support student and faculty research; and provide users with lifelong skills in identifying, locating, evaluating, and synthesizing information. Library staff are dedicated to offering excellent reference, instruction, and access services to the Turlock campus and the University's distance learning programs.

The library collection includes 340,000 volumes, 2,100 periodical subscriptions, access to 60+ electronic databases and a growing number of electronic journals, video recordings, compact discs, and e-books. Since 1965 the library has been a partial depository of federal, state, and local documents. Other special collections include the University archive, which contains documents related to local and University history, and the juvenile collection, which has 5,000 volumes of award-winning and notable titles in children's literature. The collection has been developed through close and on-going collaboration between librarians and discipline faculty.

For more information see their website at www.library.csustan.edu

Also see the Distance Learning section of this document for more information on services available to off-campus students.

Student Conduct

Title V, California Code of Regulations

Article 2. Student Conduct

<http://www.csustan.edu/Catalog/PDF-Publications/16-Appendix.pdf>

41301. Standards for Student Conduct

The University is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy living and learning environment for students, faculty, and staff. Each member of the campus community must choose behaviors that contribute toward this end. Student behavior that is not consistent with the Student Conduct Code is addressed through an educational process that is designed to promote safety and good citizenship and, when necessary, impose appropriate consequences.

(a) Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to be good citizens and to engage in responsible behaviors that reflect well upon their university, to be civil to one another and to others in the campus community, and contribute positively to student and university life.

(b) Unacceptable Student Behaviors

The following behavior is subject to disciplinary sanctions:

(1) Dishonesty, including:

- (A) Cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic dishonesty that are intended to gain unfair academic advantage.
- (B) Furnishing false information to a University official, faculty member, or campus office.
- (C) Forgery, alteration, or misuse of a University document, key, or identification instrument.
- (D) Misrepresenting oneself to be an authorized agent of the University or one of its auxiliaries.

(2) Unauthorized entry into, presence in, use of, or misuse of University property.

(3) Willful, material and substantial disruption or obstruction of a University-related activity, or any on-campus activity.

(4) Participating in an activity that substantially and materially disrupts the normal operations of the University, or infringes on the rights of members of the University community.

(5) Willful, material and substantial obstruction of the free flow of pedestrian or other traffic, on or leading to campus property or an off-campus University related activity.

(6) Disorderly, lewd, indecent, or obscene behavior at a University related activity, or directed toward a member of the University community.

(7) Conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person within or related to the University community, including physical abuse, threats, intimidation, harassment, or sexual misconduct.

(8) Hazing, or conspiracy to haze, as defined in Education Code Sections 32050 and 32051:

“Hazing” includes any method of initiation or pre-initiation into a student organization, or any pastime or amusement engaged in with respect to such an organization which causes, or is likely to cause, bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm, to any student or other person attending any school, community college, college, university or other educational institution in this state; but the term “hazing” does not include customary athletic events or other similar

contests or competitions. A group of students acting together may be considered a “student organization” for purposes of this section whether or not they are officially recognized. Neither the express or implied consent of a victim of hazing, nor the lack of active participation while hazing is going on is a defense. Apathy or acquiescence in the presence of hazing is not a neutral act, and is also a violation of this section.

- (9) Use, possession, manufacture, or distribution of illegal drugs or drug-related paraphernalia, (except as expressly permitted by law and University regulations) or the misuse of legal pharmaceutical drugs.
- (10) Use, possession, manufacture, or distribution of alcoholic beverages (except as expressly permitted by law and University regulations), or public intoxication while on campus or at a University related activity.
- (11) Theft of property or services from the University community, or misappropriation of University resources.
- (12) Unauthorized destruction, or damage to University property or other property in the University community.
- (13) Possession or misuse of firearms or guns, replicas, ammunition, explosives, fireworks, knives, other weapons, or dangerous chemicals (without the prior authorization of the campus president) on campus or at a University related activity.
- (14) Unauthorized recording, dissemination, or publication of academic presentations (including handwritten notes) for a commercial purpose.
- (15) Misuse of computer facilities or resources, including:
 - (A) Unauthorized entry into a file, for any purpose.
 - (B) Unauthorized transfer of a file.
 - (C) Use of another’s identification or password.
 - (D) Use of computing facilities, campus network, or other resources to interfere with the work of another member of the University community.
 - (E) Use of computing facilities and resources to send obscene or intimidating and abusive messages.
 - (F) Use of computing facilities and resources to interfere with normal University operations.
 - (G) Use of computing facilities and resources in violation of copyright laws.
 - (H) Violation of a campus computer use policy.
- (16) Violation of any published University policy, rule, regulation or presidential order.
- (17) Failure to comply with directions of, or interference with, any University official or any public safety officer while acting in the performance of his/her duties.
- (18) Any act chargeable as a violation of a federal, state, or local law that poses a substantial threat to the safety or well-being of members of the University community, to property within the University community or poses a significant threat of disruption or interference with University operations.
- (19) Violation of the Student Conduct Procedures, including:
 - (A) Falsification, distortion, or misrepresentation of information related to a student discipline matter.
 - (B) Disruption or interference with the orderly progress of a student discipline proceeding.
 - (C) Initiation of a student discipline proceeding in bad faith.
 - (D) Attempting to discourage another from participating in the student discipline matter.
 - (E) Attempting to influence the impartiality of any participant in a student discipline matter

(F) Verbal or physical harassment or intimidation of any participant in a student discipline matter.

(G) Failure to comply with the sanction(s) imposed under a student discipline proceeding.

(20) Encouraging, permitting, or assisting another to do any act that could subject him or her to discipline.

(c) Application of this Code

Sanctions for the conduct listed above can be imposed on applicants, enrolled students, students between academic terms, graduates awaiting degrees, and students who withdraw from school while a disciplinary matter is pending. Conduct that threatens the safety or security of the campus community, or substantially disrupts the functions or operation of the University is within the jurisdiction of this Article regardless of whether it occurs on or off campus. Nothing in this Code may conflict with Education Code section 66301 that prohibits disciplinary action against students based on behavior protected by the First Amendment.

(d) Procedures for Enforcing this Code

The Chancellor shall adopt procedures to ensure students are afforded appropriate notice and an opportunity to be heard before the University imposes any sanction for a violation of the Student Conduct Code.

California State University School of Nursing

School of Nursing Room Locations

MAIN OFFICE

The main office for the School of Nursing is located in Science 1, Room 225. The Nursing Office is open Monday through Friday. Normal business hours are 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Summer hours are 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Voice mail is available when no one is able to answer office calls directly. The office telephone number is (209) 667-3141. Messages for faculty members can be left on their voice mail, email, nursing's voice mail, or placed in faculty mailboxes in the main office. Any papers left for a faculty member need to be labeled appropriately. Attach a note identifying the intended recipient.

OFFICE HOURS

All faculty hold regularly scheduled office hours during the academic year. These are posted by their office. Please schedule appointments in the Nursing Office or with the faculty member. Drop-ins are always welcome on a space available basis. To reach part-time faculty, see course syllabus or contact the Nursing Office.

CLINICAL SIMULATION CENTER

There are 4 clinical simulation labs associated with the School of Nursing.

- The Health Assessment Lab is located in Science 1.
- The Clinical Skills Lab is located in Science 1. It is available during specific hours for enrolled nursing students to acquire skills. No visitors allowed.
- The Clinical Simulation Lab is located in Science 1. It is available during specified times and under the supervision of nursing faculty. No visitors allowed.
- The Community Health Community Lab is located in Science 1.

SCHOOL OF NURSING FULL-TIME STAFF AND FACULTY**Nursing Office Staff**

Diane Jaurequi, ASC II
Office: DBH Science 1, Room 225
Phone/Voice mail: (209) 667-3879
Email: nursing@csustan.edu

Lori Barrows, ASA II
Office: Science 1, Room 225
Phone/Voice mail: (209)-667-3141
Email: lbarrows@csustan.edu

School of Nursing Director**Assistant Directors**

Dr. Debbie Tavernier, Professor,
Director
Office: Science 1, Room 225
Phone/Voice mail: (209) 667-3142
Email: dtavernier@csustan.edu

Dr. Carolyn Martin, Associate Professor
Graduate and RN-BSN Assistant Director
Office: Science 1, Room 209E
Phone/Voicemail: (209) 664-6591
Email: cmartin2@csustan.edu

Dr. Marla Marek, Associate Professor
Prelicensure Assistant Director
Office : Science 1
Phone/Voicemail : (209) 667-3253
Email : mmarek@csustan.edu

Nursing Faculty

April Aleman, Assistant Professor
Office : Science 1
Phone/Voicemail : 667-3796
Email : aaleman@csustan.edu

Jean Ann Britt, Assistant Professor
Office : Science 1
Phone/Voicemail : 664-6805
Email : jbritt1@csustan.edu

Sherri Brown, Visiting Lecturer
Office: Science 1
Phone/Voicemail: 664-6791
Email: sherribrownmsn@aol.com

Dr. Neelam Chanda, Assistant Professor
Office : Science 1
Phone/Voice mail :
Email : nchanda@csustan.edu

Dr. Diane Crayton, Assistant Professor
Office: Science 1
Phone/Voice mail: 664-6851
Email: dcrayton@csustan.edu

Dr. Linda Goodwin, Professor
Office : Science 1
Phone/Voice mail : (209) 664-6973
E-mail : lgoodwin@csustan.edu

Mary Ann Johnston, Visiting Lecturer
Office: Science 1,
Phone/Voicemail: (209) 667-3861
Email: mjohnston@csustan.edu

Dr. Diane Katsma, Professor
Office: Science 1
Phone/Voice mail: (209) 667-3093
Email: dkatsma@csustan.edu

Dr. Marla Marek, Associate Professor
Office: Science 1
Phone/Voicemail: (209) 667-3235
Email: mmarek@csustan.edu

Debra Millar, Assistant Professor
Office : Science 1
Phone/Voice mail : (209) 664-6526
Email : dmillar1@csustan.edu

Veronica Pehl, Assistant Professor
Office : Stockton Center
Phone/Voice mail : (209) 664-
Email : vpehl@csustan.edu

Mechelle Perea-Ryan, Associate Professor
Office: Science 1
Phone/Voice mail: (209) 667-3491
Email: mperearyan@csustan.edu

History of the School of Nursing

In September 1976, the College hired a Chair for the new Department of Nursing and the 1976-77 academic year was a planning year for an RN-BSN nursing program designed for ADN and Diploma nursing graduates seeking a Baccalaureate in Nursing. During this year the necessary approvals for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing were obtained from the campus Academic Senate and Educational Policies Committee as well as from the Chancellor's office and the California Post Secondary Education Commission. Two faculty members were hired and the department became operational in Fall 1977. The first class consisted of 32 full-time students and 30 part-time students. Competition to be in the first class was keen and the students came with enthusiasm mixed with apprehension about returning to school. The struggles of program development and student learning efforts meshed to create an exciting two years of growth for all. The 32 full-time students graduated in May 1979. The other 30 pioneer students finished on their individual part-time schedules. These and subsequent graduates have enjoyed improved job opportunities and many have gone on into graduate programs.

During the Summer of 1998, the Nursing Department moved into the new Demergasso-Bava Hall. In Fall 2002, the Department opened a new Pre-licensure BSN program. It is approved by the California State Board of Registered Nursing.

The Department of Nursing received National League for Nursing (NLN) Accreditation in 1986, and was re-accredited in 1994 with the maximum number of years (eight) awarded. The Department was also nationally accredited by the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in 2002 with the maximum of five years (initial accreditation) awarded. In 2006, the Department was re-accredited by CCNE for the maximum of 10 years.

There are 12 full-time faculty members and a number of part-time faculty which complement the full-time staff. The Department enjoys excellent support from the nursing community.

The name of the Department of Nursing was changed to the School of Nursing in 2011.

In January 2014, the Science 1 building re-opened after being closed for retrofitting and remodel. This newly remodeled building now houses the School of Nursing as well as the Department of Mathematics.



School of Nursing

MISSION

The mission of the School of Nursing at CSU Stanislaus is to improve the health and wellness of diverse populations through the advancement of nursing science, promotion of excellent clinical scholarship and practice, and the development of leadership in the healthcare environment. The School provides baccalaureate and graduate student centered learning environments that utilize technological innovation, promote clinical reasoning, and encourage lifelong learning.

PHILOSOPHICAL BELIEFS

The CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing derives its mission and philosophy from the goals of the University and the College of Human and Health Sciences. The mission and philosophy regarding nursing education and nursing practice are consistent with the University and College missions.

The Baccalaureate and Master's Essentials of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the School's philosophical beliefs provide the framework for the baccalaureate and graduate curriculum at CSU Stanislaus.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING EDUCATION is a science-based process and draws on the curricular philosophies of humanism and pragmatism. During their studies, students will encounter an abundance of intellectual diversity, new knowledge, different perspectives, competing ideas, and alternative claims of truth. The process of professional nursing education is personalized, taking into consideration individual students differences including culture, ethnicity, diverse learning styles, student goals, ways of life, and support systems. Faculty believe students are unique individuals capable of thinking logically, analyzing critically, and communicating effectively. Faculty believe teaching and learning are life-long, self-directed processes that encompass the acquisition of nursing knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Teaching integrates knowledge through the eclectic processes of sharing knowledge, facilitating the exploration of ideas and values, while utilizing a variety of strategies and respecting all learning styles. Students assume primary responsibility and accountability for learning and deserve to have the best opportunities for learning in order to improve health outcomes for the populations to whom they provide nursing care.

NURSING PRACTICE occurs in an increasingly diverse environment. Attention to quality and safety, scientific advances in genetics and genomics, an aging population, increased prevalence of chronic illness, and technological and therapeutic advances will continue to impact nursing practice. Students must be prepared to adapt to this ever changing landscape, thus the following philosophical beliefs provide a foundation for the nursing curriculum at CSU Stanislaus:

Health exists on a continuum from wellness to death, and is interpreted individually through emotional, physical, spiritual, and behavioral values and beliefs. Using a holistic approach, the nurse's role is to work collaboratively with patients, families, and populations to optimize health, wellness, and function, or to achieve a dignified and peaceful death.

Patients include individuals, families, groups, and communities with a broad range of needs. Faculty believe patients are worthy of respect regardless of their values, beliefs,

experiences, goals, and ways of life. Each person is an autonomous individual with innate abilities, resources, experiences, and value systems that guide decision making regarding health issues. Patients have the right and responsibility for their own behaviors and healthcare decisions.

The **Environment** is a dynamic, constantly changing system comprised of biological, psychological, spiritual, behavioral, and socio-cultural factors that affect health. Faculty believe that through health promotion, disease prevention, illness care and the close monitoring of and adherence to safety and quality, the environment can be modified, leading to alterations in patient outcomes.

Nursing is a theory driven, science based profession, actualized through the art of evidence based practice. Clinical practice, research, education, and service are the foundation for professional nursing practice. The professional nurse is responsible for and accountable to individuals, families, aggregates, the community, and society. In collaboration with other disciplines nurses offer distinctive care which includes health promotion and disease prevention. Nurses design, manage, provide, and coordinate care across the life span.

GOALS

The Goals of the School of Nursing are to prepare practitioners who will:

- Provide patient centered care
- Work in interdisciplinary teams
- Employ evidence based practice
- Apply quality improvement
- Utilize information from a variety of sources

Toward the achievement of these goals the following student learning outcomes have been identified:

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Integrate the knowledge, theories and methods of a variety of disciplines to inform decision making (1)
2. Participate in the process of inquiry, analysis, and information literacy to promote quality care and patient safety (2)
3. Apply leadership concepts, abilities, and decision making in the provision of high quality nursing care, healthcare team coordination, and the oversight and accountability for care delivery in a variety of settings (2)
4. Integrate evidence, clinical judgment, inter-professional perspectives, and patient preferences in planning, implementing, and evaluating outcomes of care (3)
5. Demonstrate skills in using patient care technologies, information systems, and communication devices that support safe nursing practice (4)
6. Demonstrate basic knowledge of healthcare policy, finance, and regulatory environments, including local, state, national, and global healthcare trends (5)
7. Use inter and intra-professional communication and collaborative skills to deliver evidence-based, patient centered care (6)

8. Assess health/illness beliefs, values, attitudes, and practices of individuals, families, groups, communities and populations in order to provide comprehensive care to diverse populations (7)
9. Demonstrate the professional standards of moral, ethical, and legal conduct (8)
10. Foster professional growth and development through the pursuit of lifelong learning and professional engagement, towards an understanding of the ambiguity and unpredictability of the world and its effect on the healthcare system. (8&9)
11. Implement holistic, patient-centered care that reflects an understanding of human growth and development, pathophysiology, pharmacology, medical and nursing management across the health-illness continuum, across the lifespan, and in all healthcare settings (9)

Professional Nursing Roles, as identified by AACN, are providers of care, designers, managers, and coordinators of care, and members of a profession (p. 4-6, *The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice*, 1998).

Providers of care apply a holistic approach to client teaching and advocacy, make clinical judgments based on critical thinking, scientific knowledge, values, and ethics, and an understanding of diversity, to clients throughout the life cycle. They provide direct and indirect care to clients ranging from individuals to populations. **Designers, managers, and coordinators of care** delegate, supervise, and evaluate others, use theory and research findings, and manage information within diverse, multidisciplinary and changing health care systems.

As **members of a profession**, nurses apply a broad knowledge base to their practice, and include an understanding of regulatory and political processes to the delivery of values- and ethics-based nursing care. They are responsible for their personal and professional development and committed to life-long learning.

(AACN, 1998)

Student Representation at Nursing Faculty Meetings

Students are encouraged to attend the faculty, graduate, and curriculum meetings. The faculty highly value student input into the nursing program. The faculty by-laws allow for membership of one student from each cohort nominated to serve as the official representative. Students are encouraged to organize and accept this privilege and responsibility. The responsibilities of the elected representative are:

- To attend each faculty meeting (or send designated alternate if unable to attend)
- Participate in meetings as spokesperson for self and other students
- Relay information from faculty meetings to students via (1) notices on the bulletin board and, (2) student-faculty communication folder located in the nursing office.

All students are invited to put ideas, concerns, suggestions, etc. in writing. Those that relate to individual faculty members and their courses should be discussed with the faculty member involved. Those that relate to the curriculum in general can be discussed with entire faculty.

For Faculty meetings dates are posted in the School of Nursing bulletin board outside the nursing office.

The meeting dates and times are posted on the Masters Blackboard Forum.



California State University, Stanislaus School of Nursing

Masters of Science in Nursing

AACN Essentials of Masters Education

GRADUATE CORE CURRICULUM CONTENT

CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing Curriculum is guided by the AACN Essentials of Masters Education (2011).

<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/education-resources/MastersEssentials11.pdf>

Program Mission, Goals, and Student Learning Outcomes

Masters of Science Mission, Goals, and Student Learning Outcomes

Mission

The primary purpose of the program is to develop skilled professionals able to assume positions of leadership, which contribute to the health, education, and social structure of the community, state, nation, and world. This program is consistent with the mission, and goals of the University, College, and the School of Nursing. Specifically, this program fulfills the School of Nursing's mission to educate nurses who advocate and promote the health and wellness of diverse populations through implementation of evidence-based practice, continuous quality improvement, and utilization of information and health technology. Graduates will have the knowledge, understanding, and experience to function as experts in their field. Through reflective practices and continued life long learning the Master's prepared nurse will improve healthcare outcomes and contribute to the advancement of the nursing profession. This program will build upon the student's baccalaureate nursing education and professional experience.

Program Goal Statement

Through the Master of Science in Nursing core curriculum provides students with knowledge essential to all nurses prepared at the master's level. The five core courses provide a foundation for each concentration, education, administration and gerontological nursing. Students will be prepared to analyze theories and concepts essential to the nursing practice and research. Knowledge of health disparity issues will enable the graduates to ensure that appropriate and sensitive health care is provided. Students will be prepared to critique and evaluate research findings in order to provide high quality care, initiate change, and implement evidence-based

nursing practice. They will have an understanding of health care policy, health care organizations, and financing of health care which will prepare them to assume leadership positions in an ever-evolving health care system. Exploration of advanced physiology, pathophysiological, pharmacological, and health assessment concepts serve as a basis for clinical assessment and management.

Graduate Outcome Goals

- a. Demonstrate knowledge, skills, and values
- b. Demonstrate creativity and critical thinking
- c. Disseminate research findings to enhance the promotion of health and prevention of illness
- d. Collaborate inter-professionally to improve health and healthcare
- e. Apply relevant knowledge of global perspectives
- f. Utilize knowledge of new and various methods of information and health care technologies
- g. Manifest oral and written communication skills
- h. Assess and utilize information from a variety of sources
- i. Analyze the impact of systems on health outcomes

Program Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this program, graduates will be able to:

1. Employ critical thinking and clinical reasoning in providing evidence-based nursing care to diverse individuals, families, and communities;
2. Contribute to the development and application of nursing knowledge through the use of theory and the scientific process;
3. Participate in the organization, management, and leadership of clinical, educational, or societal environments;
4. Practice skilled oral, written, and electronic communication that demonstrates the ability to express ideas in a variety of situations;
5. Provide culturally appropriate health care to a diverse community; and,
6. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to continue their education through doctoral study.

In addition to the core student learning objectives, students completing the concentration in education will be able to:

1. Critique, evaluate, and utilize concepts and theories of nursing, educational pedagogy, and curricula in the development of nursing education programs;
2. Apply principles of measurement and evaluation in the development and implementation of strategies for assessing student learning; and,
3. Utilize evidence-based teaching strategies to facilitate learning in settings where nurses function as educators for nurses, students, patients, families, and communities.

In addition to the core student learning objectives, students completing the concentration in gerontological nursing will be able to:

1. Critique, evaluate, and utilize concepts and theories of aging to design and implement effective intervention strategies to enhance independence and autonomy of older persons;

2. Utilize an understanding of the nature and scope of social, economic, physical, educational, and behavioral issues of aging in the development and implementation of programs for older persons; and,
3. Work effectively within an inter-professional setting and with diverse professionals, patients, families, and communities.

In addition to the core student learning objectives, students completing the concentration in nursing administration will be able to:

1. Adapt business and nursing theory to develop financial, ethical, and medically sound healthcare solutions.
2. Evaluate, plan, and lead effectively in various inter-professional settings and healthcare environments.
3. Contribute to private and health policy as a leader of health organizations and agencies.
4. Utilize general business concepts to analyze and resolve managerial problems.

Updated 3/15/13

Approved 11/7/13

Effective Spring 2014

Core Courses

Core Courses for Students in All Concentration

(19 units)

- [NURS 4900 - Advanced Pathophysiology](#)
- [NURS 5000 - Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Practice](#)
- [NURS 5010 - Health Policy and Systems](#)
- [NURS 5020 - Nursing Research](#)
- [NURS 5030 - Health Disparities: Issues and Strategies](#)

- [NURS 5100 - Seminar in Contemporary Practices in Nursing Care](#)
- [NURS 5110 - Practicum in Contemporary Practices in Nursing Care](#)

Concentration in Education

(14 units)

- [NURS 5200 – Teaching and Learning in Nursing](#)
- [NURS 5210 – Course Design and Evaluation](#)
- [NURS 5220 - Seminar in Nursing Education](#)
- [NURS 5230 - Practicum in Nursing Education](#)

Note:

In addition, students must complete 3 units of upper division 4000 level or graduate level elective course work, to be determined in collaboration with the graduate advisor.

Concentration in Gerontological Nursing

(14 units)

- [SOCL 4710 - Sociology of Aging \(3 units\)*](#)
- [NURS 5300 - Health Care and the Older Adult](#)
- [SW 5013 - Social Work Practice with Death, Grief, and Loss](#)

Note:

In addition, students must complete 3-5 units of upper division 4000 level or graduate level elective course work, to be determined in collaboration with the graduate advisor.

Concentration in Nursing Administration

(14 units)

- NURS 5240 - Role Development for Nursing Administration
- NURS 5250 – Practicum in Nursing Administration
- NURS 5260 – Seminar in Nursing Administration

Note:

In addition, students must complete 3-6 units of upper division 4000 level or graduate level elective course work, to be determined in collaboration with the graduate advisor.

Electives: Concentration in Education and Gerontological Nursing

A minimum of 3 units of course work from the following:

- EDMA 5220- Multimedia Development in Education (3 units)
- COMM 4130 - Communication and Aging (3 units)*
- COMM 4180 - Health Communication (3 units)*
- SW 5058 - Gerontological Social Work (3units)

Electives: Concentration in Nursing Administration

A minimum of 6 units of course work from the following:

- MGT 5310 Business Organization, Theory, and Behavior (3 units)
- MKT 5410 Marketing Management (3 units)
- OM 5630 Seminar in Quality and Productivity Management (3 units)
- ACC 5120 – Concepts in Accounting and Fraud Examination (3 units)
- COMM 4180 – Health Communication (3 units)*
- COMM 4190 - Conflict and Communication (3 units)*
- COMM 4115 - Communication for Leadership (3 units)*
- OM 4570 - Quality and Productivity Management (3 units)*
- PHIL 4401 Professional Ethics (3 units)*
- PHIL 4430 – Bioethics (F2) (3 units)*

Culminating Experience

(3 units)

- NURS 5270 – Culminating Experience Preparation (1 unit) *Required

- NURS 5980 – Comprehensive Examination (2 units)
- NURS 5960 - Graduate Project in Nursing (2 units)
- NURS 5990 - Graduate Thesis in Nursing (2 units)
- NURS 7005 - Continuing Thesis or Project
- NURS 7006 - Continuing Comprehensive Examination

Note:

In order to fulfill the 36-unit requirement, students must take one of unit NURS 5270 and two units of culminating experience (NURS 5960, 5980, or 5990). The graduate advisor approves all electives.

Updated 3/15/13
Approved 11/7/13
Effective Spring 2014

Requirements for Continuation in the Program

Requirements for Continuation in the Program

Students in the graduate nursing program must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in courses taken to satisfy the requirements of the degree. No grade lower than a “B-” will be accepted in courses taken to satisfy degree requirements. Students who fail to maintain a GPA of 3.0 will be placed on academic probation and will be notified of the conditions required for removal of probation.

Grading Scale

A	=	94-100%
A-	=	91-93%
B+	=	88-90%
B	=	85-87%
B-	=	82-84%
C+	=	79-81%
C	=	76-78%
C-	=	73-75% *any score below 73% is considered a failing grade
D+	=	70-72%
D	=	67-69%
D-	=	64-66%
F	=	< or = 63%

*Note: some instructors may choose to exclude plus or minuses in their scale. Please consult each instructor syllabus for grading scale.



**Part-Time Only
Nationally Accredited by CCNE**

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS
School of Nursing

Graduate Program - Nursing Education

Semester Offered	Fall Semester		Units
	1 st Year		
Fall	NURS 5000 Theoretical Foundations	3	
Fall	NURS 5030 Health Disparities	3	
	Total	6	
2 nd Year			
Fall	NURS 4900 Advanced Pathophysiology	3	
Fall	NURS 5200 Teaching and Learning in Nsg.	3	
	Total	6	
3 rd Year			
Fall	NURS 5220 Education Seminar	3	
Fall	NURS 5230 Education Practicum	2	
Fall	NURS 5970 Culminating Experience Preparation	1	
	Total	6	

Semester Offered	Spring Semester		Units
	1 st Year		
Spring	NURS 5010 Health Policy	3	
Spring	NURS 5020 Nursing Research	3	
	Total	6	
2 nd Year			
Spring	NURS 5100 Seminar in Contemporary Practice	2	
Spring	NURS 5110 Practicum in Contemporary practice	2	
Spring	NURS 5210 Curricula, Design, and Evaluation	3	
	Total	7	
3 rd Year			
Spring	Education Elective	3	
Spring	Culminating Project (5960), Comprehensive Examination (5980), Thesis (5990)	2	
	Total	5	

Graduate Program – Nursing Administration

Semester Offered	Fall Semester		Units
	1 st Year		
Fall	NURS 5000 Theoretical Foundations	3	
Fall	NURS 5030 Health Disparities	3	
	Total	6	
2 nd Year			
Fall	NURS 4900 Advanced Pathophysiology	3	
Fall	NURS 5240 Role Development for Nursing Administration	3	
	Total	6	
3 rd Year			
Fall	NURS 5250 Practicum in Nursing Administration	3	
Fall	NURS 5260 Seminar in Nursing Administration	2	
Fall	NURS 5970 Culminating Experience Preparation	1	
	Total	6	

Semester Offered	Spring Semester		Units
	1 st Year		
Spring	NURS 5010 Health Policy	3	
Spring	NURS 5020 Nursing Research	3	
	Total	6	
2 nd Year			
Spring	NURS 5100 Seminar in Contemporary Practice	2	
Spring	NURS 5110 Practicum in Contemporary Practice	2	
Spring	Administrative Elective	3	
	Total	7	
3 rd Year			
Spring	Administrative Elective	3	
Spring	Culminating Project (5960), Comprehensive Examination (5980), Thesis (5990)	2	
	Total	5	

Graduate Program - Gerontological Nursing

Semester Offered	Fall Semester	
	1 st Year	
Fall	NURS 5000 Theoretical Foundations	3
Fall	NURS 5030 Health Disparities	3
Total		6
2 nd Year		
Fall	NURS 4900 Advanced Pathophysiology	3
Fall	SW 5013 Practice with Death, Grief and Loss	3
Total		6
3 rd Year		
Fall	Gerontology Elective	3
Fall	SOCL 4710 Sociology of Aging	3
Fall	NURS 5970 Culminating Experience Preparation	1
Total		7

Semester Offered	Spring Semester	
	1 st Year	
Spring	NURS 5010 Health Policy	3
Spring	NURS 5020 Nursing Research	3
Total		6
2 nd Year		
Spring	NURS 5100 Seminar in Contemporary Practice	2
Spring	NURS 5110 Practicum in Contemporary Practice	2
Spring	NURS 5300 Health Care and the Older Adult	3
Total		7
3 rd Year		
Spring	Gerontology Elective	3
Spring	Culminating Project (5960), Comprehensive Examination (5980), Thesis (5990)	2
Total		5

The Master of Science in Nursing degree requires completion of 36 units distributed as follows:

1. Fifteen units of core courses,
2. Eighteen units of graduate coursework in a concentration or specialization including 3 to 6 units of elective course work at the undergraduate 4000 level or graduate level,
3. Students in all concentrations may choose between Project, Comprehensive Examination, or Thesis. This choice should be made early in the program. Students will consult with the graduate adviser for current policies.
4. Students completing a culminating experience option must participate in an oral presentation to complete the program.

The **BRIDGE Program** allows an Associate Degree Nurse (ADN) with a Registered Nurse (RN) license and a non-nursing Bachelor's degree to be admitted to the Masters of Science in Nursing program while taking bridge courses. These students are admitted under a provisional status that require the completion of the bridge course work prior to being fully admitted to the masters program. The current bridge courses include:

1. NURS 3000 Health Assessment,
2. NURS 4400 Community Health,
3. NURS 4410 Community Health Clinical, and
4. NURS 3310 Leadership and Management.

Availability of the bridging courses corresponds with the current ADN-BSN course roadmap and would not require additional courses.

Progression

The CSU, Stanislaus Masters of Science in Nursing can be taken only on a part-time basis. Students in the graduate nursing program must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in courses taken to satisfy the requirements of the degree. Students who fail to maintain a 3.0 GPA will be placed on academic probation.

Admission Criteria

The primary purpose of the Master of Science in Nursing is to develop skilled professionals able to assume positions of leadership, which contribute to the health, education, and social structure of the community, state, nation, and world. The core curriculum provides students with knowledge essential to all nurses prepared at the master's level. Graduates will be able to critique and evaluate research findings and to apply research findings in order to provide high quality care, initiate change, and implement evidence-based nursing practice. Students will have an understanding of health care policy, health care organizations, and financing of health care which will prepare them to assume leadership positions in an ever-evolving health care system. In addition, knowledge of ethical decision making principles and health disparity issues will help to assure that appropriate and sensitive health care is provided.

Students electing the concentration in education will be prepared to assume roles in nursing education in either an academic or service setting. The concentration in gerontological nursing will prepare nursing professionals to meet the growing demands of an aging population. Furthermore, specialization in this area will provide graduates with essential content to function as managers, providers, and organizers of health care for geriatric patients/clients. The concentration in Nursing Administration will prepare nurses for administrative roles such as Nurse Executive, Nurse Manager, Quality Improvement Manager, Ambulatory Care Manager, or other system level nursing positions in community agencies, health care facilities, health departments, and schools of nursing.

Requirements for Admission to the Graduate Program in the School of Nursing

1. Admission to the CSU Stanislaus Graduate School;
2. Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, if the Bachelor's degree is in a discipline other than nursing an Associate Degree in Nursing is also required;
3. Minimum of a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (on a 4.0 scale);
4. Current license to practice as a registered nurse in the state of California;
5. Successful completion (minimum grade of C) of an undergraduate statistics course;
6. Two professional references; and,
7. Résumé with cover letter indicating professional goals.

The School of Nursing Admissions Committee takes into consideration each of the requirements related to rendering an admission decision. Applicants who do not meet all of the requirements but whose credentials reveal potential ability for master's study are reviewed on an individual basis. Applicants may be required to fulfill specific prerequisites or other conditions of admission prior to an admission decision or may be admitted on a provisional basis. Provisional admission status requires the student to meet specific requirements before full admission status is granted. Students with an Associate Degree in Nursing and a Bachelor's degree in a non-nursing discipline will be admitted on a provisional basis and must complete 12 units of bridge courses prior to being fully admitted to the Master's program. Master's level courses are normally restricted to students admitted to the graduate program. With approval of the nursing graduate director, graduate core course work may be pursued prior to admission if the student has provisional admission status. Enrollment in graduate course work does not guarantee admission to the nursing program.

The Master of Science degree requires completion of 36 units distributed as follows:

1. Nineteen units of core courses;
2. Fourteen units of graduate coursework in a concentration or specialization including 3 to 6 units of elective course work at the undergraduate 4000 level or graduate level;

Students in all three concentrations may choose between Thesis, Project, or Comprehensive Examination. This choice should be made early in the program. Students will consult with the graduate adviser for current policies. Students choosing the Thesis, Project, or Comprehensive Examination will enroll in 3 units of culminating experience, which includes one unit of culminating experience preparation.

The School of Nursing Admissions Committee takes into consideration each of the requirements related to rendering an admission decision. Applicants who do not meet all of the requirements but whose credentials reveal potential ability for master's study are reviewed on an individual basis. Applicants may be required to fulfill specific prerequisites or other conditions of admission prior to an admission decision or may be admitted on a conditional basis. Conditional admission status requires the student to meet specific requirements before full admission status is granted. Masters level courses are normally restricted to students admitted to the graduate program. With prior approval of the nursing graduate director, a maximum of six semester credits of graduate core course work may be pursued prior to admission if the student has conditional admission status. Enrollment in graduate course work does not guarantee admission.

Applications to the program will be accepted in the spring semester (check website for due date).

Steps in Applying for Admission to the Program

1. File an application for admissions to California State University, Stanislaus through the Graduate School at www.csumentor.edu.
2. Request one (1) copy of official transcripts. One copy for all colleges/universities attended to be sent to the Graduate School.
3. Letters of recommendation may be sent directly to the School of Nursing, attention Graduate Assistant Director.

Processing of the Completed Application

Completed applications are reviewed and recommendations are made either to deny or to accept the application in one of three categories.

- i. Classified Standing
- ii. Provisional Standing
- iii. Classified Standing

Classified – Fully admitted, all admission requirements met.

Provisional- Candidate demonstrates strong potential for admission but needs to complete prerequisite coursework for the program. There is a clear expectation that students will achieve a

higher classification before their Provisional Classification expires after one term. If not, students must reapply to the program and justify their progress.

Conditionally standing will indicate areas to be cleared (i.e., missing GRE or MA scores) before classified standing is given. Conditions must be met during the first semester after admission.

*Incomplete applications are not acted upon.

Requirements for the Program

Requirements of the Masters in Science Degree

The program requires 36 units beyond the requirements for a bachelor's degree. The University residence requirement is at least 21 units. Students may transfer up to a maximum of 9 units of prior graduate course work (both nursing and non-nursing) when evaluated and found equivalent by the graduate faculty. The transfer units **may not** have been used previously to complete another post-baccalaureate degree. The program is designed for part-time study which can be completed in six semesters of study. Longer programs of study may be arranged but must follow an approved pattern. A maximum of seven years is allowed for completion of all degree requirements according to University graduate policy, including coursework taken prior to starting the CSU Stanislaus program.

Computer Requirement

Computers have become essential to graduate education. Computers are available for student use in the CSU Stanislaus Computer Laboratory on the campus. It is suggested that you would benefit from a computer and access to internet at home. Questions about minimal guidelines for purchasing a computer can be made to Office of Information Technology at 667-3687.

Program of Study

Core courses are not offered every semester or every year. Entering students will start with core courses and then functional courses. Refer to the Education and Gerontological Nursing curriculum roadmaps. The first and second year students will be in the core courses together. Students taking six units every semester will require at least six semesters to complete the program.

Academic Advising

The Graduate Assistant Director serves as the initial advisor to all students seeking admission to the program. Once admitted, a graduate faculty advisor may be appointed. Students should see their academic advisor as soon as possible after beginning the Graduate program. When the student has filed for candidacy and is ready to begin work on a project, comprehensive exam or thesis, a chairperson selected by the student in consultation with the Graduate Assistant Director and School of Nursing Chairperson will be appointed to supervise the student's project, comprehensive exam, or thesis research.

Advancement to Candidacy

Upon completion of twelve (12) units of graduate level work to be applied toward the Master's Degree, a student is eligible to apply for advancement to candidacy. It is highly recommended by the faculty advisors that as many of the core courses as possible be completed in the first twelve units. Elective units from other departments can also be included in the twelve units. All work to be credited toward the degree must be completed within seven years immediately prior to graduation. Candidacy is a term designating the status of a student whose program or degree has been formally approved by the Graduate Assistant Director. Students must advance to candidacy before registering for project, comprehensive exam, or thesis. In order to become a candidate, the student must: (1) meet the above unit requirements, (2) maintain a 3.0 GPA average, and (3) file an application.

Other Sources of Information

Progression and Graduation: www.csustan.edu/commencement	667-3598
Financial Aid: www.csustan.edu/financialaid	667-3363
Transcripts: Contact Enrollment Services	667-3264
Visa and Work Permits: Contact the International Program	667-3791
The Graduate School: www.csustan.edu/grad/	667-3129
CSU Stanislaus Writing Center: www.csustan.edu/writingcenter	667-3465

Required Forms

Changing from “Conditionally Classified to “Classified” Standing: Students who are admitted as conditionally classified students must apply for classified standing after the “conditions” on the “Graduate Admissions Recommendation Form” have been met. An “Application for Classification in a Master’s Degree Program: may be obtained from the Graduate School.

Advancement to Candidacy: An application for advancement to candidacy must be filed with the graduate studies office not less than four weeks prior to the beginning of the semester during which the student expects to register for a project, comprehensive exam, or thesis. Students will not be permitted to add a project, comprehensive exam or thesis, without an approved advancement on file in the Graduate School.

Application for Graduation: Students should apply for graduation by the scheduled deadline in the semester prior to graduation. Students may participate in May graduation exercises prior to completion of the project, comprehensive exam, or thesis. However, the diploma is issued after completion of the culminating work.

Repeat Petition: If it is necessary to repeat a required course, a petition must be approved prior to retaking the course.

Deviations from Regular Procedure: Students who a) wish to change the information on their Advancement to Candidacy or Graduation Application form after these documents have been processed; b) request an exception to the seven (7) year requirement for completion of the program; or c) otherwise need to request a deviation from regular procedure must file a “Student Petition for Exception to University-Wide Requirements”.

Extension of Seven Year Completion Deadline: Students who have maintained currency in a field and original course work was completed over seven years before the anticipated date of completing the master’s degree can file a petition to request an extension of the seven year limit. The student must also have a faculty person who currently teaches the content certify currency.

Protection of Human Subjects: Students who plan to complete a thesis which involves the use of human subjects must file an “Application for the University Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects.” See the CSU Stanislaus University Institutional Review Board (UIRB) web site <http://www.csustan.edu/UIRB> for forms.

Note: All forms mentioned in this section are available in the Graduate Studies Office and/or CSU Stanislaus web-site.

The BRIDGE Program

An Associate Degree Nurse (ADN) with a Registered Nurse (RN) license and non-nursing Bachelors of Science (BS) may be admitted provisionally to the School of Nursing Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) program. In addition to the courses for the masters program, BRIDGE students are required to complete bridge course work prior the end of the 3rd semester in order to progress in the masters program.

Students with an Associate Degree in Nursing and a non-nursing Bachelor's degree will also be required to complete the following bridge courses in order to continue to progress through the graduate program. In addition, students must pass the WPST prior to being admitted to the graduate program.

NURS 4000 Advance Health Assessment (3 units)
NURS 4400 Community Health (3 units)
NURS 4410 Community Health Clinical (3 units)
NURS 3310 Leadership and Management (3 units)

*Availability of the bridging courses would correspond with the current ADN-BSN roadmap (see next page)

In addition, students must pass the WPST prior to being admitted to the graduate program.

Updated 3/15/13
Approved 11/7/13
Effective Spring 2014



Revised 8/7/14

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, STANISLAUS

Nationally Accredited by CCNE
State Board of Registered Nursing

SCHOOL OF NURSING

RN to BSN Program

ROADMAP FOR FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME NURSING TRACKS

Full-Time Track

Semester offered	Fall Semester	Units
1st Year		
Fall	NURS3600 Transcultural Nursing	3
Fall	NURS4900 Pathophysiology	3
Fall	NURS3700 Introduction to Nrsrg. Research	3
	Total	9
2nd Year		
Fall & Spring	NURS4400 Community Health	3
Fall & Spring	NURS4410 **Community Health Clinical	3
Fall	***NURS4240 Seminar	2
Fall & Spring	NURS4210 Advanced Clinical Practicum	3
	Total	8 or 9

*** (Choose one)

Semester offered	1 st Year	Units
Spring	NURS3100 Professional Nursing ADN-BSN	3
Spring	NURS3310 *WP Leadership & Management	3
Spring	NURS4000 Health Assessment	3
	Total	9

Part-Time Track

Semester offered	Fall Semester	Units
1st Year		
Fall	NURS4900 Pathophysiology	3
Fall	NURS3700 Introduction to Nrsrg. Research	3
	Total	6
2nd Year		
Fall	NURS3600 Transcultural Nursing	3
Fall	NURS3310 *WP Leadership & Mgmt.	3
	Total	6
3rd Year		
Fall	***NURS4240 Seminar	2
Fall & Spring	NURS4210 Advanced Clinical Practicum	3
	Total	2 or 3

Semester offered	Spring Semester	Units
1st Year		
Spring	NURS4000 Health Assessment	3
Spring	NURS3100 Professional Nursing ADN-BSN	3
	Total	6
2nd Year		
Fall & Spring	NURS4400 Community Health Lecture	3
Fall & Spring	NURS4410 ** Community Health Practicum	3
	Total	6

*WP – Completion of the Writing Proficiency Screening Test (WPST) is a prerequisite for enrollment in a WP Course.

**Clinical course – 8 hour lab, daytime only. Students register for location. Location preference is not guaranteed.

***Students who are working in clinical practice at the time of taking NURS4240 may choose either NURS4240 or NURS4210. Students not working in clinical practice must enroll in NURS4210.

Admission:

The CSU, Stanislaus ADN to BSN program can be taken either on a full-time or part-time basis. Students on the full-time track will receive first priority in class enrollment in order to guarantee that they complete the nursing major in 3 semesters. Students who wish to complete the BSN on a part-time basis may proceed at their own pace; however, following the recommended track helps insure class availability. Class offerings, as presented, are dependent upon adequate enrollments.

RN to BSN students are admitted in the Fall semester only. Program admission is contingent upon meeting minimum requirements and passing a physical exam, drug screening and a background check. Students wanting to begin course-work in the spring are encouraged to take any required general education courses.

The following prerequisites must be completed prior to admission to the nursing program.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Oral Communication/Speech | Chemistry |
| Written English Composition | Microbiology |
| Critical Thinking/Logic | Anatomy |
| Statistics | Physiology |

The application period for admission to the nursing program is February 1st – 28th of each year for Fall entry into the program. Students must first apply to the university prior to applying to the nursing program. University admission is required before final acceptance to the School of Nursing. Space is limited and applicants will be admitted in the order in which the application is received.

How do I apply?

Step 1 - University Application – www.csumentor.edu See web site for deadline dates usually early Fall of the prior to School of Nursing application.

Step 2 - Supplemental School of Nursing Application – www.csustan.edu/nursing Accepted between **February 1st – 28th**

Students seeking to enter the program must have the following:

- A current license as a Registered Nurse in California
- Completed 60 semester units of baccalaureate-level transferable college credit
- Completed an AD or Diploma in nursing with a minimum of 30 semester units of nursing coursework, with a grade of C or better in each course
- Completed at least half of the University's General Education breadth requirements, including college-level English composition, statistics, and critical thinking, with a grade of C or better
- Complete an acceptable college-level statistics course of at least 3 semester units with a grade of C or better
- Gained admission to the University with an overall grade point average of 2.75 or better
- Gained admission to the School of Nursing. Program admission is contingent upon meeting minimum requirements and passing a physical exam, drug screening and a background check.

University Requirements

- Complete University General Education requirements for the Bachelor of Science degree, (51 units minimum including transferable General Education units.)
- Complete the major of 26 or 27 upper-division units.
- Complete 9 upper-division units, which meet the upper-division General Education requirements. Completion of a minor is not required.
- All prerequisite courses to enter the Nursing program must be completed with a grade of C or better.

Validation of Equivalent Course Work

In addition to the 26 or 27 units in the nursing major, the School of Nursing will allow up to 15 upper division units of validated credit for equivalent nursing course work completed in preparation for nursing licensure. Validation of these units will be allowed, by challenge, upon successful completion of:

NURS 3100 Professional Nursing ADN-BSN

NURS 4000 Health Assessment

NURS 3600 Transcultural Nursing Care

Note: See School of Nursing for validation process.



DUAL CONCENTRATION

A student may decide to complete two concentrations while progressing through the masters program, such as the education and administration or administration and gerontological nursing. Contact the Graduate Assistant Director for more information about requirements needed to complete a dual concentration. The dual concentration roadmaps are located on the Graduate Blackboard Forum.

*****If a dual concentration is selected as an option, the Graduate Assistant Director must approve of this option prior to the start of NURS5100 and NURS5110 courses.**

Health Policies and Requirements

Essential Functions of Nursing Health Policies and Requirements of the School of Nursing and Contract

Nursing students need to enter the nursing program with the knowledge and understanding that there are emotional, physical, and legal requirements for the practice of professional nursing. General requirements for the process follow below. This should serve as a practical guide for student in determining suitability of nursing as a career choice; however, health care employers and clinical agencies requirements may vary. Students will need to meet these qualifications in order to successfully meet nursing course requirements in the nursing program. The School of Nursing faculty will attempt to make reasonable accommodations for any students with qualifying disabilities; however, students need to assess their own capabilities in light of program expectations and future employability. The School of Nursing is not required to make modifications that would substantially alter the nature or requirements of the program. A student with questions regarding reasonable accommodations can contact the CSU Stanislaus Student Disability Services at 209-667-3159, MSR 210.

Emotional

Students must have sufficient emotional stability to perform under stress, and to make appropriate and quick decisions. Effective interpersonal skills are necessary in nursing. Students cannot have active substance abuse problems.

Physical

Students must have the strength and stamina to engage effectively in the following types of activities:

1. Work in a standing position, engage in a great deal of walking, lift and transfer patients, restrain patients, carry equipment, perform CPR
2. Bend, stoop, get down on the floor, move rapidly
3. Work up to a 12-hour shift
4. Use effective fine-motor movements needed for manipulating syringes, IV's, various mechanical devices and pumps, to assist patients, perform skilled procedures
5. Perform close and distant visual activities, which includes, seeing objects, persons, paperwork, the ability to discriminate depth and changes in skin color. Vision requirement is 20/20 corrected and distant vision 20/30 corrected.
6. Perform deep and superficial palpations, discriminate between hot and cold by touch
7. Effectively hear on the telephone, hear through the stethoscope with ability to discriminate sounds, hear and respond to auditory alarms on patient machinery or auditory stimuli in the work environment
8. Perform correct mathematical calculations for medication and treatment administration

9. Engage in clear, understandable oral and written English communication using appropriate grammar, vocabulary, and word usage

Nursing is a high-risk profession for exposure to communicable diseases. Immunizations and safety procedures can reduce such risks. Students with impaired or immune deficiencies are at greater risk.

Pregnant students will require written permission from their licensed health care provider in order to participate in the clinical setting.

Requirements

There are a number of requirements that must be current during the program. All of these requirements will be maintained by *you the student* at CertifiedBackgroundCheck.com. In order to setup your CertifiedProfile you will need to provide personal information such as your name, address and social security number. You will also need to have copies of your Immunizations or the ability to scan them directly into your profile, they may also be mailed or FAXED to BackgroundCheck.com. Finally, you will need a Visa or Mastercard to pay for your Requirement Package.

The various clinical settings require a background check and health clearance for all nursing students before placement in the clinical setting. The background check looks for any history of past misdemeanors or felonies. A past history of either can impact clinical placement. If clinical placement cannot be found for a student because of a failed background check, they cannot progress in the nursing program.

It is unknown at this time if the agencies will require a background check each semester, but it is a future possibility. The Requirement Package initially will cost a total of \$97.00 with an annual fee of \$20.00 to maintain your own personal and private profile. The components of the Requirement Package are as follows:

- The student background check costs \$42.00. They will check the county that you live in, and all other counties where you previously resided, including any other county. You are responsible for requesting and paying for the background check.
- The 10-Panel Urine Drug Screen costs \$35.00 and will be completed at any Quest Diagnostics Laboratory.
- The Immunization Tracker and Record Review costs \$20.00 yearly. The Tracker is the portion of the package that you update throughout the year, with yearly PPD or CXR clearance, Flu, and CPR renewal.
-

To place your order to begin building your personal certified profile you will need to log onto: www.CertifiedBackgroundCheck.com and click on “Students” then enter package code: **CJ78** – Background Check, Drug Test & Document Tracker. You will then be directed to set up your CertifiedProfile account. All of your results will be posted directly to your account.

Do NOT submit any of your personal requirements to the nursing office or nursing faculty.

Verification of the following requirements must be complete in your Certified Background Check, CertifiedProfile before 1st day of class.

1. Physical Exam Clearance and signed Health Evaluation Form can be found on the CSU Stanislaus PL Student Blackboard webpage for you to download to present to your provider. The *completed* Physical Exam Clearance form will need to be uploaded by you to your personal CertifiedProfile profile located at CertifiedBackgroundCheck.com.

The Student Health Center can complete an exam for you for \$10.00 (**cost subject to change**). Call 667-3396 to schedule an appointment if you are eligible to use their services (must be a current CSU Stanislaus student). Otherwise, schedule an appointment and take the forms to your private provider. Ask for the appropriate forms if you didn't receive them.

2. Immunizations – **Required (all costs are subject to change)**:
 - a. Tdap
\$35.00 at Student Health Services.
Td must be kept up-to-date throughout the program.
 - b. Hepatitis B-Vaccine or documented seropositive status
Students are responsible for obtaining the series of two or three vaccines or a titer. It takes 6 months to complete this process and must be complete (including titer) by the end of your first semester. \$30 per injection at the Student Health Center.
 - c. Varicella (Chicken pox)
Students must provide Varicella titer results to be admitted to any clinical setting. In the case of a negative titer, the student must have the series of two Varicella vaccines and show proof of the vaccine. This vaccination must be obtained at your local public health department or your private provider. The Health Center does not carry the vaccine. Titer is given in the Student Health Center for \$11.00.
 - d. MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella)
Evidence of two vaccines or seropositive status. Vaccine is \$50 at the Student Health Center. Titer is \$17.50 for the Measles, and \$3.50 for the Rubella.
 - e. Flu
Evidence of yearly flu vaccine is required throughout the nursing program. Vaccine is \$10 at the Student Health Center.
3. Immunizations – Recommended
 - a. Hepatitis A. Series of two vaccines, 6 months apart. \$25 for student at the Student Health Center.
 - b. Meningococcal, one dose. \$100.00 (price subject to change)
4. 2 Step PPD Skin Test or Chest X-ray

- a. After the initial 2 step, students must have an ANNUAL tuberculin skin test. PPD skin test is free at the Student Health Center. Obtain written clearance from the Health Center if you need an x-ray.
 - b. Those with a positive PPD or a history of a positive PPD must have verification of a negative x-ray within the last 3 years. Some clinical agencies will require proof of a negative x-ray every year. A written medical clearance stating the student is free from active tuberculosis is required yearly.
5. Urine Drug Screen – Will be completed at Quest Diagnostics Laboratories, information and the required form is located on the CertifiedBackground.com website.
 6. CPR for Health Care Professionals
Current CPR for health care professions must be in force throughout the program. Places to obtain certification will be announced.
 7. Health Insurance
Students must show proof of health insurance throughout the program. This is available through the University as well as through private insurance companies. Karen DeLeon at the Student Health Center handles the CSU Health Insurance. Call her at 667-3396 for more information.

Again, the deadline for submission of verification of the above is **prior to the first day of class**.

Students will need the following while enrolled in the nursing program, 1) PPD or evidence of freedom from tuberculosis, 2) current CPR for Health Care Professionals, 3) current health insurance, 4) current malpractice insurance, 5) current Td vaccination, 6) proof of immunity or vaccines for MMR and varicella, and Hepatitis B. There may be other requirements from the various hospitals that we will alert students about as they are phased in. We will strive to give students as much advance notice as possible. It is the student's responsibility to keep these mandatory requirements up-to-date. Requirements must be up-to-date for admission to any clinical.

Note: All prices listed are for CSU Stanislaus Health Center and are subject to change. Additional requirements may be needed upon request from the program director, School of Nursing, or an agency.

Legal

The Board of Registered Nurses and the local clinical agencies both have strict policies regarding many aspects of nursing that students must abide by. Each clinical rotation will have a mandatory orientation to the facility before students may engage in activities on site. Patient confidentiality will be strictly enforced in each agency.

Any illegal drug or substance use will not be tolerated. Students need to be aware that fingerprints and clearance by the Department of Justice (DOJ) may be required prior to any clinical rotations involving minors. When students apply to the BRN for licensure upon graduation, finger prints must be repeated and DOJ clearance given prior to RN licensure. Any past convictions may prevent obtaining a license to practice nursing. This issue is addressed on a case-by-case basis by the BRN, and the CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing has no jurisdiction in such matters. Refer to "Frequently asked questions regarding prior convictions and disciplinary

actions" in the Licensure/Certification section of the Board of Registered Nursing website at www.rn.ca.gov.

Professional Behavior

Students are asked to commit to professional behaviors on a daily basis. We are committed to create and maintain an engaging, nurturing, supportive, and safe environment for all nurses. Anything else decreases our ability to provide quality patient care and succeed as a nurse.

Unprofessional behavior includes (Vanderbilt, n.d.):

- a. Belittling someone's opinion or condescending language
- b. Negative or belittling nonverbal messages – deliberate rolling of the eyes, raising eyebrows, making faces
- c. Constant criticism, scapegoating, fault-finding
- d. Elitist attitude or unnecessary disruptions
- e. Angry or emotional outbursts
- f. Reluctance or refusal to answer questions
- g. Spreading rumors and or pitting others against each other.

In simple terms, unprofessional behavior may include anything that makes us “feel” uncomfortable, hurt, intimidated, threatened or “targeted” in any way and stands in the way of quality patient care and our success as a nurse (Vanderbilt, n. d.). CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing faculty are committed to creating and sustaining an environment that is free from unprofessional behavior. Students who do not adhere to these guidelines can be dismissed from the program.

Every student must have a policy in force for clinical rotations as per requirement of the clinical agencies. The School of Nursing will obtain group malpractice insurance for the class. The student will pay for the insurance annually through course fees.

Any illegal drug or substance use will not be tolerated. Students need to be aware that fingerprints and clearance by the Department of Justice (DOJ) may be required prior to any clinical rotations involving minors. In addition, when students apply to the BRN for licensure upon graduation, finger prints must be taken again and DOJ clearance given prior to licensure. Any past convictions may prevent one from obtaining a license to practice nursing. These are addressed on a case-by -case basis by the BRN, and the CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing has no jurisdiction in such matters. Refer to "Frequently asked questions regarding prior convictions and disciplinary actions" in the Licensure/Certification section of the Board of Registered Nursing website at www.rn.ca.gov.

Handbooks – Students handbooks are available on the PL, RN to BSN and Graduate forums. Please read the handbook by the end of the first week of class. Print and submit a signed copy of the statement of responsibility and acknowledgement of receipt of the handbook by the end of the first week of classes.

I verify that I have read and understand these policies and requirements of the CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing. I understand that failure to keep the requirements of the program up-to-date could result in denial to attend any clinical course and could result in dismissal from the nursing program.

Print Name

Sign Name

Date

*A copy of this form will be placed in your student file.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

California State University, Stanislaus
School of Nursing
Date Issued: 9/77

Title: Academic Dishonesty
General Student Policy
Last Revised: 5/05, 9/08, 4/10, 1/11

Academic Dishonesty

Purpose: To describe academic dishonesty and the consequences of engaging in academic dishonesty

Policy:

1. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams, plagiarism, fabrication, and using the same paper in different classes are examples of inappropriate conduct. Cheating includes all actions by a student that are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent or deceptive means. Plagiarism is a specific form of cheating which consists of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of others by misrepresenting the material so used as one's own work and includes using materials from sources such as books, articles, class notes, web sources, and audio video resources.
2. Such behavior is subject to discipline as described in Title 5, California Code of Regulation. A student may be expelled, suspended, or placed on probation for academic dishonesty. These penalties may include but are not limited to notification of the Coordinator of Student Discipline in the Office of Judicial Affairs and initiation of University disciplinary procedures. Consult the University Catalog under "Student Discipline" for more information.
3. The following guidelines (Lester, 1993) outline steps to avoid plagiarism:
 - a. Acknowledge borrowed material by introducing the quotation or paraphrase with the name of the authority. This practice serves to indicate where the borrowed materials begin and end.
 - b. Enclose within quotation marks all quoted material.
 - c. Make certain that paraphrased material is rewritten into your own style and language. The simple rearrangement of sentence patterns is unacceptable. Do not alter the essential idea of the source.
 - d. Provide specific in-text documentation for each borrowed item (requirements vary by fields. Check APA, MLA and other styles).
 - e. Provide a reference entry for every source cited in the paper.
 - f. Omit sources consulted but not used.
4. For more information on the University's policy regarding cheating and plagiarism, refer to the University Catalog (Policies and Procedures and Academic Standards).
5. The School of Nursing requires students to use the current American Psychological Association (APA format) to reference sources used in papers written for nursing courses.
6. A university Student Discipline: Academic Dishonesty Incident Report Form will be completed by the student's faculty involved in the incident and sent to the Coordinator of Student Discipline in the Office of Judicial Affairs. A copy of the report and all supporting evidence will be provided to the student.

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.) Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Lester, J.D. (1993). *Writing research papers: A complete guide*. New York: Harper Collins

College Publishers, (p. 130).

Office of Judicial Affairs website includes many resources: <http://www.csustan.edu/judicialaffairs/>

Student Discipline: Academic Dishonesty Incident Report Form:

<http://www.csustan.edu/English/documents/AcademicDishonestyIncident.pdf>

Title 5, California Code of Regulations. Sections 41301-41304:

<http://www.csustan.edu/judicialaffairs/documents/Student Code of Conduct.pdf>

University Catalog (Academic Standards):

<http://catalog.csustan.edu/content.php?catoid=9&navoid=345&returnto=search>

University Catalog (Policies and Procedures):

<http://catalog.csustan.edu/content.php?catoid=9&navoid=344&returnto=search>

Physical/Emotion/Legal Requirements Policy

California State University, Stanislaus
School of Nursing

Title: Physical/Emotional/Legal
Requirements
Date Issued: 9/83
Last Revised: 2/06, 4/11
Page: 1 of 3

Physical/Emotional/Legal Nursing Requirements

Purpose: To inform students of the physical, emotional, and legal requirements of nursing practice

Introduction:

The School of Nursing has policies in force above and beyond those of the University because nursing students are involved in patient/client care. Nursing students need to enter the nursing program with the knowledge and understanding that there are emotional, physical, and legal requirements for the practice of professional nursing. General requirements for the process follow below. This should serve as a practical guide for students in determining suitability of nursing as a career choice; however, health care employers, and clinical agencies may vary in their requirements. Students will need to meet these qualifications in order to successfully meet nursing course requirements in the nursing program. The School of Nursing faculty will attempt to make reasonable accommodations for any students with disabilities, and students need to assess their own capabilities in light of program expectations and future employability.

Policy:

Physical

1. Students must have the strength and stamina to engage effectively in the following types of activities:
 - a. Work in a standing position, engage in extensive walking, lift and transfer patients, restrain patients, carry equipment, perform CPR, apply effective pressure to bleeding sites
 - b. Bend, stoop, get down on the floor, move rapidly
 - c. Work up to a 12-hour shift
 - d. Effective fine-motor movements are needed for manipulating syringes, IV's, various mechanical devices and pumps to assist patients, performing skilled procedures
 - e. Perform close and distant visual activities which includes seeing objects, persons, paperwork (read font size of 6 or less), as well as to discriminate depth and color
 - f. Perform deep and superficial palpations, discriminate between hot and cold by touch
 - g. Effectively hear on the telephone, hear through the stethoscope with ability to discriminate sounds, hear and respond to auditory alarms on patient machinery or auditory stimuli in the work environment
 - h. Perform correct mathematical calculations for medication and treatment administration

- i. Engage in clear, understandable oral and written English communication using appropriate grammar, vocabulary, and word usage
2. Nursing is a high risk profession for exposure to communicable diseases. Immunizations and safety procedures can reduce such risks. Students with immune deficiencies are at a greater risk.
3. Pregnant students must notify clinical instructors of the pregnancy. Students must comply with each clinical agency's personnel policy regarding the length of time permissible to work during a pregnancy. Some clinical experiences are associated with risks to the pregnant student. Students are encouraged to weigh the risks prior to participation. Refer to the Required Documentation for Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Student policy for specific requirements for pregnant students.

Emotional

1. Students must have sufficient emotional stability to perform under stress, making appropriate and quick decisions. Effective interpersonal skills are necessary in nursing.

Legal

2. The Board of Registered Nurses and the local clinical agencies both have strict policies regarding many aspects of nursing that students must abide by. Each clinical rotation will have a mandatory orientation to the facility before students may engage in activities on site.
3. Patient confidentiality will be strictly enforced in each agency. A confidentiality agreement must be signed and placed in each student file.
4. Any illegal drug or substance use will not be tolerated. Students need to be aware that fingerprints and clearance by the Department of Justice (DOJ) is required upon graduation and could be required prior to any clinical rotations involving minors. In addition, when pre-licensure students apply to the BRN for licensure, fingerprints must be taken again and DOJ clearance given prior to licensure. Any past convictions may prevent one from obtaining a license to practice nursing. Past convictions are addressed on a case-by-case basis by the BRN; the CSUS Stanislaus School of Nursing has no jurisdiction in such matters.
5. Background checks on all students are required.
6. At the nursing orientation for all incoming nursing majors the website www.mybackgroundcheck.com is given to students along with an instruction/application sheet. It is the student's responsibility to complete the application and obtain a certification of verification. The certification of verification has a certificate number and shared password which indicate completion from My Background Check (MBC).
7. The student must give a copy of the certification of verification to the nursing office where it is kept in the student file, in a locked office, and the certificate number and shared password are entered into a School of Nursing data base.
8. At the initial student advising session, faculty insure that the background check has been completed.
9. For the agencies that require background checks, a list of students along with their certificate number and shared password is given to the agency. Each agency follows up as determined by their individual policies.
10. If a clinical placement cannot be found for a student due to a problematic background check, the School of Nursing will attempt to find an alternate placement. However, if the School of Nursing is unable to place the student in a clinical setting due to agency background check requirements, the student may not continue in the program since students must attend clinical to pass a clinical course.
11. Students are asked to commit to professional behaviors on a daily basis. We are committed to create and maintain an engaging, nurturing, supportive, and safe environment for all nurses. Anything else decreases our ability to provide quality patient care and succeed as a nurse. Unprofessional behavior includes (Vanderbilt, n.d.):
 - a. Belittling someone's opinion or condescending language
 - b. Negative or belittling nonverbal messages – deliberate rolling of the eyes, raising eyebrows, making faces
 - c. Constant criticism, scapegoating, fault-finding
 - d. Elitist attitude or unnecessary disruptions
 - e. Angry or emotional outbursts
 - f. Reluctance or refusal to answer questions
 - g. Spreading rumors and or pitting others against each other.

In simple terms, unprofessional behavior is anything that makes us “feel” uncomfortable, hurt, intimidated, threatened or “targeted” in any way and stands in the way of quality patient care and our success as a nurse (Vanderbilt, n. d.). CSU Stanislaus School of Nursing faculty are committed to creating and sustaining an environment that is free from unprofessional behavior. Students who do not adhere to these guidelines can be dismissed from the program.

12. The University has a grievance policy outlined in the University catalog. Please refer to the catalog for more information on filing student grievances.

Resources:

1. Rosenstein, A. H., O’Daniel, M. (2005). Desruptive behaviors and clinical outcomes: Perceptions of nurses and physicians. *American Journal of Nursing*, 105(1), 56-64..
2. Cipriano, P. F. Zero tolerance for disructive bahvior. *American Nurse Today*, 3(10).
3. Vanderbilt Nursing Promoting Professional (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.mc.vanderbilt.edu/root/vumc.php?site=vanderbiltnursing&doc=12678>
4. The American Nurses Association (ANA) Position Statement on “Zero Tolerance for Abuse.”

Culminating Experience

Culminating Experience (3 units)

NURS 5960 Graduate Project in Nursing (2 units)

NURS 5990 Graduate Thesis in Nursing (2 units)

NURS 5980 Comprehensive Examination (2 units)

NURS 7005 Continuing Thesis or Project (0 units)

NURS 7006 Comprehensive Examination (0 units)

NURS 5970 – Culminating Experience Preparation (1 unit) **Required*

Culminating Experience

A culminating experience is required for completion of the graduate program in nursing. Students may choose from one of three options: 1) thesis, 2) project, or 3) comprehensive examination.

The *thesis* is the written product of a systematic investigation of a significant problem in nursing. The thesis clearly identifies the problem, states major assumptions, explains the significance to nursing, proposes the sources for and methods of gathering information, collects and analyzes data, and offers a conclusion or recommendation. The thesis topic is developed, approved, and evaluated by the student's graduate committee. The finished product must demonstrate evidence of originality, critical and independent thinking, appropriate organization and format, and thorough documentation. The formal paper will demonstrate potential for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

The *project* is a comprehensive and significant undertaking appropriate to the practice of nursing. Completion of a project will provide the student with a body of evidence-based knowledge on a specific clinical question of significance to nursing. The project is developed, approved, and evaluated by the student's graduate committee. An example of an appropriate project:

Developing a Practice Improvement Project (PIP). The student will design and implement a population-based practice improvement project addressing identified practice-related problems or questions. This option strongly emphasizes collaboration between nurses and community agencies and includes working with an agency using practice data to provide answers, which are responsive to the needs of clinicians, administrators, and policy makers for improvement of programs or practices. This project can take the form of either assessment or outcome evaluation.

The finished product is expected to demonstrate originality, critical and independent thinking, and appropriate organization and format. The formal paper will demonstrate potential for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

The *comprehensive examination* is a written document that requires students to demonstrate mastery of coursework in their area of clinical expertise. Emphasis is placed on demonstration of the relevance of coursework for practice. Questions for the comprehensive examination are developed, approved, and evaluated by the student's graduate committee. The student prepares a written response to the

examination questions. The comprehensive examination evaluates the graduate student's ability to analyze and synthesize clinical and theoretical knowledge gained in their course of study. An example of an appropriate comprehensive examination:

1. Conducting and writing a systematic review of the literature. A systematic review of the literature should include: the problem statement and research questions, search strategy, sampling plan for identification of relevant studies including inclusion and exclusion criteria, systematic means of reviewing and evaluating the studies, data analysis, and conclusions based on the quality, quantity, and consistency of evidence.

The finished product is expected to demonstrate originality, critical and independent thinking, and appropriate organization and format. The formal paper will demonstrate potential for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Students completing a culminating experience option must participate in an oral presentation to complete the program.

Note: Once a student enrolls in the culminating experience, they must maintain continuous enrollment through registration in either NURS 7005 Continuing Thesis or Project, or NURS 7006 Continuing Comprehensive Examination.

Criteria for Completion

Criteria for completion of the program

The Master of Science degree requires completion of 36 units distributed as follows:

1. Nineteen units of core courses;
2. Fourteen units of graduate coursework in a concentration or specialization including 3 to 6 units of elective course work at the undergraduate 4000 level or graduate level;
3. Students in all three concentrations may choose between Thesis, Project, or Comprehensive Examination. This choice should be made early in the program. Students will consult with the graduate adviser for current policies. Students choosing the Thesis, Project, or Comprehensive Examination will enroll in 3 units of culminating experience, which includes one unit of culminating experience preparation.

Updated 3/15/13
Approved 11/7/13
Effective Spring 2014

Scholarships and Funding

Graduate Scholarships and Fee Waivers

Information regarding the Graduate Fee Waiver (2 half-time) can be located on the Masters Graduate Forum and on the Graduate Blackboard Forum.

Information regarding the Constantino and Clementia Demergasso Fellowship (2 half-time or full-time) can be located on the Graduate Blackboard Forum.

Information regarding other financial assistance opportunities is posted on the Graduate Blackboard Forum throughout the school year.

Graduate Assistant Director

Graduate Assistant Director

The School of Nursing has a Graduate Assistant Director who is the liaison between the Dean of the College of Science, the Graduate Council, the School of Nursing and the students. The responsibilities of the Graduate Assistant Director are as follows:

1. Advises students on program of study and assigns other faculty these duties.
2. Makes recommendations on admission of students to Graduate School.
3. Recommends action on petitions to the Graduate School.
4. Keeps advising information on all graduate students and supplies information about graduate students as requested by the Graduate School.
5. Assures observance of university regulations regarding graduate students, graduate study, and graduate courses.
6. Assists the School of Nursing in the construction and administration of the graduate program.
7. Assists students with format for final thesis, project, or culminating examination.
8. Assists graduate students in selection of research advisor.
9. Assists graduate students in the selection their culminating experience (thesis, project or comprehensive exam).
10. Communicates with the Graduate School regarding graduate program issues.

Communication

Blackboard

All students are required to use Blackboard to communicate with the graduate faculty. Course material is available on Blackboard. Refer to each class syllabi for details regarding the required access frequency. Refer to each class syllabus for more details.

Go to CSUSTAN Home Page (<http://www.csustan.edu>) click **Quicklinks**, select **Blackboard** and follow the directions [<http://www.csustan.edu/blackboard>]. A handout about how to use Blackboard is located on the Graduate Blackboard Forum.

Graduate Blackboard Forum

As a graduate student you will be required to check the Graduate Blackboard Forum on a regular basis. The Graduate Student Handbook can be located on the forum. Information regarding scholarships and other funding will be posted regularly on the Forum. Announcements will be posted routinely.

University E-mail

Once enrolled in the university and a university e-mail has been assigned the School of Nursing will only contact the student via their university e-mail. You are required to check your university e-mail regularly.

Graduate Bulletin Board

Bulletin boards are located outside of the School of Nursing. It regularly provides students with important information. All students are encouraged to check the bulletin boards frequently in order to keep up with what is happening in the School of Nursing and in the field of nursing in general. On the bulletin boards students will find information about assigned academic advisors, upcoming events such as such committee meetings, student functions, professional institutes, workshops, and meetings in the area, statewide, and national conferences; notices regarding pre-enrollment and enrollment in courses; information about scholarship grants and other student aids; announcements of graduate programs and educational opportunities overseas; and full-time job announcements. There is a bulletin board specific to graduate student information and it is located across from the nursing office.

California State University, Stanislaus School of Nursing

Student Handbook

This Handbook, for students in the graduate nursing program, focuses on policies and procedures intended to assist students and faculty on matters specific to progression through the program. Students are responsible for the contents of this Handbook. Receipt of this Handbook implies acceptance of the conditions of the policies herewith delineated.

At some time during a student's progression through the program, there may be policy changes. These policy changes will be distributed, in writing, during class periods and posted on the Masters Blackboard Forum. It is the student's responsibility to assure that arrangements are made to secure copies of any policy changes.

Please sign and return the receipt below to faculty.

RECEIPT OF HANDBOOK

I acknowledge that I have received access to the Graduate Student Handbook of the School of Nursing, California State University, Stanislaus. I understand that this Handbook is official notification of the policies and procedures applicable to my progress through the CSU, Stanislaus Nursing Program. I also understand that it is my responsibility to keep apprised of any change in policies related to students that occur during my progression through the program.

PRINT NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

(Print, sign and date and submit to School of Nursing Office)