UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
SCHOOL OF NURSING

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES AFFECTING THE
SCHOOL OF NURSING

TITLE OF POLICY: CLINICAL HOURS FOR PRELICENSURE COURSES

ORIGINAL DATE: MAY 2000

LAST REVIEWED/REVISED: APRIL 2008

POLICY: Faculty will schedule students for the number of clinical hours required as determined by the number of clinical credits. If students are absent on these days, refer to Policy #45, Attendance.

PROCEDURE: Faculty will schedule a maximum of one (1) clinical day for end-of-rotation evaluations.

Faculty will schedule a maximum of one (1) clinical day for orientation to the clinical unit unless there are circumstances that require a longer orientation period. When these circumstances exist, faculty will notify the Department Chair in writing of the total amount of time to be used for orientation and rationale for this need.

PROCEDURE: The total number of required clinical hours will be designated on the course syllabus. See below:
Traditional Prelicensure Program | CLINICAL HOURS
---|---
NUR 0080 Foundations of Nur Prac 1 | 90
NUR 0081 Foundations of Nur Prac 2 | 45
NUR 0082 NUR Mgt Adults w/Acute/Chronic | 180
NUR 1050 NUR Care of Mothers, Newborns | 112.5
NUR 1052 NUR Care Child & Families | 112.5
NUR 1054 Nursing Care of Older Adults | 45
NUR 1060 NUR Care of Clients w/Psyc MH | 112.5
NUR 1120 NUR Adv Nur Mgt Adults w/Acute Complex | 112.5
NUR 1121 Adv Clinical Problem Solving | 90
NUR 1128 Community Health Nursing | 112.5
NUR 1133/N1134 Transitions into Prof Nursing | 270
**TOTAL** | **1282.5**

Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program

NUR 1281 Foundations of Nur Pract 1 | 150
NUR 1282 Nur Mgt Adults w/Acute/Chronic | 180
NUR 1250 Nur Care of Mothers, Newborns | 30
NUR 1252 Nur Care Child & Families | 90
NUR 1260 Nur Care of Clients w/Psyc MH | 90
NUR 1220 NUR Adv Nur Mgt Adults w/Acute/Complex | 150
NUR 1221 Adv Clinical Problem Solving | 60
NUR 1227 Community Health Nursing | 30
NUR 1233 Transitions into Prof Nursing | 180
**TOTAL** | **960**

The number of required clinical hours is calculated as follows:

No. of clinical credits x ratio x 15 = total required hours. This number is then divided by the number of clinical weeks that will be scheduled during the term. The ratio is 1:3 for students in the Traditional Prelicensure Program and 1:4 for students in the Accelerated 2nd Degree BSN Program.

For example, the calculation for N0080 which has 2 clinical credits would be:

2 credits x 3 (ratio) x 15 weeks = 90 / 14 weeks = 6.4 hrs/day over 14 weeks

The number of weeks each term that are available for clinical will vary depending on the University calendar. Faculty will account for variability in term length by adjusting the number of hours assigned each day to achieve the total number of hours designated in the above table.

Approved by Dean’s Council 3/28/00
Reviewed: 4/05, 07/08
Revised: 04/08