

“Nursing – The Heart of Health Care”



NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING

**NEWS UPDATES
SPRING 2008**

21 December 2007

Dear NMSU BSN Student:

We hope you are enjoying your Winter Break and will return prepared for classes to begin in the upcoming Spring 2008 semester. In anticipation of the new year and new semester, we will update you on changes we can foresee and provide a current schedule of the activities we have planned. We sometimes have the need to make changes to schedules but we will make every attempt to notify you whenever possible.

NOTE CHANGE IN RETURN DATE

As nurses and future nurses, we know that preparation is important. Therefore; all students will report back on Monday, 14 January 2008, **two days before** classes begin on 16 January 2008 (Wednesday) so that we can all be prepared for class and clinical work to begin promptly. Note the following:

MONDAY 1/14/08

Dosage and Calculation exam for all students
(except the students entering 5th semester) in Hardman Hall, Room 106
0830-1000

BSN Assembly - Hardman Hall, Room 106 10AM TO 12noon
Attendance at the Assembly is mandatory and roll will be taken.
Failure to attend could result in grade consequences in one of your classes.

HESI (Health Education Systems Inc.): Standardized HESI Testing is planned for each semester. This testing is mandatory. The use of these scores for diagnostic and/or assessment of course learning objectives will be at the discretion of semester faculty administering the tests. For 8th semester students, a passing score of 850 on the HESI Exit Examination is required prior to entry into the clinical preceptorship.

Email Accounts & Global ID for WebCT: If you do not have an NMSU University email account, sign up for one as soon as possible. The Email account address is: <http://www.nmsu.edu/ONLINE> We will be using your official NMSU email address for communications and you are responsible for items announced through this route. Check with Computing and Networking if you would like to connect your NMSU email with your home email.

Scholarships: The next application period for nursing scholarships will be in January/February 2008. Information regarding these scholarships is available in the CHSS Dean's office (CHSS 310) and on the CHSS website. Congratulations to those of you who received awards. Keep up the good work!

BSN Handbook Changes: The BSN Handbook contains the latest changes for BSN students and is available on the department website. You should review the handbook each semester as you are responsible for any changes that have been made.

Nursing Courses: A copy of the nursing courses with dates, times and locations as currently planned is attached to this letter. They are subject to change.

Student Nurses Association: The Student Nurses Association (SNA) is VERY active at NMSU and continues to need everyone's support. Information about SNA will come to you through your NMSU email, so check frequently. If you are not on the student list serve or need additional information, please contact:

Celia Daggett
NMSU, SNA President
Email: celiad@nmsu.edu

Clinical Uniforms: Clinical uniform policies are published in the BSN Handbook available online. Until changes are made, we will be following the policy explained below. Be aware that the Landau name for the color burgundy is "wine".

Uniforms / Personal Appearance

The NMSU School of Nursing student uniform consists of the following (which may be purchased locally or ordered from companies by the student):

1. **Pants:** Burgundy scrub pants in Landau brand (style # 8320, 8501 or 8555).
 2. **Shirts:** at least one white polo shirt in Landau brand (style # 620) and at least one white scrub shirt in Landau brand (style # 8219 or 7502). For entering students in Semester 5, you will need to have the white scrub shirt and burgundy (wine) pants ready for the first labs/clinical.
- If a shirt is worn under the uniform top, it has to be white, round collared, and short sleeved (or long sleeved with permission of the Instructor).
3. **Lab Coats:** A white lab coat that has a collar, mid-length (to cover the shirt), and long sleeves. The NMSU Nursing patch is sewn onto the left sleeve one (1) inch below the shoulder seam. The patch can be purchased at the NMSU Bookstore.
 4. **Shoes:** All-white, all-leather, fluid resistant shoes with closed toes and heels are required.
 5. **Socks:** All white socks or hose that cover the ankles.
 6. **Name Tags:** School of Nursing name tags will be distributed to all new students early in the semester. Students who need a replacement name tag, should contact Las Cruces Trophy & Awards Center (505-522-0426) to individually purchase their name tag at their expense. The maroon tag will have the following engraved in white lettering:

(Legal Name)
BSN Student Nurse

It is your responsibility to be in proper uniform for every clinical experience. We recommend two sets of uniforms, as generally you will have two clinical days per week. If you have any questions about the uniform, please call the School of Nursing (505-646-3812). There are no exceptions to the uniform policy. Uniform items are to adhere to the New Mexico State University Nursing Student guidelines specified by the Department.

Accessory items include:

1. Wristwatch (one with a second hand).
2. Bandage scissors.
3. Pocket-size notebook.
4. Black pen and pencil.
5. Stethoscope (however, wait until Health Assessment before purchasing).

NOTE: all of these items are available at the NMSU Bookstore.

Clinical Clearances: All nursing students are required to have up-to-date immunizations and current Basic Life Support for health care providers/CPR certification. Any immunizations, drug screenings, background checks, CPRs, PPDs, Agency Orientations, etc. that come due during the Fall or Spring semester must be updated on the due date prior to the semester they expire. For example, if any clinical requirement expires before the last day of the Fall

Semester, it must be updated by July 1. If you have anything due in the Spring Semester, it must be updated by November 1. **Written verification** must be submitted to the BSN Secretary prior to or by the close of business on July 1 or November 1. **NOTE: If Clinical Clearances are not current by those dates, students may not register for coursework until clinical clearances are complete. The student will be responsible for late registration fees.**

Students are responsible for maintaining current health records and copies for their personal files.

CLINICAL CLEARANCE DATES	
SEMESTER	DUE DATE
Fall Semester	July 1
Spring Semester	November 1

Influenza Vaccine: We encourage you to obtain an Influenza Immunization. This will protect you and prevent you from transmitting the virus to your patients.

Clinical Requirements

The variety of clinical sites used means that we must comply with each facility's clinical clearance requirements, including drug testing and criminal background checks. Drug testing may be randomly required after admission to the nursing program. **If there is a break in nursing coursework for any reason, an updated criminal background check will be required.**

Agency Orientations (Each agency requires annual updates.):

1) **Memorial Medical Center:**

Online orientation must be completed annually.

Online address is: <http://www.mmcEonline.com>

Then click on: Orientation for students and travelers.

When you complete the orientation, you will be issued verification of orientation completion.

NOTE: Bring a copy of the certificate to the BSN Secretary for your NMSU file. Retain a copy for your own records!!!

2) **Mountain View Regional Medical Center:**

Mountainview orientations will be scheduled through course leads for each clinical semester.

3) **El Paso Citywide Online Orientation**

All BSN students must take the online city-wide orientation for El Paso facilities. This orientation can be found at <http://epcc.edu/nursing/cwo>. Print a copy of your completion certificate and bring a copy to the BSN Secretary for your NMSU file. Your clinical clearance requirements are not complete until this orientation is documented in your files. Retain a copy for your records.

Dosage Calculation Examination:

Students in traditional and Roadrunner prelicensure programs must pass a dosage/calculations examination prior to starting their clinical rotations. Information about the Dosage Calculation Requirements has also been posted on the list serve and the School of Nursing Home Page (<http://www.nmsu.edu/~nursing/>). Dosage Calculation guidelines include: 1) The exam will be in a multiple choice format, 2) All students will receive NMSU email notification of pass or retake, and 3) There will be one exam VIEWING of your results for those re-taking the exam. New Semester 5 students do not take the Dosage/Calculation Exam since they are taking the Dosage/Calculation Course during the fifth semester.

Students will receive notification of Pass/Retake through their nmsu.edu email by the evening of 14 January 2008. The BSN Secretary will not divulge student exam results so please do not ask. Make sure your nmsu.edu email address is correct and on file with our BSN office.

Textbook Information: If you should need textbook information before the beginning of the semester, contact the instructors of the courses for information.

Semester Updates: Following you will find updates for each semester, so dust off your calendars as we will have a busy fall semester. For your convenience, a course schedule is available on the NMSU School of Nursing homepage. Do check the homepage periodically as there may be updates throughout the summer. Also watch your NMSU email for changes. We **will not** use your home email address for official notifications from the SON. You may connect your NMSU email to your home email. Contact Computing and Networking for specifics.

Semester/Course Information

Semester 5

- Review Anatomy and Physiology, Growth and Development
- Review basic math (fractions and decimal), basic algebra (solving for X), metric system (basic conversions such as the number of millimeters in a centimeter) and the English system of conversion (ie, pints, cups, teaspoons...)
- For N302 please read Chapters 1-10 of the Wilson & Giddens Health Assessment Textbook. Specifically read about Blood Pressure, Temperature, Pulse and Respiration for the first lab practicum.
- Purchase uniforms and equipment (not stethoscopes)

Semester 6

- The first course topic is Perioperative. Read Chapters 7, 20,21, 22, and 29 in Ignavious and Workman.
- Review the assessment video at the Ignavious and Workman website (Evolve website).

Semester 7

- Review A&P of cardiac and respiratory systems prior to class.
- Review reproductive A&P prior to class. The correct required textbook is the second edition (2007) of London, Ladewig, Ball and Bindler's Maternal and Child Nursing Care.

Semester 8

- Students will undergo standardized testing using the HESI Exit Exam prior to placements in N479 preceptorship clinicals.
- Students must pass this exam with a minimum score of 850 and make take the exam up to three (3) times.
- Students who do not obtain the minimum score of 850 by the 3rd testing attempt will not progress to the clinical preceptorship and will receive a failing score for the N479 course.

8th Semester students will meet with Ms Radasa on the day of the School Assembly. If you have questions before then, please contact her at tradasa@nmsu.edu.



Esperanza Villanueva-Joyce, EdD, RN
Associate Dean for Nursing Education and
Director, School of Nursing
New Mexico State University

Copy: Faculty and BSN File

Attachments: First Week Activity Calendar
Spring 2008 Course Calendar

New Mexico State University School of Nursing
4 (yr) BSN and Accelerated (RR) Students
First Week Activity Calendar

DATE	ACTIVITY	COMMENTS
<p>14 January 2008 Monday</p>	<p>Dosage and Calculation Exam 0830-0930 Hardman 106</p> <p>BSN Assembly Hardman Hall, Room 106 1000-1200 pm</p> <p>Semester Meetings All students meet with their respective faculty groups</p> <p>1200-1500 Mandatory Meeting for Semester 5 CHSS 226 1200-1500</p> <p>6th Semester Room TBA</p> <p>7th Semester Hardman 106</p> <p>8th Semester Hardman 101 and 104 Per groups</p> <p>Faculty only Semester Team meetings to follow</p>	<p>NOTE: New Semester 5 students do not take the Dosage and Calculation Exam.</p> <p>MANDATORY (Semesters 6-8 and RoadRunner students) Guidelines for the Dosage and Calculation Exam have been posted on the student list serve and SON Home Page for your convenience. You need to bring your own #2 pencils. Calculators will be provided. All other items will be checked at the entrance door. Do NOT bring water bottles, telephones, calculators, etc. No one will be allowed to exit and re-enter the room once the exam has begun, so attend to ALL needs prior to beginning the exam. Students will be asked to turn in their exam and leave if there is talking, signaling or cell-phone use during this exam.</p> <p><i>**If this exam conflicts with a non-nursing NMSU class or you have specialized testing needs, you MUST contact Mrs. Dasing by email: ldasing@nmsu.edu no later than 10 January 2008 to make alternate arrangements.</i></p>
<p>Tuesday 15 January 2008</p>	<p>Dosage Exam Viewing 1200-1300 Room 226</p>	<p>For students retaking dosage and calculation exam.</p>
<p>Wednesday 16 January 2008</p>	<p>Coursework begins All scheduled Wed classes will meet today</p> <p>Dosage and Calculation Exam #2 CHSS Room 226 1500-1600</p>	<p>MANDATORY for those who did not pass the first exam</p>
<p>14 December 2007</p>	<p>Nursing Recognition Ceremony</p>	<p>The Nursing Recognition Ceremony is for graduating 4 year BSN students, RN to BSN students, Roadrunner students and MSN students, families and friends.</p>

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING

Spring 2008 Class and Clinical Schedule

As of 21 December 2007 (Schedule Subject to Change)

Semester	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5	N300 Principles Lab – 6:30-15:30	N328 Pathophysiology Dr. Schultz CHSS 226 0800-0950 N300/4c Principles Lecture Ms.Leon/ Ms. Bonkrud CHSS 226 1030-12:20	N326 Pharmacology Ms. Pase Room CHSS 226 0800-1150 N302 Health Assess (lecture) Dr. Ryberg Hardman 114 1230-1420	N328 Pathophysiology Dr. Schultz CHSS 226 0800-0950 N300/4c Principles Ms.Leon/ Ms. Bonkrud CHSS Rm 226 1030-1220	N302 Health Assessment lab 2 groups CHSS 118, 120, and 126 0800-0950 N302/1c Health Assessment lab 2 Groups CHSS 118, 120, and 126 1000-1150
6	N373 Psych (lecture) Dr. Schultz MH 169 0800-1050 N375 Research Dr. Keele MH 169 1130-1420	N373 Psych (lab) 0630-2300 N372 AH I Lab 0630-2300	N373 Psych (lab) 0630-2300 N372/4c AH I Lab 0630-2300	N373 Psych (lab) 0630-2300	N372 AH I Dr. Mullins, Ms. Wallace MH 169 0800-1150
7	N416 Older Adults Ms. Wallace 1330-1520 GT 336	N410 AH II Lab 0630- 1100 N415 PCN lab 0630-1930	N410 AH II Lab TBA 415 PCN lab 0630-1930	N415 PCN lab 0800-1500 Room TBA	N415 PCN Ms. Dasing Time TBA Hardman 208 N410 AH II lecture Ms Smith Time TBA Hardman 216
8	N472 CHN Dr. Keele Room TBA 1300-1600 M-T Per groups N479 Complex Care Ms. Radasa 1330-1520 Room TBA N470 Organization and Management Room TBA Dr. Keller	N472 CH Lab (10 weeks) 0730-1730	N472 CH Lab (10 weeks) 0730-1730	N472 CH Lab (10 weeks) 0730-1730	