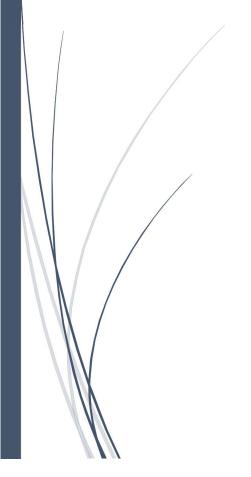


Nursing Student Handbook

Effective Spring 2023

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs





Welcome to the Methodist College Nursing Program

Dear Methodist College Nursing Student,

Welcome to the Nursing Programs at Methodist College! We are delighted that you are continuing your education with us and are excited to grow with you as you contribute to our learning community at Methodist. This is a time to reflect, grow, and excel! Learning is driven by you own curiosity, desire for achievement, and commitment to personal growth.

Our dedicated nursing faculty at Methodist College are invested in your success and view you as a partner in your own learning. We encourage you take advantage of your opportunity to learn from, and with, these scholars. Studying nursing is a growth producing experience; what you receive will be commensurate with the effort you invest.

Opportunities after graduation with your nursing degree may take you on a variety of exciting paths. You may find yourself practicing in a hospital, within a community, school, or clinical setting. You may advance into a leadership position in a healthcare organization, or you may continue your studies! Your nursing degree is your passport to a new level of opportunity, and we are thrilled you are at Methodist College!

The faculty, staff, and administration of Methodist College welcome you on your academic journey. We wish you the best as you develop your knowledge and experience in becoming a 21st century healthcare professional in the diverse population of people we serve.

Sincerely,

Dr. Blanca Miller, Ph.D., RN *Dean of Nursing*bmiller@methodistcol.edu
(309) 671-2909

Ms. Shelley Riney, MSN, RN *Chair of Nursing Programs* sriney@methodistcol.edu (309)-573-7801

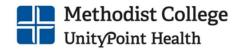
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Our Accreditation



7600 N. Academic Drive Peoria, IL 61615 Phone: 309-672-5513 http://www.methodistcol.edu

Accredited by:

THE HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500 Chicago, IL 60604-1411 Phone: 800-621-7440 / 312-263-0456 http://www.hlcomission.org/

The Baccalaureate degree in Nursing Program and Master's Degree in Nursing Program at Methodist College is accredited by:



THE COMMISSION ON COLLEGIATE NURSING EDUCATION

655 K Street NW Suite 750 Washington, DC 20001 Phone: 202-463-6930 Fax: 202-785-8320

www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

1 N. Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 333 Springfield, IL 62701-1377 Phone: 217-782-2551 www.ibhe.org

How to Register a complaint with IBHE

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

320 West Washington, 3rd Floor Springfield, IL 62786 Phone: 1-888-473-4858 www.idfpr.com

Methodist College is approved by the State of Illinois to administer the Basic Nurse Assistant Training Program and Nurse Aide Competency Exam.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION AND TRAINING SECTION

525 W Jefferson St., 4th Floor Springfield, IL 62761 www.nurseaidetesting.com

About our Mission, Vision, and Goals

Mission Statement

Methodist College is committed to providing quality educational programs that promote holistic development, civic engagement, and community service to a diverse student population of future healthcare and human services professionals.

Vision Statement

Methodist College will be the premier college of choice for excellence in Health Science and Human Service education within the Midwest.

Values

Healthcare professionals are guided by strong core values. At Methodist College, faculty, staff, and students are dedicated to our values.

Human Dignity

Unconditional respect for the inherent worth, uniqueness, and autonomy of individuals.

Integrity

Displaying strong moral character and acting in accordance with accepted standards of behavior and an appropriate code of ethics.

Inquiry

An active process of exploration and investigation that leads to understanding and construction of knowledge throughout one's life.

Social Justice

Acting in accordance with fair treatment regardless of gender, economic status, race, religion, ethnicity, age, citizenship, disability, or sexual orientation.

Institutional Goals

The faculty and staff of Methodist College are dedicated to achieving the following goals:

- 1. Create and support a positive, student-centered learning environment.
- 2. Provide quality instruction and programs.
- 3. Create quality student support services and programs.
- 4. Recruit and retain a diverse, qualified workforce.
- 5. Promote fiscal responsibility and accountability.
- 6. Provide adequate resources to support institutional mission.
- 7. Recruit and retain a qualified, diverse student body.
- 8. Develop collaborative relationships for the benefit of the community.

Methodist College Diversity Statement

METHODIST COLLEGE IS AN INSTITUTION THAT EMBRACES A DIVERSE COMMUNITY COMMITTED TO THE EQUITY OF ALL DIMENSIONS AND DEMOGRAPHICS. WE STRIVE TO PRODUCE AN ENVIRONMENT OF SAFETY, COMFORT, RESPECT, AND CIVILITY TO PROMOTE PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH, AS WELL AS CULTURAL AWARENESS.

UnityPoint Health FOCUS Values

Methodist College, as an institution under the UnityPoint Health umbrella, embraces UPH FOCUS values:

F - FOSTER UNITY

Use the skills and abilities of each person to enable great teams. Collaborate across departments, facilities, business units, and regions. Seek to understand and are open to diverse thoughts and perspectives.

O – OWN THE MOMENT

Connect with each person, treating them with courtesy, compassion, empathy, and respect. Enthusiastically engage in our work. Be accountable for our individual actions and our team performance. Take responsibility for solving problems, regardless of origin.

C – CHAMPION EXCELLENCE

Commit to the best outcomes and highest quality. Have a relentless focus on exceeding expectations. Believe in sharing our results, learning from our mistakes, and celebrating our success.

U – UNITYPOINT HEALTH

S - SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

Embrace and promote innovation and transformation. Crate partnerships that improve care delivery in our communities. Have the courage to challenge the status quo.

Methodist College Nursing Philosophy and Outcomes

NURSING PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY FOR ALL GRADUATES

Methodist College prepares the graduate to practice as a professional nurse generalist, independently and collaboratively with other health professionals, to promote health, prevent disease, and to attain, maintain, or restore wellness. The comprehensive education program serves as a foundation for both holistic nursing practice and lifelong learning.

Members of Methodist College are guided by the values that enhance nursing care and nursing practice: Social Justice, Inquiry, Human Dignity, and Integrity. The philosophy guides faculty and nursing students in beliefs about major concepts in nursing and nursing education, the complexity of the healthcare environment, and the influence of external and internal systems on human functioning. The conceptual basis of the philosophy is further defined to provide clarity and to promote understanding as a cognitive model for educating professional nurses in the 21st century.

PERSON

The person is made up of knowledge, skills, specialties, prior experiences and learned characteristics within five dimensions of being: Physiological, psychological, sociocultural, developmental, and spiritual. Person is defined over the course of the lifespan. The person is a holistic system consisting of interrelationships of all five dimensions interacting with the internal and external environments. Person also includes the family, friends, and groups in which the person is involved. The person participates in the coordination and performance of healthcare and healthcare education.

ENVIRONMENT

Florence Nightingale first established the significance of environmental factors in relation to health in the 1860's. The environment constitutes all internal and external conditions, circumstances and influences surrounding and affecting a person. The relationship between the person and the environment is ongoing and reciprocal. A client's interaction within a specific environment may have either positive or negative effects on the client's health and healthcare needs. Nursing takes place in a variety of settings: home care, community care, acute care and within the context of global healthcare concerns. Nursing professionals must understand the significance of internal and external environmental diversity as they care for each unique client and prioritize the client's needs for care. This may be accomplished through observation of cues, formulation, and evaluation of hypotheses, taking action, and evaluating the outcomes of nursing care.

HEALTH

Health is a dynamic state of well-being experience on a continuum ranging from optimal health to death. A reciprocal interaction exists between a person (family and associated groups) and the internal and external environments to produce a state of health. Health fluctuates across the person's lifespan from a state of optimal wellness when all needs are met to an alteration in health with unmet needs. Alterations in health are manifested within the five dimensions (physical, psychological, spiritual, developmental, and sociocultural).

NURSING

The faculty at Methodist College recognize nursing is both a caring and learned profession that is an art and a science in which nurses recognize and analyze cues to prioritize client needs in order to make clinical decisions and evaluate outcomes (NCSBN Clinical Judgment Model, 2019).

The professional nurse is guided by a code of ethics and professional standards of practice. The roles for the nurse are derived from the discipline of nursing and include:

- 1. Provider of Care
- 2. Designer/Manager/Coordinator of Care
- 3. Member of the Profession
- 4. Lifelong Learner

Within these roles, professional nursing includes being an educator, a communicator, and an advocate. Professional nursing development involves a commitment toward advancement of the body of knowledge within nursing and healthcare.

NURSING EDUCATION

Nursing education is a dynamic process that focuses on safe and effective culturally appropriate, and evidence-based client care. Critical analysis enables the learner to recognize meaningful cues to take appropriate actions in a variety of situations and to evaluate the outcomes. The student is a self-directed adult learner that is provided the opportunity to build knowledge, skills, and attitudes. The nursing curriculum at Methodist College prepares the professional nurse generalist to be a successful leader in providing holistic care, understanding the healthcare environment, and adapting to meeting the challenges of the world. The faculty serve as resources, facilitators, and mentors. Faculty feel that learning is best fostered in a discovery-based environment with collaboration between faculty and students that promotes mutual respect.

UNDERGRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Upon completion of a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Methodist College, students have mastered these four learning areas and associated key themes as defined in *The Essentials'' Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education*®.

- 1. **Enact the Professional Role in Nursing**: Formation & cultivation of a sustainable professional nursing identity, accountability, perspective, collaborative disposition & comportment that reflects nursing's characteristics, norms & values (AACN Entry Level Essentials, 2021).
- 2. **Providing Holistic Care**: Integrate evidence-based practice in providing safe, effective, and culturally appropriate nursing care in partnership with a diverse clientele in order to promote health, prevent disease, and to attain, maintain, or restore wellness. Promotion of optimal client outcomes is best accomplished within an environment of respect, caring, and compassion.
- 3. **Understanding the Healthcare Environment**: Practice professional nursing in a variety of healthcare systems and contexts, responding to influences and determinants that impact delivery and outcomes of care within institutions, organizations, and agencies.
- 4. **Adapt to Challenges in Healthcare**: Practice professional nursing that embodies a spirit of, and commitment to, inquiry and community to continually improve nursing practice, client care, and health delivery systems.

GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the Master of Science in Nursing: Nurse Educator program, the graduate will be able to:

1. **Professional Development** (Disciplinary excellence)

- Integrate theories from nursing, healthcare, education, leadership and related fields to the care of individuals, communities, education of students and patients and the practice of leadership.
- Critically assess, plan, implement and evaluate educational experiences of learners (nursing students, staff, and clients) to improve learning and health outcomes.
- Demonstrate collaborative and inter-professional approaches in advanced clinical practice roles, research, and nursing education.

2. **Intellectual Development** (Critical and creative thinking; engages in research and scholarship)

- Utilize the process of scientific inquiry, evidence-based research, and information technology to validate and refine knowledge relevant to nursing and nursing education.
- Translate current evidence in the practice setting through problem identification, systematic inquiry, and continuous improvement processes.
- Analyze trends in healthcare and nursing education and their impact on the profession of nursing, nursing education, and the systematic delivery of patient care.

3. Social and Ethical Responsibility

- Demonstrate a commitment to social justice and advocacy for all clients (patients and students), families and communities, including the most vulnerable populations.
- Analyze differences in cultural norms and healthcare practices when providing education and healthcare for aggregates of varied racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups.
- Incorporate knowledge of population based global health variants in provision of health promotion, maintenance, and restoration in comprehensive care.
- Maintain an environment of academic integrity.

Honor Code and Civility

HONOR CODE

Methodist College Department of Nursing Honor Code

As a nursing student at Methodist College, I will

- Follow and honor the code of conduct as expressed in the Methodist Student Handbook.
- *Be honest and trustworthy in all my interactions.*
- Respect myself, instructors, colleagues, peers, and community members in all I do and speak.
- Act rationally and responsibility in all my educational endeavors and actions.
- Be accountable for my studies, clinical experiences, and outcomes.

CIVILITY STATEMENT

Provision 1.5 Relationships with Colleagues and Others: Respect for persons extends to all with whom the nurse interacts. Nurses maintain professional, respectful, and caring relationships with colleagues and are committed to fair treatment, transparency, integrity-preserving compromise, and the best resolution of conflicts. American Nursing Association. 2015 Codes of Ethics for Nurses. Washington, D.C., DC: American Nurses Publishing. Code of Ethics for Nurses With Interpretive Statements (View Only for Members and Non-Members) (nursingworld.org)

The nurse creates an ethical environment and culture of civility and kindness treating colleagues, coworkers, employees, faculty, staff, students and others with dignity and respect. Failure to comply with the civility statement will result in a Code of Conduct violation.

Organizations and Honor Society

STUDENT NURSING ORGANIZATIONS STUDENT NURSES' ASSOCIATION (SNA)

Methodist College SNA serves as the local chapter of the National Student Nurses' Association. There are a variety of opportunities for students to develop themselves as both leaders and future professional nurses. The SNA meets regularly throughout the academic year and invites new students to attend a meeting for an introduction to the SNA.

SIGMA HONOR SOCIETY

Sigma is the only worldwide International Honor Society of Nursing. Sigma promotes global health through nursing knowledge, scholarship, and a commitment to professional development. The Methodist College Phi Phi chapter is one of 486 existing Sigma chapters with members in more than 90 countries.

It is both an honor and a privilege to be a member of an organization that represents excellence in nursing. Membership is by invitation and is extended to baccalaureate prepared nursing students as they near program completion based on individual achievement and leadership abilities. For more about this outstanding organization and its support of the advancement of nursing, visit the website at http://www.nursingsociety.org.

Academics

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students are expected to be honest in all academic work. A student's placement or submission of their name on any academic exercise shall be regarded as assurance that the work is a result of the student's own effort, thought, study and completion. Academic dishonesty/integrity violations can and will be subject to the Code of Conduct Policy at Methodist College as listed in the Methodist Student Handbook.

ADVISING MEETINGS

All students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisor regarding scheduling and changes to plans of study. These meetings can be done virtually, in person or telephone. All communication will be done through the student's Methodist College email.

ATI (ASSESSMENT TECHNOLOGIES INSTITUTE) IN THE PRELICENSURE BSN AND MSNPL NURSING CURRICULUM

Methodist College uses a variety of the ATI® tutorials, quizzes, practice exams, and proctored exams to help students prepare for the NCLEX-RN examination. The integration of these products continues throughout the prelicensure nursing curriculum to facilitate student learning and contribute to assessment of student mastery of the content.

Methodist College has an ATI® Integration Plan, approved by Faculty, which is developed and revised as needed to be closely associated with the content of specified courses. The ATI® testing program incrementally evaluates content mastery throughout the curriculum, and Methodist College Faculty believes content mastery predicts NCLEX® success and the ATI® products and tests are valuable tools to prepare students for NCLEX® success and future practice.

Students can assess their own knowledge and tailor their further review of content areas by completing ATI® assignments and taking ATI® examinations. **Consistent** use of ATI® tutorials and testing integrated throughout nursing courses is expected to provide the student with the most benefit. Students are expected to complete assigned ATI® tutorials and learning modules as outlined in nursing course syllabus and course information.

Students are required to take all ATI® practice and proctored test(s) associated with nursing courses. In preparation for required ATI® proctored tests associated with specific clinical nursing courses, students will be required to complete non-proctored practice tests, consistent with instructions provided within the course syllabus.

Documentation of achievement and remediation on the practice tests will be required, as per course syllabus instructions, prior to taking the required proctored ATI® test. All practice tests may be taken more than once to gain more insight into the content, but only the first score will count towards the ATI® grade (consistent with instructions provided within the course instructions).

Remediation is the key to assuring you have gained all the content knowledge needed to be successful on your NCLEX licensing exam. Please review the rubric below. Following the guidelines provided, you are increasing your chances of success on the future NCLEX.

Grading Rubric Practice Assessments

Practice Assessments	Six Point Total=Must complete all parts	
(Total points based on completion of Practice A	(Practice Assessment-Remediations) or zero points	
and Practice B with remediation)	will be given*	
Complete Practice Assessment A Remediation:	Complete Practice Assessment B Remediation:	
 Minimum of 1-hour in focused review. 	 Minimum of 1-hour in focused review. 	
• For each topic not reaching 70%, complete an active learning template which must be handwritten.	• For each topic not reaching 70%, complete an active learning template which must be handwritten.	
Take a post study quiz after the templates are submitted (if one is required).	 Take a post study quiz after the templates are submitted (if one is required). 	

*As stated above, the whole remediation plan must be completed, or the students lose all the points for the practice assessments. The proctor assessment totals will be added to these points for a total of 15 points for ATI. If there are no templates required for your score, you will be required to complete 5 templates (1 in each of the categories).

Grading Rubric for Proctored Assessments

Level 3 = 6 points	Level 2 = 4 points	Level 1 = 2 points	Below Level $0 = 0$ points
Remediation = 3 points	Remediation = 3 points	Remediation = 3 points	Remediation = 3 points
 Minimum 1-hour focused review. Complete a learning template for each category less than 70%. 	 Minimum 2 hours focused review. Complete a learning template for each category less than 70%. 	 Minimum 3 hours focused review. Complete a learning template for each category less than 70%. 	 Minimum 4 hours focused review. Complete a learning template for each category less than 70%.
15/15 Total	13/15 Total	11/15 Total	9/15 Total

ATI COMPLETION REQUIREMENT AND NCLEX-RN® TESTING RELEASE

Methodist College is deeply invested in ensuring that all graduates from the Pre-Licensure programs attain their goal of becoming licensed healthcare providers. Because of this core interest in supporting our students and the demonstrated link between ATI® completion and passing the NCLEX-RN licensure exam, students are required to complete the following to obtain the College's release for NCLEX-RN testing. These requirements include:

- Students must complete the ATI Capstone Modules, enroll in Virtual ATI (VATI), and complete any VATI course requirements as stipulated in the N445/N4417/N6402 syllabus.
- Students are required to attend the ATI NCLEX Live Review during their senior year.
- After degree conferral, students must continue to complete VATI until the ATI "green light" is obtained.

Once the green light is obtained, the student will be released (by form or other notification) to take the NCLEX-RN by the Dean of the Division of Nursing to the State Board of Nursing. <u>Students will not be released to take</u> the NCLEX-RN without obtaining the green light in VATI.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend class and clinical which are based on the assumption that academic success is the main goal. Students are expected to participate in class activities, class discussions, clinical activities, and clinical discussions. Students are expected to complete all course and clinical assignments by due dates. Students unable to fulfill class and/or clinical requirements are encouraged to contact their assigned academic advisor and the director of academic advising.

CODE OF CONDUCT - SEE THE STUDENT HANDBOOK

COURSE PROGRESS REPORTS

The Course/Clinical Progress Report is used to enable the student to seek remedies to improve their academic success.

A student will receive a course/clinical progress report if there is any indication that successful progress in a course or clinical is not being made. Course/Clinical Progress Reports are helpful for a student to understand the seriousness of their academic situation. The course/clinical progress report allows a student to identify strategies

for improving their grades or clinical performance with the input of faculty and/or support of academic resources. This report gives faculty the opportunity to review performance and resources with a student to ensure academic success.

Form Initiation:

The Course/Clinical Progress Report is completed when a student:

- Scores less than a 77% on any nursing exam.
- Has 77% percent or less in a cumulative GPA.
- Demonstrates unsatisfactory clinical performance/a pattern of behavior not consistent with clinical expectations.
- Anytime a faculty member has a concern regarding academic performance or behaviors.

Process:

- 1. Faculty initiates course/clinical progress report based on student performance.
- 2. Faculty completes report and sends to student via email including the Student Success Nursing Coordinator (SSNC) as a CC.
- 3. Student reviews report and responds via email to faculty.
- 4. Student contacts faculty and schedules an appointment time within one week of receiving report.
- 5. Faculty and Student meet to discuss report and determine the next steps for academic support. Faculty can make a referral to the SSNC, OASIS, Center for Student Success, or apply other academic recommendations.
- 6. Faculty sends a completed progress report to SSNC. SSNC will follow-up on academic referrals and will report information to the Dean/Department Chairs.

Review of Course/Clinical Report:

Based upon student performance, the recommendations and performance should be reviewed after the next test or clinical experience. If performance has increased enforcement of recommended actions should occur until faculty determines the report and recommendations have been effective. If student performance decreases, faculty is encouraged to send the student for referral to Center for Student Success or SSNC depending upon course/clinical.

Course/Clinical Progress Reports will be available for review by appropriate faculty members and administration employed by Methodist College. Student concerns about dispositions and functions may be discussed with appropriate faculty members and administration. Any report that is the result of a clinical suspension or serious conduct may result in program dismissal.

EXAMSOFT

All course exams will be given using Examsoft. This product provides a secure testing environment which allows for monitoring and assessing the students in the classroom. Students will be required to purchase this product every semester for a nominal cost prior to their first exam. Exemplify is the product that will be downloaded to your computer to house the downloaded tests until they are taken by the student. All students are required to have an active camera and microphone on their computers while taking tests in Examsoft.

FACULTY COURSE/CLINICAL AND LAB EVALUATIONS

Toward the end of each semester, students will be asked to complete an online faculty course, clinical or lab evaluation form. These evaluations are sent to faculty for review and planning for the next semester after final semester grades are submitted to the office of records management and registration. Constructive feedback is expected and will be used to improve learning in the classroom, clinical, and lab experiences.

LAPTOP RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS

- Students must meet the minimum laptop requirements and are encouraged to ensure their laptop meets the minimum requirements before the start of the semester.
- Please make sure all drivers are up to date prior to any exam. Prior to updating any operating system (OS) be sure to verify that ExamSoft has a software release supporting the new OS. Most Surface Pro, Surface Books, and Surface Laptop devices are supported, provided they have a CPU that meets requirements.
- The following are NOT supported devices for the nursing program:
 - o Non-Pro Surface
 - Chromebooks
 - o iPads or Android Tablets

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Student Laptop Recommendations – Minimum Requirements			
CPU	Intel Core i5 (or AMD Equivalent) or better. Devices with a Microsoft SQ series chips and Qualcomm CPUs will NOT support the necessary software. MacBooks with any Intel CPU or M1 CPUs will be supported.		
RAM	8GB or more is preferred.		
Hard Drive Space	256 GB or larger.		
Display	11 inches or larger.		
Screen Resolution	1024x768 or higher and set to 100% scaling.		
Wireless	802.11 g/n/ac		
Internet Connection	Off campus internet connection should not be below 8mbps upload and download.		
Operating System	64-bit version – Windows 10 is required and must be at an updated level of 2004, 20H2, 21H1, or higher.		
Webcam and Microphone	Working webcam (minimum resolution of 320x240 VGA) and microphone (internal or external) are required with a laptop or desktop. Examsoft requires you have a working camera and microphone.		
For Support	A working USB port. Newer devices will require a USB adaptor.		
Adobe Reader	Version 9, 11, or DC. You can access Adobe Acrobat plug in at http://get.adobe.com/reader .		
MS Office 365 can be attainted free of charge through the college.	You can access MSOffice 365 by logging into office.com with your student email address.		

PRESCRIBED PLANS OF STUDY

Upon admission to the nursing program students are expected to follow the prescribed plan of study under which the students were admitted. Deviation from the plan of study requires prior approval from the Dean of Nursing and the Chair of Nursing Programs. Methodist College will not be held responsible for issues relating to time to degree completion or course availability for students who choose to deviate from their prescribed plan of study independently.

PROGRESS IN THE NURSING MAJOR

If a student does not pass a course with a C or higher and has not met the criteria for program dismissal the student's graduation date will be delayed. When this occurs, additional measures are required to assist the student with the goal of being successful in the program. Students will be required to meet one-on-one with their assigned advisor and the director of advising each semester prior to registration. Students will also be required to meet with the nursing coordinator either before or at the first week of the following semester to develop a plan for success. The nursing coordinator will follow up with students as needed. Students are expected to meet with the nursing coordinator as required.

Students out of sequence should be aware that due to course schedules and prerequisite restrictions, graduation will be delayed by one semester and in some cases by one year. Requests to complete nursing clinical courses that are blocked for other students in the nursing program that need it for the following semester will not be accommodated unless permission is granted from the Dean of Nursing and the prerequisite is met and there are available resources and space. Students requesting to complete a non-clinical nursing theory course will not be accommodated unless permission is granted from the Dean of Nursing and the prerequisite is met and there are available resources and space.

REQUESTS FOR LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Students requesting a letter of recommendation from a faculty member must sign a FERPA waiver when requesting any verbal or written recommendation (even after graduation).

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Methodist College recognizes the need for students to be employed while in the nursing program. It is recommended that students are aware of the rigorous demands of the nursing program. Students are encouraged to consider the number of hours committed to employment and the number of credit hours registered for each semester. The nursing program does not schedule anything around work schedules.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

It is the student's responsibility to engage in professional and ethical behavior and to know the requirements to complete his or her degree, including—but not limited to—required courses, prerequisites courses, policies, procedures, payment, and payment arrangements, awarding of financial aid, and catalog and handbook requirements. Methodist College faculty and staff will provide as much assistance as possible to help assure the students are able to complete their chosen degree program efficiently and in a timely manner. However, it is **ultimately the student** who is responsible for earning the degree. All policies and procedures can be found in the student handbook or college catalog.

Clinical Expectations and Evaluations

Nurses are expected to have a professional appearance and behavior. It is the student's responsibility to develop and maintain a professional appearance and behavior in all professional, clinical, and classroom settings. Personal appearance and behaviors reflect the student, Methodist College, and the nursing profession.

We are fortunate to have many clinical sites and experiences to offer each student. Please ensure while you are in a clinical experience you serve as a learner and ambassador for Methodist College.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Attendance, a positive attitude, respect, and active participation are expected of our nursing students. Consistent, reliable attendance provides all students with the opportunity to practice nursing concepts and interact with faculty.

- Clinical attendance is mandatory. The student's ability to learn and practice the standards of client care in the clinical setting demonstrates the understanding of the learning outcomes for the clinical course.
- Absenteeism A maximum of one clinical absence is allowed per clinical course. Missing a second absence will cause you to fail the course. *See absence definitions below.
- All clinical absences and unplanned college closure on clinical days will be made up with alternative assignments as allocated by the clinical faculty/course coordinator.
- Time management is a necessary skill for a professional nurse and is expected in the workplace. It is a skill you will practice by arriving promptly and ready for instruction on client care in your clinical experience.
- Students are required to be on time for clinical and to stay for the entire time of the scheduled clinical experience.
- Tardiness, if a student is more than 15 minutes late for clinical experience, the student will be sent home and will receive an absence for the clinical day.
- Clinical Make Up If a student misses a clinical day, the student will be required to make up the missed clinical day at the end of the semester.
- Client safety is the responsibility of the clinical faculty. Any student who is unable to fully participate in the clinical experience by providing safe and effective care to clients will be dismissed from the clinical day and it will be recorded as a clinical absence.

ABSENCE DEFINITIONS

Clinical Absence – missing a scheduled clinical day per a clinical nursing course.

<u>Approved Absence</u> – an approved absence from clinical that DOES NOT count as a clinical absence as listed above (ALL ABSENSES MUST FOLLOW THE MAKEUP POLICY):

- Military Duty
- Death of an immediate family member (See Bereavement Policy in Student Handbook)
- Mandatory Court Appearance
- College Policies

RECORDING OF CLINICAL ABSENCE OR TARDINESS

Any clinical time missed WILL be documented on the student's clinical evaluation tool regardless of assignment completion. The missed clinical time will be counted towards an absence.

The faculty recognize that, although each course builds upon the previous course, the clinical experiences may differ. Therefore, absences within each semester stand alone and do not accumulate during the program.

It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor as soon as possible if an emergency arises or if they become ill on the clinical unit.

PROPER NOTIFICATION FOR CLINICAL LATENESS/ABSENCE

Failing to use proper notification procedures ("no call – no show") for clinical absence/tardiness will be cause for administrative action. A pattern of this unprofessional behavior may result in course failure.

Note: Asking a classmate to inform the instructor that you will be late or absent does NOT constitute proper notification.

Students not properly reporting a clinical absence or tardiness will receive a warning from their course faulty. A second offense will result in a course failure. This will carry on throughout your clinical experiences at MC.

BEREAVEMENT ABSENCE IN CLINICAL

Absences related to the Bereavement policy will not count toward clinical absences, although they will need to be made up. Please refer to the Bereavement policy in the student handbook for information on completion of missed coursework and clinical.

CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phones are not part of the dress code (required uniform). Cell phones will not be used for personal communication whether it is by texting or conversation during any clinical activity where students are representing Methodist College, except when students are on break or lunch/dinner break.

Cell phones will be kept on silent mode in backpacks and stored in the designated breakroom area until clinical is completed. If a family emergency arises the student is responsible for discussing a communication plan for a family member to reach the student with the faculty member and preceptor.

The exception to this policy is in internship or mental health and population health clinical experiences because students are not on the same unit or at the same clinical site as faculty. Faculty and students may need to reach each other throughout the clinical day. Clinical site cell phone policies must be adhered to. Students will not use the cell phone camera or other application without faculty approval.

DRESS CODE FOR NURSING STUDENTS IN A CLINICAL SETTING

STUDENT BUSINESS CASUAL ATTIRE FOR SELECTED CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES

Students must wear professional attire that presents a positive image for Methodist College. Specifically, the following are required:

- Modest tops for women with no cleavage showing. Tops must have sleeves or have straps at the shoulders that are at least two and a half inches in width and the midriff must not expose bare skin when arms are extended overhead.
- No Sweatshirts or hoodies.
- Men shall wear button-front shirts or polo shirts with no writing allowed other than a Methodist College logo. Undergarments shall be worn but not visible through outer garments.
- Pants may include slacks of a uniform color but shall not include capris, leggings, or tights worn without a dress of adequate length.
- Dresses and skirts shall be modest in nature and of a length that does not expose the upper half of the thigh when bending or stooping.
- Shoes must be closed toe and heel with no sandals, clogs, or flip-flops.
- The Methodist College identification badge shall be always worn at the chest level.
- Students will be sent home from a community experience clinical if not addressed appropriately.

CLINICAL EVALUATION TOOL: STUDENTS IN THE TRADITIONAL PRELICENSURE, ACCELERATED PRELICENSURE, SECOND-DEGREE PRELICENSURE AND MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PRELICENSURE PROGRAMS

Students will be evaluated in all clinical courses at midterm and at the end of the semester according to the course objectives and the QSEN competencies of the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are associated with the objectives. The clinical evaluation tool is used by clinical faculty to provide feedback to students on their clinical progress. During the midterm evaluation clinical faculty will provide students with feedback on what course objectives and knowledge, skills and attitudes students need to improve on and develop a plan with the student. Students must receive a satisfactory in all areas of the clinical evaluation tool during their final evaluation. Clinical faculty will provide feedback on areas students need to continue to work on in the next clinical rotation. The Graduate Program Coordinator or the Chair of Nursing Programs will be notified by clinical faculty if a student is at risk for failing clinical so a plan can be made with the student.

Each clinical evaluation tool is course specific. Faculty will orient students to the clinical evaluation tool for the course students are enrolled in at the beginning of the semester. Clinical faculty will provide a final copy of the clinical evaluation tool to students at the end of the semester once the final evaluations are completed. **Students must make a copy of the final evaluation comments** and give it to their assigned clinical faculty the following semester so an individual plan can be made to continue working on goals and areas that need improvement. A copy of the final evaluation will be placed in the student's academic file in the Office of Records Management and Registration.

MEDICATION ERROR OR STUDENT INJURY

Students who have incurred an incident, medication error, or needle stick exposure will be treated according to Methodist hospital and the college protocol.

STUDENT MEDICATION ERROR

If a student commits a medication error, the student shall notify the instructor. The instructor will assist the student in completing the appropriate paperwork necessary to report the nature of the error. The student and instructor will complete the agency paperwork per agency policy. Failure to notify the instructor of a medication error may result in the student's dismissal from the program. The faculty member should notify the Dean of Nursing immediately if the incident/error is a sentinel event.

The student and faculty member will complete the Methodist College Student Incident/ Medication Error form (forms available on the "I" drive and in Faculty copy room). The form should be given to the Dean of Nursing within 24 hours.

STUDENT INJURY

Students who sustain an injury during class or clinical time shall report the injury to their instructor. Students who sustain a needle stick will report to the Emergency Department of the hospital within two hours of the injury (as per hospital protocol). Medical expenses related to treatment of injury, including needle stick injuries, are the financial obligation of the student. The instructor will assist the student in completing the appropriate paperwork necessary to report the nature of the error. The faculty member should notify the Dean of Nursing immediately if the incident/error is a sentinel event.

The student and faculty member will complete the Methodist College Student Incident/ Medication Error form in duplicate (forms available on the "I" drive and in the faculty copy room). The form should be given to the Dean of Nursing within 24 hours.

NURSING STUDENT EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

- Professional grade stethoscope | Preferred vendor: MDF
- Pupil Gauge Penlight
- Pocket Pal
- Bandage Scissor
- Watch
- Blood Pressure Cuff
- Mostly White closed back shoes
- Students will need equipment for health assessment course and all clinical courses.
- Limited equipment items are available for purchase in the Campus Store
- Order your instruments online at: www.mdfinstruments.com/methodist

NURSING STUDENT UNIFORM/EQUIPMENT VOUCHER INFORMATION

- Students can purchase a specific dollar amount of scrubs/lab coats and medical equipment in the Methodist College Campus Store and apply it to your Methodist College account and pay it like any other tuition and fee
- There are different equipment bundles for nursing students.
- New students will receive an email with this information before the first day of classes.

Students can purchase scrubs and lab coats from the campus store, near the entrance of Methodist College. Students can also call Sam Harris Uniforms (309) 673-5961 to order uniforms. Visit www.sharrisuniforms.com.

Additional Nursing Policies

ADMINISTRATION OF EXAMS

- All Exams will be given inseat.
- Student will download your exam before the start of the exam. Failure to do so may result in a possible essay exam. Continued patterned of not downloading your exams, will result in a meeting with the Dean of Nursing.
- Exams are scheduled to start on time. No late entry.
- Missed exams will be taken in the testing center and may be in the form of essay.
- Students must provide documentation for missing a scheduled exam.
- It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they will miss the exam prior to the start of the exam. Failure to do so may result in a zero.

HIPPA COMPLIANCE AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Provision 3.1 Protection of the Rights of Privacy and Confidentiality: Nurses safeguard the right to privacy for individuals, families, and communities. Confidentiality pertains to the nondisclosure of personal information that has been communicated within the nurse-patient relationship. Central to that relationship is an element of trust and an expectation that personal information will not be divulged without consent. The nurse has a duty to maintain confidentiality of all patient information, both personal and clinical in the work setting and off duty in all venues, including social media or any other means of communication. Because of rapidly evolving communication technology and the porous nature of social media, nurses must maintain vigilance regarding postings, images, recordings, or commentary that intentionally or unintentionally breaches their obligation to maintain and protect patients' right to privacy and confidentiality. American Nursing Association. 2015 Codes of Ethics for Nurses. Washington, D.C., DC: American Nurses Publishing. Code of Ethics for Nurses With Interpretive Statements (View Only for Members and Non-Members) (nursingworld.org)

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is a federal law that helps ensure protected health information (PHI) remains private and secure. PHI includes a patient's personal, financial, and medical information in any form – spoken, written, electronic, video, and more.

Students and staff are expected to follow the polices regarding patient and student privacy. As a student at Methodist College, you are required to sign the HIPAA confidentiality agreement to ensure compliance and safeguard patient privacy and data. Please read below about PHI, the types of PHI, and HIPPA violations below before you sign the agreement.

WHAT IS PHI?

Protected Health Information ("PHI") under HIPAA is defined as information that is received from, created, or received on behalf of Methodist College or its affiliated health care organizations and is information about an individual which relates to past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the provision of health care to an individual; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.

PHI includes medical records, student records, and financial or billing information relating to a patient's or student's past, present, or future mental or physical condition; or past, present, or future provision of healthcare; or past present or future payment for provision of healthcare and contains any of the following identifiers that may be used to identify the patient or student in relation to PHI:

- Names
- Social Security Numbers
- Telephone Numbers
- All specific geographic location information such as subdivisions smaller than a State, including street address, city, county, precinct, zip code, and their equivalent geocodes.
- All elements of dates (except year) for dates directly related to an individual, including birth date, admission date, discharge date, date of death; and all ages over 89 and all elements of dates (including year) indicative of such age, except that such ages and elements may be aggregated in a single category of age 90 or older.
- Fax Numbers
- Electronic Mail Addresses
- Medical Record Numbers
- Health Plan Beneficiary Numbers

- Account Numbers
- Certificate/License Numbers
- Vehicle Identifiers, Serial Numbers, License Plate Numbers
- Device Identifiers and Serial Numbers
- Web Universal Resource Locators (URLs)
- Internet Protocol (IP) Address Numbers
- Biometric Identifiers (finger and voice prints)
- Full Face Photographic Images
- Any other unique Identifying Number, Characteristic, or Code
- In addition to recognizing what information is to be protected under HIPAA, it is the responsibility of each individual student to recognize and refrain from any violation of the HIPPAA compliance policy and report any observed violations to a faculty member, Department Chair, Dean of Nursing or by completing the Code of Conduct Initiation Form located online in the student handbook.

BELOW ARE EXAMPLES OF VIOLATIONS OF THE HIPPA POLICY:

- Use of patient identifiers in presentations or papers.
- Copying patient records.
- Leaving EPIC or other patient tracking systems open and unlocked.
- Faxing information to an incorrect number.
- Using electronic devices to capture, record, or share patient data or photos.
- Talking about patients in inappropriate areas such as elevator, cafeteria, hallway, etc.
- Sharing of passwords and usernames.
- Accessing patient records without reason.
- Inappropriate disclosure or sale of confidential information or PHI.
- Discussing patient confidential information with unauthorized individuals.
- Any person may report an alleged violation to the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs using Code of
 Conduct Initiation Form (located online in the student handbook). The form must be filed within a
 reasonable period, defined as five (5) business days of the occurrence of, or becoming aware of the
 occurrence, of the alleged violation. All allegations will be treated as confidential.

TESTING GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS IN THE TRADITIONAL PRELICENSURE, ACCELERATED PRELICENSURE, SECOND DEGREE PRELICENSURE AND MASTER OF SCIENCE GENERALIST PRELICENSURE

Methodist College follows the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Examination Candidate Rules which allows students to prepare for the NCLEX-RN exam by testing an environment consistent with the NCLEX-RN exam. Students must abide by the following guidelines:

- All electronic devices (cell/mobile/smart phones, smart watches, MP3 players, fitness bands, jump drives, cameras, etc.) must be turned off or be on silent mode and placed in student bag/backpack, bags/purses/wallets/watches (smart watches must be placed in student bag/backpack, coats/hats, medical aids/devices.
- Food or drink, gum/candy, lip balm, and scarves/gloves must be placed in student bag/backpack. Mints are allowed.
- All student bags/backpacks will be placed in the front of the classroom. Students can retrieve their bag/backpack once their instructor checks to ensure their exam has uploaded.
- Blank paper will be provided when necessary. If a student wishes to use a blank piece of paper, prior permission must be given by the instructor at least 24 hours prior to the exam.
- Students who refuse to follow the guidelines will not be allowed to test and will meet with the chair of nursing programs or graduate program coordinator. https://www.ncsbn.org/1268.htm https://www.ncsbn.org/1219.htm

Faculty will provide exam reviews following exams in a timely manner. Faculty will let students know at the beginning of the semester whether exam reviews will be in class or by individual or appointment. Students have two weeks after the exam to schedule an individual review with a faculty member unless other arrangements have been made.

During exam reviews desk/tabletop will be cleared of any items other than the student computer if applicable. Faculty may allow a single blank piece of paper and pen/pencil, which will be communicated to students by faculty. Students may not reproduce exams in anyway.

Students are allowed to write down concepts and faculty will check what is written down before the student leaves the classroom. No cell phones or other electronic devices are allowed during exam reviews. Exam reviews to prepare for exams including the final exam are at the discretion of faculty.

If faculty allow students to review exams to prepare for the final exam faculty will directly monitor the review sessions. Students and faculty are expected to be civil during exam reviews, incivility will not be tolerated.

Faculty will terminate exam reviews at any time or ask disruptive students to leave the review. Students who are disruptive may not be allowed to attend future exam reviews, which will be at the discretion of faculty.

DISCLAIMER

This handbook is presented as informational only and is not a contract between Methodist College and our nursing students. The information, policies, and procedures contained in this handbook are subject to change at any time with or without notice. Please note all students are responsible for reviewing and understanding the information provided in the Methodist College Student Handbook, Methodist College Catalog, and the Methodist College Nursing Handbook.

All handbooks and catalogs are housed on the Methodist College website.

Methodist College Nursing Student Handbook Signature Page

By my signature, I certify that I have read and understand the Methodist College Undergraduate Nursing Handbook and the Code of Conduct located in the Methodist College Student Handbook. I am committed to demonstrating the skills and abilities detailed within.

Printed Student Name:		
Student Signature:		
Date:		

Methodist College HIPPA Compliance Signature Page

I have read and understand the HIPAA Compliance Statement in the Nursing Student Handbook and the HIPAA Regulations as it applies to patient/client privacy issues.

I understand that Methodist College and its affiliated health care organizations have a legal and ethical responsibility to maintain and protect the privacy and confidentiality of protected health information (PHI) and to safeguard the privacy of patient, student, Methodist College, and its affiliated health care organizations' information.

I understand that violation of this Agreement may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of my affiliation with Methodist College and/or suspension, restriction, or loss of privileges in accordance with college policies and procedures in accordance with the Code of Conduct process, as well as potential personal civil and criminal legal penalties.

I am aware that Methodist College and its affiliated health care organizations reserves and intends to exercise the right to review, audit, intercept, access, and act upon inappropriate use of computer systems at any time, with or without user notice.

I am aware that I am not to photograph a patient or share patient data identifiers on any phone, email, electronic device, flash drives, or social media platforms.

I understand I am to report any observed violations to my faculty, department chair, Dean of Nursing, or by completing the Code of Conduct Initiation Form located online in the student handbook.

I have read the above agreement and agree to comply with all its terms as a condition of my affiliation with Methodist College.

Student Name:			
Student Signature:			
Date:			

Clinical Expectations and Consequences

Clinical Experiences are arranged and available through our affiliation with the hospital, contractual agreements with our community partners, and within our simulation labs. As future nurses, it is imperative these clinical experiences are utilized to the fullest and you demonstrate the expectations of a professional nurse.

	Expectation	Consequence
Attendance	Clinical attendance is mandatory.	Missing more than one clinical day will result in
	A maximum of one absence is allowed and you	a failure of the clinical course. *
	must make up your missed clinical.	Tarada a a district and a sell be accorded as a
	Voy one not to loove a clinical armaniance without	Leaving a clinical early will be recorded as a missed absence.
	You are not to leave a clinical experience without checking in with your faculty member. You are	missed absence.
	expected to be in clinical the entire time.	
Arriving Late	Arriving more than 15 minutes late counts as a	Arriving late will be recorded as a clinical
Airring Late	missed absence.	absence.
	Students need to arrive to clinical early to ensure	
	they are present for client reports.	
Clinical	Students are to serve as ambassadors of Methodist	Students who exhibit poor clinical behavior and
Behavior	College by being professional and adhering to all	who violate policies and procedure are subject to
	policies and procedures of the clinical site,	the Code of Conduct. **
	simulation center, and Methodist College.	
No Cell Phones	Cell Phones are not allowed in any clinical	Using your cell phone while in clinical will result
	setting. Please secure your cell phone in your	in an unsatisfactory for the day. *
D C 1	belongings or leave it in your car.	D 1 :14: '111 11
Dress Code	Students are expected to abide by the dress code	Dress code violations will be recorded as a clinical absence if the student is sent home.
	outlined in the Nursing Student Handbook. Reinders:	Continual dress code violations are subject to
	 Name badges should always be worn above 	Prohibited Conduct and will be handled through
	your waist and visible with your name and	the Code of Conduct** process.
	photo showing.	the code of conduct process.
	 SCRUBS are required in the UPH/OSF setting. 	Note: There are clinicals that will allow you to
	 Sweatshirts and hoodies are not allowed. 	dress in business casual. *
Performance	Students are expected to engage in their clinical	Students who are not meeting performance
	experience. This means interacting with clients,	expectations will be marked unsatisfactory on
	responding to call lights, observing treatments and	their clinical evaluation tool. Poor performance
	procedures, and capitalizing the clinical	will result in a failure of the clinical course.
	experience by learning from the nurses and staff.	
Client Safety	Client safety is the utmost priority. Students are	Students who are not adhering to client safety
	expected to ensure they are demonstrating safe	protocols and procedures will be dismissed from
	patient/client care.	the clinical course and in some instances maybe
		subject to the Code of Conduct. **

^{*}Please refer to the Nursing Student Handbook for further information. **Please refer to the Methodist College Student Handbook for more information on the Code of Conduct.

I understand it is my obligation to be familiar with th	e Methodist College Code of Conduct, student handbook,
simulation center handbook, and nursing handbook.	I am expected to follow all the process and procedures of the
clinical site and conduct myself as a professional stud	dent.

SIGNATURE:	DATE: