



**CLARION AND EDINBORO UNIVERSITIES  
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM**

Family Nurse Practitioner

**STUDENT HANDBOOK**

**2019 - 2020**

This jointly sponsored Master of Science in Nursing program is fully accredited by:

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**Clarion and Edinboro Universities  
Master of Science in Nursing Program**

**Student Handbook  
2018 – 2019**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Master of Science in Nursing - Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN-FNP) Program is a graduate level nursing program that prepares graduates to provide primary care across the lifespan in rural and medically under-served communities. The program is jointly sponsored by Clarion and Edinboro Universities, two of 14 universities in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. The MSN-FNP program is fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing.

To meet the needs of a large geographic region that includes Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio, courses are delivered online with the exception of clinical practicum experiences in the student's home community and a limited number of skill labs. The 45-semester hour program can be completed in 3 years and a summer with full-time study and 2 years and summer with part-time study. Program graduates receive a joint degree granted by both universities and are eligible to sit for national certification as a family nurse practitioner through the American Nurses Credentialing Center or the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners Certification Program. Graduates find employment in settings that include community health centers, outpatient clinics, student health and women's health centers, emergency rooms, urgent care centers, and private practices.

### **HISTORY**

The Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration was first offered by Clarion and Slippery Rock Universities in 1995, the result of several years of discussion among Clarion, Slippery Rock, and Edinboro, and recommendations by a task force of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. Edinboro had a competing program at the time and opted to delay joining the consortium until August of 2001. After 8 successful years as a 3-university consortium, Slippery Rock University officially dissolved its relationship in 2009. The remaining partners, Clarion and Edinboro Universities, carry on the original mission.

### **MISSION**

Congruent with the missions of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, Clarion University, and Edinboro University, the mission of the MSN Program is to provide an affordable, accessible, quality graduate education in nursing which prepares graduates as advanced practice nurses.

### **VISION**

The vision of the MSN Program is that students and faculty will be responsive to the needs of a dynamic health care system as they contribute to the welfare of the region, state, and global community through scholarly activities and advanced nursing practice. The MSN Program will provide the foundation for a life-long process of personal and professional growth as well as for post-graduate education.

### **CORE VALUES**

- Integrity
- Professionalism
- Excellence
- Leadership
- Social justice
- Self-mastery

## **CURRICULAR THREADS**

- Evidence based advanced practice
- Critical thinking
- Systematic inquiry
- Effective communication
- Advocacy

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY**

The philosophy of the Master of Science in Nursing Program is derived from the philosophies of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Programs of Clarion and Edinboro Universities, which are complementary in nature, and is consistent with the stated missions of both universities.

Human beings reflect diverse cultures and life styles as they interrelate with family, community, and social systems. The individual's life experiences influence health beliefs, choices, and practices. Each individual has the right and the responsibility to make decisions affecting health and to be supported in those decisions. Each individual is unified, dynamic and continually interacts with the environment.

Environment is the aggregate of influences that interrelate with individuals. Multiple environmental factors—legal, ethical, political, socio-economic, and historical—affect both the level of health of humans and their ability to acquire health care services. Advanced practice nurses impact health care services and practices through change making endeavors.

Health, as an ever-changing process, encompasses well-being and illness, and is an evolving potential that cannot be quantified. Nursing interfaces with health as nurse professionals work with clients to direct, organize and monitor individuals' progress toward maximum well-being. Nursing is a consumer-focused profession that addresses the health care needs of individuals and communities. Advanced nursing practice involves inquiry and a variety of ways of knowing. As an evolving discipline with a clinical focus, nursing is grounded in theory and research and encompasses professional standards of practice. The scope of advanced nursing practice remains fluid.

Advanced practice nurses are leaders who function autonomously and interdependently assuming the roles of nurse practitioner, clinical specialist, nurse anesthetist, nurse midwife, nurse educator, and nurse administrator. Nurse practitioners are case managers who are responsible for health promotion, disease prevention, caring/healing, and teaching/coaching through interdisciplinary

communication and collaboration. They are qualified to perform acts of medical diagnosis or prescription of medical therapeutic or corrective measures in collaboration with and under the direction of a physician licensed to practice medicine in this Commonwealth (Pennsylvania Code 49§21:251).

Graduate nursing education builds upon the knowledge and skills that individuals obtain in baccalaureate nursing programs and prepares graduates to be critical thinkers and use diagnostic reasoning in their professional role. Learning includes research methodology for application to nursing problems and participation in research studies. The educational process provides for role development and opportunities to apply advanced nursing knowledge and related theories to practice and educational settings.

## **PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

**The terminal learning outcomes of the joint Master in Science in Nursing Program reflect the ability of the graduate to:**

1. Synthesize established and evolving knowledge from nursing, the sciences, and humanities into advanced practice nursing.
2. Incorporate professional/legal standards and moral/ethical values into a culturally sensitive practice.
3. Provide advanced nursing practice that reflects critical thinking and effective interpersonal and communication skills
4. Appraise and assimilate theory and scientific evidence to investigate and evaluate practice based issues.
5. Demonstrate awareness and responsiveness to systems-based practice through advocacy, collaboration, and effective use of resources.

## **GRADUATE FACULTY**

The graduate faculty of the Clarion and Edinboro Universities Master of Science in Nursing Program is composed of educators from both universities (See Appendix B). The graduate catalog of each university also lists faculty members and their credentials.

## **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES**

### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

The admission requirements for both MSN concentrations are the following:

- Evidence of an earned baccalaureate degree in nursing from an accredited program.
- Unencumbered licensure as a registered nurse in the state where the student plans to complete clinical practicum hours.
- An undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or
- A graduate grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (if seeking second MSN degree or Post-Master's Certificate).

- One year of recent full-time clinical practice or two years of part-time clinical practice (2,000 hours)
- Evidence of completion in the past 10 years of a college-level statistics course with a grade of “C” or better or other evidence of competency in statistics (e.g., research work)

## **APPLICATION AND ADMISSION PROCEDURES**

A complete application packet includes the following:

- ✓ Completed online application form
- ✓ Non-refundable application fee—payable at the time of online application submission
- ✓ Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions attended
- ✓ Two recommendation forms
- ✓ Resume
- ✓ Copy of registered nurse license in the state(s) where the student will complete clinical practice hours. **Practice sites are currently limited to Pennsylvania and Ohio, with an application in process for permission in New York.**
- ✓ A 1-2 page personal statement describing your understanding of the family nurse practitioner role and your goals for practice in that role

*Application instructions can be found at the Clarion University Graduate Admissions Website:*  
<http://www.clarion.edu/admissions/graduate/how-to-apply/index.html>

1. **Mail all gathered materials not otherwise submitted online in one envelope to: Office of Graduate Programs, Clarion University, 840 Wood St; Clarion, PA 16214.** All documents become the property of Clarion University and Edinboro University and will not be returned or duplicated for any purpose outside of the universities. An application is considered “complete” when all application materials are in the Clarion University Graduate Admissions Office.
2. Upon receipt of the materials, the Clarion University Graduate Admissions Office forwards the complete packet to the members of the Admission, Progression, and Graduation Committee. **Review of applications are conducted during the month of October or until the class is filled.** Applications received after October 1st may be reviewed for acceptance on a space available basis.
3. After the completion of all interviews, members of the Admission, Progression, and Graduation Committee review all materials and submit a recommendation regarding admission to the Graduate Studies Office. Options include: deny admission, admit provisionally (with provisions described), full admission, and wait listed. Students with prior graduate degree work must submit materials describing the courses they think will substitute for courses in the MSN curriculum. Members of the Admissions, Progression, and Graduation Committee make the decision regarding such substitutions.
4. The Graduate Studies Office informs each applicant of the decision of the Admissions Committee via a letter that also informs the applicant to contact the program designee for his/her advisor’s name and contact information. The program designee directs the applicant to contact the advisor to develop a program plan.



5. The faculty advisor meets with the applicant via email or phone. At this meeting, the faculty advisor evaluates the applicant's previous coursework and the decision of the Admissions, Progression, and Graduation Committee, and develops an individual program plan. A copy of the program plan is sent to the MSN Program Coordinator for inclusion in the student database and individual student's file.

## **APPLICATION DEADLINES**

MSN Students are only admitted to the fall semester. To be fully considered for the limited number of seats in our competitive nursing program, all materials must be in Clarion's Graduate Office by October 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the fall start date for any given year. Clarion University operates on a rolling admissions basis which means that applications may be submitted and reviewed any time prior to the deadline. It is recommended that applications be submitted far enough in advance of the deadline to insure 'complete' status. Applications received after the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline are only considered *if the fall class has not already been filled*. Otherwise, those applications are held for review the next October.

Applicants with successful interviews who meet the criteria for admission are accepted on a "space available" basis and will be notified by December 15<sup>th</sup>. In the event that no spaces are available, an otherwise qualified applicant may be placed on a waiting list for the upcoming fall admission or for the following fall admission.

Applications to the Post-Master's Certificate Program will be considered at any time. The applicant will be contacted to arrange an interview with the Program Coordinator. Admission is based on qualifications and space availability.

## **ENROLLMENT AS A NON-DEGREE STUDENT**

Occasionally individuals will want to engage in graduate study without formally entering a graduate program. Such individuals should apply for non-degree admission status at the time of application. All admission requirements must be met. Individuals remaining in this status may not receive a graduate degree. Courses taken while a person is in this status will be identified as non-degree on the student's transcript. The non-degree student who, after taking courses in the non-degree status, seeks a graduate degree must be formally admitted to a graduate degree program under regular admission procedures. Graduate programs may or may not accept courses taken while a student is in non-degree status. No program may accept more than nine credits taken in non-degree status. Applicants admitted on a non-degree basis are not guaranteed regular full admission status. Certain course restrictions apply for non-degree students. Students that are not enrolled in the MSN program but take individual classes that are included in the curriculum are subject to course surcharges. (See: <http://www.clarion.edu/admissions/graduate/nondegree-and-transient-applicants/index.html> )

## **TRANSFER OF CREDIT**

Clarion and Edinboro University graduate programs allow students to transfer credit for graduate courses taken at other accredited institutions. It is an MSN program policy that 30 credits of the total required degree credits are taken in the Clarion and Edinboro Universities' MSN Program. Courses transferred must be certified as graduate level on the transcript and must have a grade of "B" or better. Transfer credit course grades are not computed in the universities quality-point average.

Students may transfer up to 12 credits of approved non-clinical course work toward the MSN-FNP degree. The proposed transfer credit must not be more than five years old.

Students already holding an earned MSN degree may transfer up to nine credits from that degree. Up to nine credits may be granted for life experience based upon careful evaluation of such experience.

Correspondence course credits are not accepted for transfer. No more than six semester hours will be transferred from another institution after a student has been admitted to the Clarion and Edinboro Universities program. Course credit will not be transferred until the course has been evaluated and approved.

- Transfer credit forms are available online (<http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/documents-and-forms/Graduate-Transfer-Credit-Request-Form.pdf>) or in the Graduate Admissions Office at Clarion University.
- Students who wish to take a course at another institution while enrolled in the Clarion and Edinboro Universities' MSN Program are referred to the Clarion and Edinboro University Graduate Catalogs for guidance.

### **CREDIT BY CHALLENGE**

Students may challenge up to three credits of course work with the permission of the Graduate Nursing Faculty.

### **ADVISEMENT**

Upon admission to the MSN Program the student will be assigned a faculty advisor. Before beginning the first course, the successful applicant should meet with the graduate advisor for orientation and assistance in planning his or her program of studies. This can be accomplished face-to-face, by phone, email, or desktop conferencing.

### **HEALTH POLICY**

Specific health forms are not required for admission to the MSN Program. However, clinical agencies may require certain health requirements which must be met prior to clinical practice in that agency. It is the student's responsibility to meet those requirements. All fees incurred in attaining health requirements are the responsibility of the student. The faculty reserves the right to request medical clearance from a student prior to clinical placement.

## **DISABILITY STATEMENT**

Students who have a documented disability and require accommodations in order to complete the requirements of a course, need to inform their instructors as soon as possible. All students that require accommodations need to be registered with the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) at Clarion, and they will assist in providing the appropriate verification of the requested accommodations. The Office of DSS can be reached by calling 1-(814) 393-2095. Their website is <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/student-success-center/disability-support/>

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY PLEDGE**

All MSN students are expected to be professional and ethical at all times while in the program. Thus all students are required to sign an Academic Integrity Pledge as part of their admission process. Appendix C contains a copy of the pledge. The signed pledge will be kept in the students' folders while in the program.

## **CURRICULUM**

### **OVERVIEW: MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

The American Nurses' Association publications, "Standards of Clinical Practice" (1991) and "Advanced Nursing Practice: Nurse Practitioner Curriculum Guidelines" (1990), provided the original framework for developing the nurse practitioner curriculum in 1995. The American Association of Colleges of Nursing publication "Essentials of MSN Education for Advanced Practice Nursing" (AACN, 1996) informed the core competencies.

Until 2014, the joint Clarion and Edinboro Master of Science in Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner (MSN-FNP) program and Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner (PM-FNP) Certificate program followed the same curriculum since its initial approval in 1995. Since that time, the program has evolved from a hybrid of face-to-face and online classes to a completely online program, with the exception of select skill labs and precepted clinical practicum experiences in students' home communities.

To meet the highest standards, a revised curriculum for the FNP program was submitted to and approved by the curriculum committees of both universities in 2013. With final approval by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing, the revised curriculum went into effect fall 2014. The framework for the revised curriculum for the FNP program is based upon the "Nurse Practitioner Core Competencies" (NONPF, 2012), which subsume the nine essentials in the AACN (2011) "Essentials of Master's Education," and the "Population Focused Nurse Practitioner Competencies" (NONPF, 2013).

Content is organized around core graduate nursing courses and specialty courses in the family nurse practitioner concentration. Master of Science in Nursing students take all core courses and specialty courses; Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner students take 24 credits that include all FNP specialty courses and may or may not include core courses in pathophysiology, pharmacology, and health promotion, based on a gap analysis.

## **Core Courses**

NURS 601: Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology  
NURS 602: Pharmacologic Applications  
NURS 605: Evolution of Nursing Theory  
NURS 610: Advanced Concepts in Nursing Research  
NURS 614: Health Promotion: Family and Community Perspectives  
NURS 645: Nursing and Public Policy  
NURS 800: Scholarly Project/Thesis

## **Family Nurse Practitioner Courses**

NURS 615: Advanced Health Assessment  
NURS 616: Advanced Health Assessment Practicum  
NURS 620: Clinical Decision Making I  
NURS 621: Clinical Decision Making I Practicum  
NURS 622: Family Nurse Practitioner Role Development  
NURS 630: Clinical Decision Making II  
NURS 632: Clinical Decision Making II Practicum  
NURS 640: Clinical Decision Making III  
NURS 642: Clinical Decision Making III Practicum  
NURS 750: Family Nurse Practitioner Internship

## **FULL TIME STUDY**

A minimum of nine credits per semester is considered a full load for graduate students, although students may register for up to thirteen credits per semester in the MSN Program without special permission. Students may not register for more than twelve semester hours during the summer. Exceptions may be authorized by the Executive Dean of Venango College-Clarion University, upon the recommendation of the graduate faculty.

## **SECOND MASTER'S DEGREE – Family Nurse Practitioner**

### **Second Master's Degree Curriculum**

Individuals holding a graduate degree in nursing may earn a second masters in nursing degree in the Clarion and Edinboro Universities' Family Nurse Practitioner concentration. In order to qualify for a second master's degree, regardless of where the first degree was earned, graduate students must successfully complete a minimum of 30 hours of credit in the Clarion and Edinboro Universities' Program beyond the first master's degree and meet program requirements with respect to the required semester hours of credit and courses for the major. Second master's degree students would typically have transfer credits in nursing theory and research that could apply to the requirements of NURS 605-Evolution of Nursing Theory, NURS 610-Advanced Concepts in Research, and NURS 800-Thesis/Project. Students may petition for life experience credits for NURS 614-Health Promotion: Family and Community Perspectives and NURS 645-Nursing and

Public Policy. Clinical courses and the internship are required of all degree students regardless of prior advanced education.

## POST MASTER’S FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATE

A Post-Master's Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate is available to individuals who hold a master’s degree in nursing from an accredited program. A program of study that meets all requirements for the graduate to sit for national certifying exams will be tailored to the needs of the individual. A minimum of 24 credits is required to earn a certificate.

### PROGRAM PLANS

Students have the option of full-time or part-time study as outlined in the following program plans. Part-time study is strongly encouraged.

#### PROGRAM PLAN, MSN-FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

<b>Full-time Plan (45 Credits)</b>					
Course Number	Course Name	*Hours	Course Number	Course Name	Hours
<b>Fall Semester I</b>			<b>Spring Semester I</b>		
NURS 601	Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology	3-45-0	NURS 602	Pharmacologic Applications	3-45-0
NURS 614	Health Promotion: Family & Community Perspectives	3-45-0	NURS 645	Nursing & Public Policy	3-45-0
NURS 605	Evolution of Nursing Theory	3-45-0	NURS 610	Advanced Concepts in Nursing Research	3-45-0
NURS 615	Advanced Health Assessment	2-30-0	NURS 620	Clinical Decision Making I	1-15-0
NURS 616	Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2-0-90 (30 as skill lab)	NURS 621	Clinical Decision Making I Practicum	2-0-90
			NURS 622	Family Nurse Practitioner Role Development	1-15-0
<b>Summer I</b>					
NURS 800	Thesis/Project				3-45-0
<b>Fall Semester II</b>			<b>Spring Semester II</b>		
NURS 630	Clinical Decision Making II	3-45-0	NURS 640	Clinical Decision Making III	3-45-0
NURS 632	Clinical Decision Making II Practicum	2-0-90	NURS 642	Clinical Decision Making III Practicum	2-0-90
<b>Summer II</b>					
NURS 750	Family Nurse Practitioner Internship				6-0-270

<b>Part-time Plan (45 Credits)</b>					
Course Number	Course Name	*Hours	Course Number	Course Name	Hours
<b>Fall Semester I</b>			<b>Spring Semester I</b>		
NURS 605	Evolution of Nursing Theory	3-45-0	NURS 610	Advanced Concepts in Nursing Research	3-45-0
NURS 614	Health Promotion: Family & Community Perspectives	3-45-0	NURS 645	Nursing & Public Policy	3-45-0
<b>Summer I</b>					
NURS 800	Thesis/Project				3-45-0
<b>Fall Semester II</b>			<b>Spring Semester II</b>		
NURS 601	Advanced Concepts in Pathophysiology	3-45-0	NURS 602	Pharmacologic Applications	3-45-0
NURS 615	Advanced Health Assessment	2-30-0	NURS 620	Clinical Decision Making I	1-15-0
NURS 616	Advanced Health Assessment Practicum	2-0-90 (30 as skill lab)	NURS 621	Clinical Decision Making I Practicum	2-0-90
			NURS 622	Family Nurse Practitioner Role Development	1-15-0
<b>Fall Semester III</b>			<b>Spring Semester III</b>		
NURS 630	Clinical Decision Making II	3-45-0	NURS 640	Clinical Decision Making III	3-45-0
NURS 632	Clinical Decision Making II Practicum	2-0-90	NURS 642	Clinical Decision Making III Practicum	2-0-90
<b>Summer III</b>					
NURS 750	Family Nurse Practitioner Internship				6-0-270

\*Hours: Credits – Theory Clock Hours/Semester– Clinical Clock Hours/Semester

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CREDIT/CLOCK HOURS

The FNP program consists of 18 credits of theory courses, 3 credits of research, 23 credits of combined theory and practicum, and 1 credit of role development for a total of 45 credits. The program incorporates 465 hours of didactic course work (computed at 15 clock hrs. per credit) including thesis/scholarly project and 600 hours of clinical practicums. Clinical practicums are computed at 45 clock hours per credit.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### Core Courses

**NURS 601: ADVANCED CONCEPTS IN PATHOPHYSIOLOGY****3 credits**

This course is devoted to the study of the physiological process of disease and the body's response to this process. It is the goal of the course to present broad physiological principles that advanced practice nurses can apply to their clinical experiences. Specific diseases will be used to exemplify pathophysiological concepts, and treatment is examined at the molecular level as response to the pathophysiology. The course investigates exogenous causes of diseases, emphasizing infection, inflammation and the immune response, as well as endogenous diseases of the nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, hepatic pulmonary, and renal systems. Offered fall annually.

**NURS 602: PHARMACOLOGIC APPLICATIONS****3 credits**

Covers principles of pharmacology as applied to advanced nursing practice. This includes drug effectiveness, mechanism and interaction. Emphasis will be on the pharmacological action of drugs on specific organ systems and the clinical use of drugs in treatment of disease conditions. Emphasis will be on critical decision-making skills in the selection of drug therapy, doses of drugs, routes of administration and preferred therapy. This course focuses upon pharmacologic implications for the family nurse practitioner in working with individuals across the life span. Pre-requisite: NURS 601. Offered spring annually.

**NURS 605: EVOLUTION OF NURSING THEORY****3 credits**

Focuses on selected aspects of theory development in nursing science. Emphasis is given to the study of epistemological issues related to the evolution of theory in nursing. Varying levels and components of theories are explored. Major strategies for theory development including concept analysis, synthesis, and theory derivation are analyzed. Students gain experience in critically examining major existing theoretical models. Offered fall annually.

**NURS 610: ADVANCED CONCEPTS IN NURSING RESEARCH****3 credits**

Examines the relationship and contribution of nursing research to the development of nursing science. The growth of research will be traced over the course of the last century, with particular emphasis on the evolution which has occurred since mid-century. Students will be assisted to increase their ability to critically evaluate published research and to make decisions concerning its application to practice. Additionally, students will develop a proposal for an individual or group research project which may become the foundational work for the scholarly project. Pre-requisite: NURS 605 or by permission of instructor. Offered spring annually and as needed.

**NURS 614: HEALTH PROMOTION: FAMILY & COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES****3 credits**

Introduces the advanced practice nurse student to health promotion and disease prevention strategies for families and communities. Students will explore principles of family theory, established models of family development, epidemiology, and demography. An opportunity will be given to develop intervention plans to improve wellness-based risk assessment and knowledge of national standards of clinical preventive services. This course is a pre-requisite to all other clinical nursing courses in the nurse practitioner concentration. Offered fall annually.

**NURS 645: NURSING AND PUBLIC POLICY****3 credits**

This course examines the implications of health care financing, structuring, labor market trends, and current health care reform proposals for nursing in general and for advanced practice nursing specifically. Additionally, the student will be stimulated to appreciate the critical need for nurses to engage in activities, individually and as members of professional organizations that will enhance the

position of nursing in influencing health care policy and legislation at all levels—local, state, and federal. A pervasive theme throughout the course is the ultimate goal of improving the health care of our citizens. Offered spring annually.

**NURS 800: SCHOLARLY PROJECT/THESIS** **3 credits**

Students will engage in group research related to an aspect of care relevant to the nurse practitioner or nurse educator professions. The scholarly project is supervised by a research advisor and committee. Prerequisites: NURS 605 and 610.

**Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty Courses**

**NURS 615: ADVANCED HEALTH ASSESSMENT** **2 credits**

This course builds upon the basic assessment skills of the nurse. It prepares the advanced practice nurse to conduct focused and comprehensive health assessments of clients across the lifespan. The process of diagnostic reasoning is emphasized as the primary means of collecting and analyzing data obtained from the client history, physical examination, and diagnostic procedures. Two hours lecture weekly. Must be taken concurrently with NURS 616. Pre- or Corequisite: NURS 601. Offered fall annually and as needed.

**NURS 616: ADVANCED HEALTH ASSESSMENT PRACTICUM** **2 credits**

Provides an opportunity for the student to implement the objectives identified in NURS 615. Students may select experiences from a variety of clinical settings appropriate to the course focus.

**Prerequisite (or co-requisite)** NURS 601; must be taken concurrently with NURS 615. Offered fall annually and as needed.

**NURS 620: CLINICAL DECISION MAKING I** **1 credit**

Focus is on developing skills in gathering clinical data, diagnostic reasoning, and clinical problem-solving. Analysis and synthesis of patient data to evaluate and appropriately manage common health problems across the lifespan is emphasized. Prerequisite: NURS 615 and NURS 616; must be taken concurrently with NURS 621 and NURS 622. Offered spring, annually and as needed.

**NURS 621: CLINICAL DECISION MAKING I PRACTICUM** **2 credits**

This course provides an opportunity for the student to implement the objectives identified in NURS 620. Students may select experiences from a variety of clinical settings appropriate to the course focus. Prerequisite: NURS 615 and NURS 616; must be taken concurrently with NURS 620 and NURS 622. Offered spring, annually and as needed.

**NURS 622: FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER ROLE DEVELOPMENT** **1 credit**

Explores the evolving role of the family nurse practitioner as an advanced practice nurse. Focus is on acquisition of advanced practice skills and application of decision making models that guide evidence based practice. Professional, ethical, and legal accountability is emphasized. Prerequisite: NURS 615 and NURS 616; must be taken concurrently with NURS 621 and NURS 620. Offered spring annually and as needed.

**NURS 630: CLINICAL DECISION MAKING II** **3 credits**

Focus is on health promotion, wellness maintenance, disease prevention, early detection of problems, prompt treatment of acute illness, and support for management and self-care during chronic conditions of children (birth through adolescence) and childbearing women. All dimensions of development and the total health of the family are considered. Collaboration with other healthcare providers is fostered.



Three lecture hours weekly. Must be taken concurrently with NURS 631 and NURS 632. Pre-requisites: NURS 601, 602 and 614 and minimum grade of “B” in 615 and 620. Offered fall annually.

**NURS 632: CLINICAL DECISION MAKING II PRACTICUM** **2 credits**

Provides an opportunity for the student to implement the objectives identified in NURS 630. Students may select experiences from a variety of clinical settings appropriate to the course focus. Six clinical hours weekly. Must be taken concurrently with NURS 630 and NURS 631. Pre-requisite: NURS 601, 602, and 614; Minimum grade of “B” in NURS 615 and 620. Offered fall annually.

**NURS 640: CLINICAL DECISION MAKING III** **3 credits**

Focus is on health promotion, wellness maintenance, disease prevention, early detection of problems, prompt treatment of acute illness, and support for management and self-care during chronic conditions of young, middle aged, and older adults. All dimensions of development and the total health of the family are considered. Collaboration with other health care providers is fostered with emphasis upon the coordination and continuity of client care. Three lecture hours weekly. Must be taken concurrently with NURS 641 and NURS 642. Pre-requisites: NURS 601, 602, and 614 and minimum grade of “B” in 615, 620, and 630. Offered fall annually.

**NURS 642: CLINICAL DECISION MAKING III PRACTICUM** **2 credits**

Provides an opportunity for the student to implement the objectives identified in NURS 640. Students may select experiences from a variety of clinical settings appropriate to the course focus. Six clinical hours weekly. Must be taken concurrently with NURS 640 and NURS 641. Pre-requisites: NURS 601, 602, and 614; Minimum grade of “B” in NURS 615, 620, and 630. Offered spring annually.

**NURS 750: FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER INTERNSHIP** **6 credits**

Provides the opportunity to gain competency in the multifaceted role of nurse practitioner through a supervised clinical experience under the guidance of certified nurse practitioners, physician assistants, or licensed physicians approved by the department as preceptors. Prerequisites: All program course work, including completion of NURS 800. Spring, annually and as needed.

## **STUDENT POLICIES**

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY (Academic Integrity Policy)**

Course-specific violations of academic integrity will follow the university policies of the faculty teaching that course. For program specific violations, the policies of Clarion University will take precedence. (See Students’ Rights Policy.)

The Academic Honesty Policy (2014) at Clarion, can be found at: <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/documents-and-forms/academic-honesty.pdf>

Policies related to academic honesty at Edinboro University can be found on page 5 of *The Student Code of Conduct and Judicial Procedures* (2016), which can be found at <http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/judicial-affairs/STUDENT-CODE-OF-CONDUCT-Feb2016.pdf>

In addition, the Clarion and Edinboro Universities’ Graduate Nursing Programs hold students to the Academic Integrity Pledge (Appendix C) signed at the time of admission. Sanctions for violation of academic integrity will be as follows:

1. First time offense – Student will be given a failing grade on the assignment and a warning. Remediation will be given to address specific violations, such as inability to appropriately cite sources.
2. Second offense – Student will be given a failing grade in the course and will be referred to the individual faculty member’s university judicial system. Sanctions by the judicial boards can include suspension or dismissal from the program or from the university.

## **Turnitin**

As an additional measure to ensure academic integrity in the program, all written assignments must be submitted through Turnitin, a service that helps prevent plagiarism by comparing student papers with Turnitin's database and Internet sources. While student privacy is protected, papers submitted to Turnitin do become source documents in Turnitin's reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of the Turnitin service is subject to the Terms and Conditions of Use posted on Turnitin's website: <http://www.turnitin.com>

## **ACADEMIC STANDING**

All graduate students are expected to remain in good academic standing by maintaining a cumulative QPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale and earning no more than three semester hours of “C” or lower grades in graduate courses.

### **Academic Probation**

Students will be placed on probation for the following reasons:

1. Failure to maintain an overall quality-point average (QPA) of 3.0
2. Earning a grade of “C” or below in any one course

A student placed on probation automatically loses his or her graduate assistantship. A reapplication for an assistantship will be required once she or he has returned to “good” academic standing. A student placed on probation must return to “good” academic standing through grades earned in course work during the next semester or summer session in which he or she enrolls. Failure to earn grades sufficient to be removed from probation will result in the student being dismissed from the graduate program.

FNP students cannot progress in courses in the clinical sequence while on probation.

### **Removing Probation Status**

Students placed on probation may repeat grades of “C” or below according to the following policy:

1. Only one course may be repeated
2. This one course may be repeated only one time

3. The most recent grade (regardless of whether it is higher or lower) will be the grade used for the GPA calculation.
1. A failure in NURS 800 cannot be repeated
2. If a student earns a grade of “C” or below in a theory course that has a co-requisite clinical practicum, or earns a “Failure” on the co-requisite clinical practicum, the student must repeat all related co-requisite clinical courses (e.g., NURS 615 and NURS 616) the next semester that course is offered
4. A grade of “C” or below in NURS 750 cannot be repeated without permission from the MSN Program Coordinator

A letter grade of “C” or below in any course with a clinical component may not count toward fulfillment of requirements for the Master of Science in Nursing degree.

### **Dismissal**

A student will be dismissed from the MSN program for any of the following reasons:

1. Violations of the academic honesty policies.
2. Violation of the American Nurses Association “Code for Nurses” guidelines for ethical practice, or the National Student Nurses’ Association “Code of Academic and Clinical Conduct.”
3. Failure to notify the Office of Graduate Studies of changes in a criminal arrest history.
4. Failure to meet enrollment requirements (e.g., licensure, CPR, professional liability insurance, clearances, and site-specific requirements) for clinical practicum experiences.
5. A documented pattern of unprofessional behavior in the classroom or clinical setting.
6. Unsafe practice during the practicum experience.
7. Failure to maintain a cumulative QPA of 3.0.
8. Failure to meet conditions for removal of probation status.
9. A grade of “C” or below in two courses.
10. A failing grade in NURS 800: Thesis

A student dismissed from the university is also dismissed from the MSN program; however, a student dismissed from the MSN program is not necessarily dismissed from the university. A student who is dismissed from the MSN program will be informed by letter, a copy of which will be retained in the student’s file. The student may choose to:

1. Remain at the university and pursue another course of study
2. Withdraw from the university
3. Appeal dismissal (See *Student Rights, Regulations, and Procedures Online Handbook*)
4. Seek readmission (see Readmission Policy)

Students who are dismissed from the MSN Program are strongly encouraged to seek the advice of their academic advisor to assist in problem-solving and planning to meet their goals.

### **Readmission**

Students who do not meet the conditions for removal of probation will be dismissed from their graduate program. After one semester of non-enrollment, the student may reapply to the program. If reaccepted, all conditions of probation apply and must be addressed in their first semester back.

Likewise, students who withdraw from the program without securing a leave of absence or fail to complete the program requirements in six years (or by the approved extension date) may apply for readmission to the nursing program if they have a cumulative QPA of 3.0 or better.

The Admission, Progression, and Graduation committee will evaluate student requests for readmission and make a recommendation to the graduate faculty based on the following criteria:

1. General academic history
2. Grade point average
3. Clinical performance as evaluated by graduate nursing faculty and preceptors
4. Time absent from the academic program
5. Potential for success

Students must request readmission in writing and address the reason for the dismissal or withdrawal and, if applicable, what the student has done or plans to do to improve academic performance. The Committee reserves the right to request additional information. The letter must be sent to:

Clarion University  
Department of Nursing  
840 Wood St.  
Clarion, PA 16214  
Attn: MSN Program Coordinator

Requests for readmission the fall semester of the next academic year must be received by the Committee no later than March 31. Requests for readmission the spring semester of the next academic year must be received by the Committee no later than September 30.

Students must apply for readmission within one year from the date of dismissal. Students who are not readmitted within the one year period will be considered new applicants and must meet the admission criteria.

Readmission to the nursing program is based on the professional judgment of the graduate nursing faculty and is contingent upon class size (space available). Students will be notified in writing of the Committee's decision.

## **COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT/PORTFOLIO**

In order to successfully complete the program, students must pass a comprehensive assessment in the form of a professional portfolio. The portfolio is submitted while enrolled in NURS 750 and assumes completion of all MSN courses with a cumulative QPA of not less than 3.0. The portfolio

evaluates the ability of the student to synthesize the information from core courses with the principles of diagnosis and management in primary care.

Successful completion of the portfolio requires meeting or exceeding each outcome as determined by a grading rubric given to the student prior to submission of the final document. Students are expected to collect artifacts throughout the program for inclusion in the portfolio. Acceptable evidence includes course assignments or projects, clinical logs and reflections, a current resume, letters of recommendation, a summary of professional development experiences, and any other evidence that would support the reader's full comprehension of the student's growth as a professional. Specifically, FNP students should demonstrate attainment of the *Nurse Practitioner Core Competencies* (NONPF, 2017) and the *Population Focused Nurse Practitioner Competencies* (NONPF, 2013) in relation to program outcomes.

Expectations must be met or exceeded for all program outcomes in order to pass. Students receiving a failing grade on the portfolio will be given an opportunity to re-submit the portfolio only one time to remediate any deficiencies or make any additions or corrections based on written feedback.

## **COMMUNICATING POLICY CHANGES**

Any changes in policy that are made during the academic year, either by Clarion or Edinboro universities' departments of nursing or graduate nursing programs, will be communicated to students by instructors in all appropriate classes, sent via the MSN-L listserv, and/or posted in the MSN Forum.

## **GRADING POLICY**

### **Grading Scale**

The graduate nursing faculty of the joint MSN program subscribe to the following grading scale:

93 - 100 = A	66 - 74 = D
84 - 92 = B	65 - below = E
75 - 83 = C	Pass/Fail

### **Incomplete Grade**

Incomplete grades must be completed by the end of the following semester. No one may be cleared for graduation with "I" grades on the record.

### **In Progress (IP) Grades**

Students who have not completed NURS 800 in the designated semester receive an "IP" (In Progress) grade. The grade "IP" is given only when the work in a course extends beyond the

semester or term originally scheduled. It implies satisfactory performance. The grade "IP" will not alter the QPA of the student since hours attempted, hours earned, and quality points earned will be entered in cumulative totals once the final grade is submitted. The "IP" grade shall remain on the student's transcript until the instructor submits a grade upon completion of the thesis/project.

### **Grade Appeal Policy**

Disagreements between students and faculty on student rights and academic complaints against faculty members may be dealt with as described in the Clarion University *Student Rights, Regulations, and Procedures Handbook* or the Edinboro University *Student Code of Conduct and Judicial Procedures* at the respective university of the faculty member.

### **GRADUATION POLICY--MSN Students**

Students must have completed all coursework required for their degree with an overall quality-point average (QPA) of 3.0 in order to graduate from the program. In addition, students must have passed the portfolio competency, with a “meets” or “exceeds” score for each outcome on the portfolio grading rubric. The maximum time for completion of the degree program is six calendar years.

It is the candidate's responsibility to file, with the aid of his or her advisor, an Application for Graduation prior to the published deadline during the semester in which he or she intends to graduate. Graduation applications are submitted electronically through MyClarion: <http://www.clarion.edu/about-clarion/computing-services/myclarion/docs/MyClarion-Applying-for-Graduation.pdf>

Students have the option of participating in the Commencement ceremony at either Edinboro University or Clarion University. Commencement occurs two times a year: Spring (May) and Winter (December). Students may “walk” in the Spring Commencement if they will be completing all program requirements by the end of the Summer III term. Students choosing this option should plan to apply for graduation on the date posted for May graduates.

### **GRADUATION POLICY--Post-Master's Certificate Students**

Post-Master's Certificate students do not submit a graduation application. Instead, Post-Master's Certificate students submit an Application for Certificate/Letter of Completion form: <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/documents-and-forms/Application-for-certificate-letter-of-completion.pdf> . This form should only be submitted after all coursework has been completed. Post-Master's Certificate graduates will have their achievement recognized by a certificate rather than a diploma. Certificate graduates are not eligible to participate in the Commencement ceremonies.

### **GRADUATION RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT**

At least two thirds (30) of the credits meeting program requirements must be taken from the Clarion and Universities' Master of Science in Nursing Program. This policy can be found at: <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrars-office/documents-and-forms/residency.pdf>

## **INCIDENT REPORT POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

An incident is any happening related to student performance in the education setting which is not consistent with the educational practices of the MSN Program or one in which the safety of an individual is jeopardized.

1. The student who has had an incident in the clinical setting is responsible for completing an Incident Report Form which can be obtained from the MSN Program Coordinator. The student is to complete the form and return it to the faculty member who is supervising the practicum. The faculty member will confer with the student as necessary and then will complete the required portion of the Incident Report Form (see *Clinical Practicum Manual*).
2. The faculty member will inform the MSN Program Coordinator, and Department Chair if necessary, and determination will be made as to the action to be taken. Referral to the Executive Dean of Venango College-Clarion University is made at the discretion of the Coordinator and/or Department Chair.
3. Incident Reports are retained in the student file.
4. Students must comply with affiliating agencies' policies related to the reporting of incidents.

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE POLICY**

Any student requesting a Leave of Absence from the MSN program must submit a request in writing to the MSN Program Coordinator. This letter must include a reason for requesting the leave and the student's plans for return.

1. The Coordinator has the right to request a personal interview with the student requesting the leave before a decision is made.
2. Each Leave of Absence will be handled individually according to the specific need, academic standing, and clinical performance of the student.
3. The Coordinator will present the request to the Admission, Progression, and Graduation Committee with all pertinent information.
4. The Admission, Progression, and Graduation Committee will recommend denial or granting of the Leave of Absence.
5. No Leave of Absence will be granted for unsatisfactory academic performance or for a period longer than one year or two full semesters.
6. If the leave is granted, the student will be informed as such and must notify the Office of the Registrar of his or her intention to withdraw and the reason for withdrawal. At this time, the student will be informed of any conditional requirements for return (see CUP Graduate Catalog).

7. Before returning to the MSN Program, the student must notify the MSN Program Coordinator of intent, the semester before returning, in order to register for the appropriate courses.

## **PROGRESSION OF INTERRUPTED CLINICAL COURSES**

Once admitted in the MSN program, it is strongly advised that less than two years elapse between clinical courses. Clinical courses include NURS 615/616: Advanced Health Assessment/Practicum, all clinical decision making courses, and the internship. If two or more years elapse, the student must receive permission from the faculty member teaching the course and may be asked to complete a practical exam or retake the previous clinical course.

## **STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

All requirements for the master's degree must be completed within a six-year period commencing with the first graduate course registration. The MSN Program Coordinator may extend this period upon written request from the student for justifiable reasons. This request must be supported by the Coordinator before submission to the office of Graduate Studies for final approval.

## **STUDENTS' RIGHTS**

In the case of a dispute between the student and a faculty member involving academic concerns (i.e., classroom evaluation, course grades, etc.), the student should follow the procedures outlined in the appropriate publication of the university employing the faculty member, for example, Clarion University's Student Rights, Regulations, and Procedures Handbook and Edinboro University's Student Handbook. The procedures to be followed are consistent with the university in which the faculty member is employed.

## **SCHOLARLY PROJECT/THESIS COMPLETION POLICY**

Students are expected to complete their scholarly project (research proposal) or thesis, including the writing and approval of the final document, within one year (3 academic terms, including the summer) of initial registration for NURS 800. Failure to make sufficient progress during that year will result in a "Failure" in NURS 800. Sufficient progress is defined as regular communication with the project/thesis advisor and submission of required documents agreed upon by the student(s) and project/thesis advisor. Students who fail NURS 800 may not repeat the course and are automatically dismissed from the program.

For students who have made sufficient progress during the first year, if more than a year passes and the study is still not complete, students must register for one additional credit for each term until it is completed or until a second year has passed. After two years, students must seek permission from the Executive Dean of Venango College-Clarion University, to remain in the program.

## **WITHDRAWAL POLICY**



All class withdrawals must be made through the Clarion University Office of the Registrar. If a withdrawal is not made through the Office of the Registrar, a failing grade will be recorded for the affected course(s). Withdrawals between the end of the second and ninth weeks may be made without penalty. After the beginning of the tenth week of a semester or the second half of a summer session, a course from which a student withdraws shall be reported with a grade of "E." No student may have more than 2 class withdrawals while enrolled in the MSN Program. Exceptions may be made for withdrawals due to extenuating circumstances such as illness or some other unavoidable occurrence. (See Leave of Absence Policy.)

Students may withdraw from the university (all courses) through the last day of classes. If a university withdrawal is not made through the Office of the Registrar, a failing grade will be recorded for the affected course(s). Any student who withdraws from the university (that is, withdraws from all classes) either during or at the end of a semester must notify the Office of the Registrar of his or her intention to withdraw and the reason for withdrawal. Such students must be readmitted to the university before being allowed to take classes again. This can be done by contacting Graduate Studies at 814-393-2337 or 800-676-7171, option 6.

Students are advised to review information on Individual Class Withdrawals and University Withdrawals at <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/academic-policies/index.html>

### **CLINICAL PRACTICE IN THE MSN PROGRAM**

Guidelines for clinical practicum experiences can be found in the *Clinical Practicum Manual*. Location of the experience depends on physical presence laws for online programs that are unique to each state's licensing requirements. Clarion University offers academic courses, programs, and clinical/internship/field experience-type placements by meeting each state's requirements for authorization. At this time, all clinical practice experiences must take place in AR, CO, DE, FL, KS, MA, ME, NJ, OH, PA, TX; state authorization for New York is pending. Students completing clinical hours in those states must meet the RN licensing requirements of that state. Students who have clinical practicum experiences beyond a 2-hour driving time of our campus locations in Edinboro, Oil City, Clarion, and Pittsburgh will be evaluated by clinical faculty through the use of virtual technology or other alternative means.

### **RESEARCH IN THE MSN PROGRAM**

Completion of a scholarly project is expected of every graduate student in the MSN program. This can take two forms: a research proposal or a thesis. Both are completed with the advice and consultation of the research advisor and research committee. Details on procedures related to the research process, including registration for NURS 800, can be found in the *Research Manual*, which can be accessed in the MSN Forum in D2L.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **WHO TO CONTACT FOR HELP**

The following chart lists departments, phone numbers, and other contact information for various

staff members and faculty who can help you with specific questions. For course related questions, check with the faculty member teaching that course. The MSN Program Coordinator is also available at any time to answer questions or direct you to who can. Dr. Lana Smith can be reached at [lasmith@clarion.edu](mailto:lasmith@clarion.edu) phone 814-393-1851 (Secretary).

Contact Information Quick Start Guide

Information/Questions	Who to Contact	Phone	Other Contact Information
Advisor	MSN secretary can give you this information	814-393-1851	Also listed at <a href="http://myclarion.clarion.edu">http://myclarion.clarion.edu</a>
Billing	Accounts Receivable (Student Accounts)	814-393-1071 or 1-800-672-7171 (option 4)	<a href="http://www.clarion.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/contact-student-financial-services/index.aspx">http://www.clarion.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/contact-student-financial-services/index.aspx</a>
Clinical documents/ Typhon	Your clinical instructor	Contact information on syllabus	See <i>Clinical Practicum Manual</i> guidelines  For Typhon: submit support ticket request in Typhon
Desire2Learn (D2L) assistance	D2L Help	855-203-5112- Press 2 (toll free)	See D2L Support: <a href="https://d2l.clarion.edu/">https://d2l.clarion.edu/</a>
Clarion email account not working	Computing Services Help Desk	814-393-2640	<a href="mailto:helpdesk@clarion.edu">helpdesk@clarion.edu</a>
Edinboro email account not working	Technology Help Center	814-732-2111	Password Management: <a href="http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/tech-and-comm/password-management.html">http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/tech-and-comm/password-management.html</a>
Financial Aid	Financial Aid Office	814-393-2315 or 800-672-7171(option 2)	<a href="http://www.clarion.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/contact-student-financial-services/index.aspx">http://www.clarion.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/contact-student-financial-services/index.aspx</a>
Graduation	Your advisor		Forms and instructions: <a href="http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/graduation.html">http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/graduation.html</a>
Registration	Contact your advisor for guidance		How to: <a href="http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/registering-for-classes/index.html">http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/registering-for-classes/index.html</a>  See Transcripts (below) for Registrar's Office contact information

Textbooks	Clarion University Store for courses taught by Clarion faculty	814-393-2696	<a href="http://www.bkstr.com/clarionstore/home">http://www.bkstr.com/clarionstore/home</a>
	Edinboro University Campus Bookstore for courses taught by Edinboro faculty (section numbers with an ED)	814-732-2456	<a href="http://edinborobookstore.com/home.aspx">http://edinborobookstore.com/home.aspx</a>
Thesis/Research Proposal registration	Your thesis advisor		See <i>Research Manual</i> guidelines
Transcripts	Clarion University Registrar's Office	814-393-2229 Fax requests to: 814-393-2039	<a href="http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrars-office/transcripts-and-diplomas/index.html">http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrars-office/transcripts-and-diplomas/index.html</a> To email the Registrar's Office: <a href="mailto:registrar@clarion.edu">registrar@clarion.edu</a>
Library	Clarion University Library—For Online Students	866-272-5612 (Press # 5 for Library)	<a href="http://www.clarion.edu/libraries/services/for-clarion-online-students.html">http://www.clarion.edu/libraries/services/for-clarion-online-students.html</a>
	Edinboro Baron-Forness Library	814-732-2273	<a href="http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/library/">http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/library/</a>

## **STUDENT CIVILITY GUIDELINES**

Students are always free to express opinions publicly and privately by orderly means that do not disrupt the regular and essential operation of the universities. Students in the MSN Program are given an opportunity to openly discuss program-related issues in an online discussion board located in the Desire2Learn MSN Forum. Participation in the MSN Forum affirms these First Amendment rights of students' freedom of expression. Faculty ask, however, that students refrain from the following:

- Anonymous postings (except where designated to do so)
- Use of indecent or offensive language
- Blatant disregard for authority
- Violation of published student rights and responsibilities at either university

Above all, students are expected to respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every person as well as exemplify the mission, philosophy, and values of the MSN Program.

*Students with individual concerns and course-related grievances are encouraged to contact the involved parties first or file a formal grievance according to the Students' Rights policy (see Student Policies in this handbook).*

Within the classroom, whether virtual, face-to-face, or in a clinical setting, students are expected to demonstrate the same civil behavior. Students may refer to the following resources for further guidance:

*Netiquette* by Virginia Shea (1994): <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/book/index.html>  
*Netiquette: E-guides on Social Interaction and Communicating Electronically*:  
<http://www.studygs.net/netiquette.htm>

## **SOCIAL EQUITY EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT**

Clarion University of Pennsylvania is committed to equal employment and equal educational opportunities for all qualified individuals regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, or other classifications that are protected under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act of 2008-2009, and other pertinent state and federal laws and regulations

## **TITLE IX REPORTING EXCEPTIONS**

Clarion University and its faculty are committed to assuring a safe and productive educational environment for all students. In order to meet this commitment and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, the University requires faculty members to report incidents of sexual violence shared by students to the University's Title IX Coordinator. The only exceptions to the faculty member's reporting

obligation are when incidents of sexual violence are communicated by a student during a classroom discussion, in a writing assignment for a class, or as part of a University-approved research project. Faculty members are obligated to report sexual violence or any other abuse of a student who was, or is, a child (a person under 18 years of age) when the abuse allegedly occurred to the person designated in the University protection of minors policy.

Information regarding the reporting of sexual violence and the resources that are available to victims of sexual violence is set forth at the Office of Social Equity/Title IX webpage <http://www.clarion.edu/misconductfaq> and <http://www.clarion.edu/titleix>.

## **DISTANCE EDUCATION IN THE MSN PROGRAM**

The MSN Program uses technology extensively to make the program more accessible to students. With the exception of skill labs for NURS 616: Advanced Health Assessment Practicum, a workshop for learning minor office procedures (e.g., suturing) as part of NURS 622: Family Nurse Practitioner Role Development, and clinical practicums, courses are web-based, using Desire2Learn (D2L). D2L is an online learning environment accessible from any computer with an internet connection. Faculty opting to offer synchronous class sessions using desktop conferencing will announce class times in advance and archive sessions for those students unable to attend due to work or other obligations. Faculty are sensitive to accessibility issues in rural areas. D2L technical requirements can be found at:

<http://www.clarion.edu/about-clarion/computing-services/learning-technology-center/d2l/tech-requirements.html>

In addition, the following are required:

- Anti-virus software. McAfee anti-virus software is available without charge for enrolled Clarion students through a license agreement: <http://www.clarion.edu/about-clarion/computing-services/software-and-hardware/software-information/Anti-VirusSoftware.html>
- Microsoft Office for PC or Mac

**To access Desire2Learn and login go to:** <https://d2l.clarion.edu/>

## **WEB REGISTRATION PROCEDURES**

Students in the MSN Program are responsible for reviewing the relevant sections of the university catalog, consulting with their assigned academic advisor during the period of advisement, and monitoring their academic progress to ensure that every course scheduled will fulfill respective degree requirements. The university retains the right to remove students from any courses for which they are not academically qualified or lack the required co-requisite and/or prerequisite courses. Instructions for online registration can be found at the Clarion University Registrar's page: <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrars-office/registering-for-classes/index.html#webregistrationinstructions>

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The main route for MSN Program announcements is via the MSN-L listserv, administered through Clarion University and moderated by the MSN Program Coordinator. New students are provided with instructions on subscribing to the listserv and may continue to be subscribed upon graduation. Select announcements are posted at Clarion University-Venango Campus, the Pittsburgh Campus, and Edinboro University. Other information is transmitted through class e-mail, class announcements, and individual mailings.

### **Using the MSN-L LISTSERV E-mail Account**

A LISTSERV E-mail account has been established through Clarion University Computing Services for all MSN students. MSN-L is the name of this LISTSERV account. Please note: this LISTSERV is not to be used for sending private messages to individuals, but instead, it is a mechanism for sending messages to all members of the MSN-L simultaneously.

\*\* To subscribe to this list from a Clarion University e-mail account, send mail to Listserv as follows:

MAIL> send

To: [listserv@listserv.clarion.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.clarion.edu)

Subj: (leave this blank)

Enter your message in the text field below: SUBSCRIBE MSN-L

\*\* To subscribe from an off-campus Non-Clarion University e-mail account, send mail to Listserv as follows:

MAIL> send

To: [listserv@listserv.clarion.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.clarion.edu)

Subj: (leave this blank)

Enter your message in the text field below: SUBSCRIBE MSN-L FirstName LastName

\*\* To signoff this list from a Clarion University e-mail account, send mail to Listserv as follows:

MAIL> send

To: [listserv@listserv.clarion.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.clarion.edu)

Subj: (leave this blank)

Enter your message in the text field below: SIGNOFF MSN-L

\*\* To signoff this list from an off-campus Non-Clarion University e-mail account, send mail to Listserv as follows:

MAIL> send

To: [listserv@listserv.clarion.edu](mailto:listserv@listserv.clarion.edu)

Subj: (leave this blank)

Enter your message in the text field below: SIGNOFF MSN-L

Any questions should be referred to: Clarion University Graduate Studies at (814) 393-2337

*Please note: When responding to an MSN-L message, remember that hitting “reply” sends your message to the entire listserv!!*

## **LIBRARY SERVICES**

Edinboro and Clarion University Libraries are accessible to distance students via a variety of online resources, including tutorials re: how to conduct searches and request materials. Students are also welcome to visit any of the campus libraries in person. Students may access each library’s catalog from their home through the Libraries’ home pages.

The Clarion University Libraries home page can be found at: <http://www.clarion.edu/libraries/>

The Edinboro University Library home page can be found at:  
<http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/library/>

Specific information for distance education students at Clarion can be found:  
<http://www.clarion.edu/libraries/services/for-clarion-online-students.html>

From the library home pages, students are directed to various links such as library information, the online library catalog, online journals, reference web sites, databases, as well as the interlibrary loan service, and other academic links. To search a database you will need to login with your username/password. Select either Clarion or Edinboro from the drop-down list of institutions and then enter the username and password you use to access your campus email account.

All students have automatic access to Clarion and Edinboro Universities’ library services/digital databases when they are registered for classes.

Requests for interlibrary loans can be placed from Clarion or Edinboro Universities Libraries’ home pages. Students should request interlibrary loans from the campus affiliated with their faculty advisor.

## **ACADEMIC CALENDARS**

In most aspects the calendars of both universities are the same. The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Universities has agreed to the same start and end dates for fall and spring semesters. However, there may be differences at the discretion of the university for select days, such reading days prior to finals, and for summer sessions. When there are differences, students will follow the class schedule of the university which employs the faculty member teaching his/her course. Academic calendars and class schedules are printed in Clarion and Edinboro Universities’ semester class schedule, posted on bulletin boards at each university, and emailed to each MSN student. Academic calendars are also found on each university’s website.

## **CLASS CANCELLATION NOTIFICATION POLICY**



## **Clarion University**

Only under extreme circumstances which create a state of emergency will the university close. For notification options and specifics, please visit this website:

<http://www.clarion.edu/about-clarion/offices-and-administration/public-affairs/marketing-and-communication/emergency-information/>

## **Edinboro University**

Information concerning class cancellation at Edinboro Campus may be obtained by dialing 814-732-2676. This “Emergency Hotline” informs outside callers of the cancellation of classes. Also, any student enrolled at Edinboro University will also receive an e-mail message providing further information of the status of class sessions. Announcements will also be broadcast over local television and radio stations and via cell phone text notification. Information about cancellation policies related to off campus students can be found at: <http://www.edinboro.edu/student-experience/commuting/faqs.html>

## **TUITION**

Tuition information can be found at: <http://www.clarion.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/tuition-and-fees/graduate-tuition-and-fees.html#row-d13e918> Please note that the MSN Graduate tuition and fees are slightly higher and unique to that program.

## **FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE FOR MSN STUDENTS**

Admission to a graduate program does not include financial support. Information about financial assistance available to graduate students may be obtained by contacting the Financial Aid Office at Clarion University (814-393-2315) or by visiting:

<http://www.clarion.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/financial-aid/index.html>

Of special note, students enrolled in certificate programs are not eligible for federal student aid.

In addition, scholarships periodically become available. Many, if not all, include financial need documentation as part of their criteria. It is recommended that upon admission, all students fill out a FAFSA form documenting unmet financial need. This form can be obtained at financial aid offices at either university, but should be submitted to Clarion’s financial aid office. Scholarship information can also be found at the following websites, as well as being posted via the MSN-L listserv or in the MSN Forum as information becomes known:

Clarion University: <http://www.clarion.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/financial-aid/scholarships/index.html>

Edinboro University:

<http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/financial-aid/types-of-aid/scholarships/>

Contact the nursing departments and graduate offices at each university for graduate assistantship and scholarship information.

## **MAINTENANCE OF STUDENT EDUCATION AND FINANCIAL RECORDS**

Each university within the State System has an Academic Affairs division that provides the structure and governance for all academic programs (undergraduate and graduate) within the university. In conjunction with the academic colleges in which programs are housed, graduate programs at Clarion University are administered through the Graduate Admissions Office and those at Edinboro University through the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

The MSN program is a jointly offered program that permits the universities to share faculty, material resources, libraries, facilities, and equipment. In order to facilitate the logistics of operating a joint program, an administrative site is designated every five years. Clarion University, currently functioning as the administrative site, handles all the administrative aspects of admission of students, student accounts (billing), financial aid, registration, etc. In addition, Clarion collects all fees related to admission, registration, and graduation.

## **GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS**

### **Clarion University**

Each year a limited number of graduate assistantships are awarded to graduate students admitted with regular full admission status to a graduate program. Graduate assistants work 10 or 20 hours per week in assignments related to academic programs or university-wide service. They are paid an hourly stipend and receive a 50% tuition waiver for a 10-hour assistantship or a 20-hour assistantship. Students are required to pay full tuition beyond 9 credits per semester. There are no summer assistantships. Assistantships are available on the main campus of Clarion University and at the Venango College of Clarion University in Oil City, PA.

Graduate assistants must take at least 6 credits of course work per semester, perform assigned duties in a satisfactory manner, and remain in good academic standing.

Students wishing to apply for a graduate assistantship should complete the Application for Position of Graduate Assistant form available at <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/graduate-student-services.html> and submit with it with their application to graduate study.

### **Edinboro University**

A number of Graduate Assistantships are available each year and are awarded by the School of Graduate Studies and Research. Eligibility for an Assistantship includes acceptance into a graduate program, enrollment for full-time study, and acceptance by the director of the office assigned.

Full-time graduate assistantships only cover 9 credits towards tuition per semester. If a GA enrolls in more than 9 credits (15 credits a semester is the maximum a GA can schedule) they must cover additional tuition costs at their own expense. Full-time Graduate Assistantships

include a stipend and work 18 hours per week. Half-time graduate assistants will also receive a stipend, receive a 4.5 credit waiver per semester, and work 9 hours per week.

Applications and current stipend rates can be obtained from the Edinboro University School of Graduate Studies and Research or online at: <http://www.edinboro.edu/academics/schools-and-departments/graduate-studies/apply/graduate-assistantships/index.html>

## **PARKING REGULATIONS**

Students enrolled in the MSN program are eligible for parking privileges at both universities

### **Clarion University**

To apply for a student parking permit, please use the MyClarion system. Detailed instructions for submitting a parking permit application can be found in the MyClarion Parking Permit Quick Reference guide:

<http://www.clarion.edu/about-clarion/computing-services/myclarion/docs/MyClarion-Request-Parking-Permit.pdf>

### **Edinboro University**

Registration of student vehicles at Edinboro University can be completed online at <https://secure.edinboro.edu/EVR/VehReg.pl> or in person through the Edinboro University Police Department located in Earley Hall or by phone at 814-732-2921. If a permit has already been obtained through Clarion University an additional \$1.00 will be charged for the permit. Registration of student vehicles at Edinboro University is required for parking on weekdays before 5 pm.

Parking regulations for Edinboro University can be accessed at:

<http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/police/parking-on-campus.html>

## **EVALUATIONS FOR THE PROGRAM**

Throughout the program students will be asked to evaluate courses and faculty. Students are expected to use these opportunities to provide *constructive* criticism. The intent of the evaluations is to provide valuable feedback for the planning and revising of the curriculum, teaching strategies, and other factors that would enhance the learning experience. These evaluations are completed anonymously and will be made available to students online.

In addition, students will be asked to evaluate the program upon graduation (exit survey) and at one and three years after graduation (alumni surveys). One and three year alumni surveys will coincide with the employer survey process, which is facilitated by the MSN Program Coordinator as follows:

### **Follow-up Procedures**

1. One and three years after graduation, two survey forms, a Graduate Survey and Employer Survey, will be sent, or be made available electronically, to all program graduates.
2. A cover letter will accompany each follow-up survey explaining its objectives and providing instructions to graduates to complete the Graduate Survey and how to provide access information to their current employer for the Employer Survey.
3. If mailed, a pre-addressed stamped envelope will be included with each follow-up form to encourage responses.

The returned follow-up surveys will be reviewed by the MSN faculty and results posted in the Desire2Learn MSN Forum.

## **OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT ACQUISITION**

Official transcripts are maintained in the Office of the Registrar, Clarion University. You can request transcripts using the Transcript Request Form (<http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrars-office/documents-and-forms/Transcript-Request-Form.pdf>) or by mailing, faxing, or scanning and e-mailing your written request with the following information:

- Full name, the name under which you attended (and any name changes since)
- Clarion ID or social security number
- Dates of attendance or graduation
- Daytime telephone number
- Current address
- Complete mailing address where transcript should be sent (specify department or person to whom transcript should be addressed)
- Your signature (Requests received without a signature will not be processed.)

No fee is required with your request; therefore there is a limit of three transcripts per request and only one request per day. Multiple daily requests will not be honored or held.

Transcripts can be requested by:

- Personally delivering your request to the Office of the Registrar at 148 Becht Hall. In most cases, transcripts can be taken with you.
- Mailing your request to:

Clarion University of PA  
Registrar's Office  
840 Wood Street  
Clarion, PA 16214

- Faxing your request to +1 814 393 2039 (No cover sheet is necessary)
- E-mailing your request to registrar@clarion.edu as an attachment.

Transcript delivery methods include:

- Regular mail
- Pick-up in person (Photo ID is required)
- Electronic Delivery

For detailed transcript request instructions see: <http://www.clarion.edu/academics/registrar-office/transcripts-and-diplomas/index.html>

## **STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

One graduate nursing student elected by the student body or volunteering from the student body serves as the student representative for the MSN program. When one or more of the program's graduate assistant(s) is/are MSN students, they are appointed to assume this role. When there is no student representative, the Program Coordinator polls the student body via the MSN-L listserv for concerns, questions, and recommendations before each MSN meeting.

Students are also welcome to participate as members of the Graduate Student Advisory Committee which functions to a) address issues of mutual concern related to the graduate nursing program, b) address other concerns as they arise, and c) provide feedback related to curricular issues.

### **SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL**

Sigma Theta Tau is the international honor society of nursing. Both Clarion and Edinboro Universities have chapters in this prestigious organization. Member benefits include networking, conferences, publications, scholarships, and grant opportunities, among others (see <http://www.nursingsociety.org/Pages/default.aspx>)

Any student who is not already a member may contact a Chapter counselor once they meet the membership criteria.

### **Application for Induction to Honor Society**

- Graduate students must have completed one fourth of the MSN Curriculum, at least one clinical course and have a QPA of 3.5 or above
- Candidate must complete a Membership Intent Form
- Indicate on your intent form the graduate nursing courses you have completed
- Attach updated vitae
- Indicate if you are already a member of Sigma Theta Tau and want to transfer or hold dual membership.

Two letters of endorsement are required. At least one of the two endorsers is required to be a member of the nursing faculty and at least one of the two endorsers is required to hold active membership in Sigma Theta Tau International. Submit your completed application by the designated date. Please mail your application along with all required paperwork to the chapter

of your choice.

Mu Xi Chapter (Clarion University): 814-393-1252- Venango College

Nu Theta Chapter (Edinboro University): 814-732-2619

### **PHI KAPPA PHI**

Phi Kappa Phi is an all-discipline honor society with a chapter at Clarion University. Membership is by invitation only. Benefits of membership include networking and scholarship opportunities. To learn more about this organization, visit their website at: <http://www.phikappaphi.org/web/>

### **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

The American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) was the first national organization to represent nurse practitioners. Member benefits include networking, conferences, continuing education opportunities, publications, and a reduced rate on the AANP national certifying exam. Any student currently enrolled in an NP program qualifies for membership in the AANP. Student membership rates are approximately half of full membership but with all rights of membership. Students will be asked to provide proof of enrollment to qualify. Visit their website for more information: <http://www.aanp.org>

### **PENNSYLVANIA COALITION OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

The Pennsylvania Coalition of Nurse Practitioners (PCNP) is the organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that represents nurse practitioners through regional chapters. The Northwest Pennsylvania Nurse Practitioner Association serves Erie and surrounding areas; the Nurse Practitioner Association of Southwest Pennsylvania serves Allegheny and surrounding counties.

Students are encouraged to join the organization and are offered a discounted membership rate. Each May the organization recognizes two outstanding graduating students and honors them at the Annual Meeting. Students are also encouraged to frequent the PCNP website ([www.pacnp.org/](http://www.pacnp.org/)) for current news re: nurse practitioners and to subscribe to the PACNP listserv.

## **APPENDICES**

**APPENDIX A**

**STEPS IN OBTAINING LEGAL CERTIFICATION  
AND PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY IN PENNSYLVANIA**

These are the steps you will need to follow to obtain legal certification in Pennsylvania. **If you plan to practice in another state, you will need to become familiar with their rules and regulations.**

1. Complete Curriculum! For the AANPCP, you may begin the application process as early as 6 months before graduating to allow time for review and for you to send in any missing information. However, candidates cannot sit for an examination until after they have completed all didactic courses and clinical practice hours required for their NP program, For the ANCC, the rules are the same: candidates may sit for the exam prior to degree conferral but not before completion of the program. Scores will not be released by either organization until they receive an official transcript showing degree conferral. ANCC may require you to fill in our program number on their form. (Our number is 2493).
2. Apply to the national certification organization of your choice and complete the application process. The ANCC exam requires the coordinator's signature; the AANPCP exam does not.
3. Take exam and have results sent to the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing (SBON).
4. Once you know that you have passed the exam, complete the state board forms for legal certification (CRNP). Your portion can be completed online (see <http://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Nursing/Pages/Apply-Online.aspx#.VWyaVUagGpQ>) or via paper (<http://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Nursing/Pages/Application-Forms.aspx#.VWyanUagGpQ>)
5. Email the MSN Program Coordinator to make arrangements to sign the form that verifies your program completion. She is able to access this online and will forward it to the Registrar's Office for the school seal. The Registrar's Office will mail the signed and sealed form to the SBON. The SBON will only accept forms mailed to them directly from the school. You are responsible for mailing all other documents/fees.

**\*\*You must have a valid RN license in order to apply for CRNP certification. The name on your CRNP application must be exactly the same as on your RN license. Please be aware that a faxed form will not be accepted by the SBON\*\***

6. Once you have your CRNP number you may apply for prescriptive authority, which involves getting a signed collaborative agreement with your NP employer and verification of successful completion of 45 hours of pharmacology. ***To make things easier for you, the MSN Program Coordinator will automatically complete and mail the pharmacology verification form to the Registrar at the same time she sends the verification of program completion form.*** You are responsible for mailing all other documents/fees.

\*Helpful Hint: Keep your collaborative agreement as broad as possible  
Please visit the [Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing](http://www.pennsylvania.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/Nursing/Pages/Apply-Online.aspx#.VWyaVUagGpQ) website for up to date information.

## APPENDIX B

### GRADUATE FACULTY

**Colleen Bessetti-Barrett, DNP, FNP**

(Edinboro University)

Dr. Barrett holds a BSN from Edinboro University, MSN-FNP from the University of Pittsburgh,



and Doctor of Nursing Practice from Robert Morris University. She is a certified family nurse practitioner with experience in acute care, pulmonary, internal medicine, and family practice. Her research interest is in preventative health care, with an emphasis on immunizations.

**Robin Bilan, MSN, FNP**

(Clarion University)

Mrs. Bilan is the Interim MSN Program Coordinator. She earned her ASN and BSN from Clarion University, and MSN-FNP from the joint Clarion and Edinboro Universities' Program, where she is currently completing her DNP. She is an AANP-certified FNP practicing part-time at Penn-Highlands Brookville. Her research interest is quality of life and sexual functioning of post-menopausal women.

**Donna Falsetti, DrPH, MSN, FNP**

(Clarion University)

Dr. Falsetti earned her BSN, MSN-FNP, and Doctor of Public Health from the University of Pittsburgh. She has extensive experience as a clinician as well as classroom and clinical educator of nurse practitioner students. She is a certified FNP with a current practice in occupational medicine. Her research interests include adolescent and women's health, simulation in education, and policy issues involving NP practice.

**Andrew Grimone, Pharm.D.**

(Clarion University)

Dr. Grimone is employed as a part-time temporary faculty member each spring term to teach NURS 602, Pharmacologic Application. Dr. Grimone is currently a Clinical Pharmacology Specialist in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases at St. Vincent Health Center in Erie, PA. He graduated Magna cum Laude from the University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy.

**Lucille Morrison, DNP, FNP**

(Edinboro University)

Dr. Morrison holds a BA in religion from Allegheny Wesleyan College, BS in education and ASN from Kent State University, MEd, BSN, and MSN from Edinboro University, and DNP from Robert Morris University. Dr. Morrison has experience in pediatrics and nursing education. She maintains clinical practice as a nurse practitioner at UPMC Hamot.

**Jill Harpst-Rodgers, DNP, FNP**

(Edinboro University)

Dr. Rodgers earned her BSN from Thiel; MSN in nursing administration and Post-Master's FNP Certificate from Indiana State University; and DNP from Carlow, where she also earned a school nurse certificate. As an NP, she conducts in-home medical assessments on Medicare patients. Her research interests include health care of student athletes and NP practice issues.

**Meg Larson, DNP, FNP**

(Edinboro University)

Dr. Larson earned her BSN and MSN-FNP from Edinboro University and DNP from Robert Morris University. She is a primary care practitioner at a rural health clinic in northwestern Pennsylvania. Her research interests are patient and provider communication, health literacy, and nursing education.

**Kerri Last, MSN, FNP**

(Clarion University)

Ms. Last holds an RN diploma from Jameson Hospital, BSN from Slippery Rock University, and MSN-FNP from the joint Clarion and Slippery Rock University program. Her experience as a nurse educator has included co-teaching a cross-cultural nursing course in Tanzania. As an FNP her

practice has included internal medicine, psychological services for children and adults, and the utilization of telemedicine in the care of older adults, through the RAVEN project.

**Susan Maloney, PhD** (Edinboro University)

Dr. Maloney earned her BSN from Edinboro University, MSN-FNP from Gannon, and PhD in psychology from Walden. She has had a varied practice as an FNP to include medicine, student health, women's health, and health promotion of older adults. In addition, she serves as a consultant and independent practitioner as a health psychologist with a focus on health/fitness/nutrition/body image and depressive disorders. Her research interest is in health promotion.

**Amy McClune, PhD, MSN, BSN** (Edinboro University)

Dr. McClune is currently the Graduate Program Head and Nursing Department Chairperson at Edinboro University where she received both her BSN and MSN degrees. She completed her PhD at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. Her doctoral work focused on comfort theory and quality of life. Dr. McClune has broad experience in critical care, neurosurgery, pediatrics, and orthopedics, holding positions from staff nurse to outcomes manager and nursing excellence coordinator. Her research interests include comfort theory, measurement, and data analysis.

**Lucille Morrison, DNP, FNP** (Edinboro University)

Dr. Morrison holds a BA in religion from Allegheny Wesleyan College, BS in education and ASN from Kent State University, MEd, BSN, and MSN from Edinboro University, and DNP from Robert Morris University. Dr. Morrison has experience in pediatrics and nursing education. She maintains clinical practice as a nurse practitioner at UPMC Hamot.

**Debra Shreve, MSN, FNP** (Clarion University)

Ms. Shreve is clinical faculty for the MSN program. She is a diploma graduate from Sharon Hospital School of Nursing and holds a BSN and MSN-FNP from Edinboro University. She practices as an FNP for the Medical Group of Corry. Her research interest is in management of prescription medications of elderly patients in rural settings.

**Lana Smith, PhD, FNP** (Clarion University)

Dr. Smith completed her BSN at Edinboro University, MSN as a family nurse practitioner at La Roche, and her PhD in leadership studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She continues to practice as a family nurse practitioner in Fairmount City, PA.

**Catherine Stiller, PhD, RN** (Clarion University)

Dr. Stiller completed her BSN and MSN degrees at Edinboro University and PhD at Case Western University in 2006. Her specialty focus is medical-surgical nursing with research interest in pain, alternative therapies, energy therapies, and chronicity. She is a therapeutic touch practitioner and craniosacral therapist.

**Mary Terwilliger, PhD** (Clarion University)

Dr. Terwilliger is the Undergraduate Coordinator for the Nursing Department at Clarion. She holds an ASN and BSN from Clarion University, MSN in nursing education from the Clarion, Edinboro, and Slippery Rock Universities' MSN Program, and PhD in nursing education from

Capella University. Dr. Terwilliger has experience in medical-surgical and maternity nursing. Her teaching and research interests are in simulation in nursing education, nursing education research, teaching strategies, and course development.

**Thomas White, DEd, FNP**

(Edinboro University)

Dr. White earned his BSN and MSN degrees from Edinboro University and Doctor of Education in administration and leadership from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He holds certification as an emergency nurse (ENA) and family nurse practitioner (ANCC). He maintains clinical practice as a nurse practitioner in emergency medicine as well as in family practice.

**APPENDIX C**

## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY PLEDGE

As professional nurses we are held to the provisions of the *Code of Ethics for Nurses* adopted by the American Nurses Association in 2001. Provisions of the *Code* address privacy, confidentiality, responsibility, moral virtue, values, and social reform, among others. More importantly, the *Code* asserts that “nurses are always accountable for their actions, decisions, and judgments” (Winland-Brown, Lachman, & Swanson, 2015, p. 271).

Faculty of the Clarion and Edinboro Universities’ MSN Programs look to the *Code of Ethics for Nurses* to inform the program policy for academic integrity. Students in the program are expected to adhere to values consistent with the profession of nursing by:

- Submitting only original work
- Properly citing sources (e.g., crediting original authors for their ideas, enclosing exact words in quotation marks)
- Not falsifying data
- Not cheating on examinations or quizzes

Plagiarism, the act of misrepresenting someone else’s words or ideas as one’s own, and other violations of academic integrity will be handled through the judicial system of the individual faculty member’s home university. As students in a joint program, the following resources further guide behavior and define potential consequences.

Edinboro University—*Student Code of Conduct*: <http://www.edinboro.edu/directory/offices-services/judicial-affairs/STUDENT-CODE-OF-CONDUCT-Jan2016.pdf>

Clarion University—*Student Rights, Regulations, and Procedures*: <http://www.clarion.edu/student-life/student-affairs/conduct-policies-and-judicial-services/rights-regulations-procedures-handbook.pdf>

Pledge:

I have read and understood the above statement and agree to abide by the standards of academic integrity of Clarion and Edinboro Universities.

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Signature

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Date

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Printed Name

Reference: Winland-Brown, J., Lachman, V. D., Swanson, E. (2015). The new ‘Code of Ethics for Nurses with Interpretive Statements’ (2015): Practicumsl clinical application part I. *MEDSURG Nursing*, 24(4), 268-271.