

**The University of Texas at Arlington**  
**College of Nursing**  
**NURS 5450 Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Clinical Practice**  
**Summer 2015**

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**Instructor(s):** Patricia Thomas, PhD, NNP-BC, CNE, Clinical Associate Professor  
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Faculty Profile: <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/patricia-thomas>

**Section Information:** NURS 5450 Sections 001, 002

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** Course-related activities will be online in Blackboard.

**Description of Course Content:** Integration of clinical management of the high-risk neonate through clinical preceptorships in selected health practice sites with application of knowledge, skills and concepts in a guided, progressive context of advanced nursing practice.

**Other Requirements:** Prerequisites: NURS 5316, NURS 5204, NURS 5334.  
Pre-requisite or co-requisite: NURS 5537.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Assess, diagnose, and manage the high-risk neonate with acute and critical, single and multi-system health problems using evidence-based knowledge.
2. Use pharmacological and technological therapies in management of the high-risk neonate's complex acute and critical illness.
3. Collaborates with other health professionals to promote quality health outcomes for acutely and critically ill neonate and their families.
4. Use research to examine outcomes of Neonatal Nurse Practitioner practice.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:** None

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates:**

Successful completion of this course requires:

- **240 hours of preceptored clinical hours**
- Score of at least 83% on faculty evaluation of student performance
- Participation in the clinical journal, online discussion of cases, and submission of SOAP notes

Assignments	Due Dates	Grading criteria
Clinical journal (online)	ongoing	pass/fail
SOAP notes	ongoing	pass/fail
Online discussions of clinical cases	ongoing	pass/fail

**Grading Policy:** Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels. Graded F,R,P,W.

#### Course Grading Scale

A = 92 to 100%

B = 83 to 91%

C = 74 to 82% - cannot progress

D = 68 to 73% - cannot progress

F = below 68 – cannot progress

A passing grade for the final clinical practicum is considered 83% or greater. All failing practicum performances will have a one-time repeat privilege. The highest grade that will be given for the repeated clinical performance is an “83”.

#### CLINICAL EVALUATION

1. Preceptor Evaluation P/F

2. Clinical Experiences Log P/F

**Attendance Policy:** Regular class attendance and participation is expected of all students. Students are responsible for all missed course information.

**Drop Policy:** Graduate students who wish to change a schedule by either dropping or adding a course must first consult with their Graduate Advisor. Regulations pertaining to adding or dropping courses are described below. Adds and drops may be made through late registration either on the Web at MyMav or in person through the student’s academic department. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at <http://www.uta.edu/fao/> . The last day to drop a course is listed in the Academic Calendar available at <http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal.php?session=20146>

1. A student may not add a course after the end of late registration.
2. A student dropping a graduate course after the Census Date but on or before the end of the 10th week of class may with the agreement of the instructor, receive a grade of W but only if passing the course with a C or better average. A grade of W will not be given if the student does not have at least a C average. In such instances, the student will receive a grade of F if he or she withdraws from the class. Students dropping a course must:
  - (1) Contact course faculty to obtain permission to drop the course with a grade of “W”.
  - (2) Contact your graduate advisor to obtain the form and further instructions.

**Census Day: June 25, 2015**

**Last day to drop or withdraw: July 23, 2015 by 4:00 p.m. CST**

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law "Title IX" such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted.

Per UT System Regents' Rule 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with the University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

As a licensed registered nurse, graduate students are expected to demonstrate professional conduct as set forth in the Texas Board of Nursing rule **§215.8. in the event that a graduate student holding an RN license is found to have engaged in academic dishonesty, the college may report the nurse to the Texas BON using rule §215.8 as a guide.**

**Plagiarism:** Copying another student's paper or any portion of it is plagiarism. Copying a portion of published material (e.g., books or journals) without adequately documenting the source is plagiarism. Consistent with APA format, if five or more words in sequence are taken from a source, those words must be placed in quotes and the source referenced with author's name, date of publication, and page number of publication. If the author's ideas are rephrased, by transposing words or expressing the same idea using different words, the idea must be attributed to the author by proper referencing giving the author's name and date of publication. If a single author's ideas are discussed in more than one paragraph, the author must be referenced, according to APA format. Authors whose words or ideas have been used in the preparation of a paper must be listed in the references cited at the end of the paper. Students are expected to review the plagiarism module from the UT Arlington Central Library via <http://library.uta.edu/plagiarism/index.html>

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. **All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly.** There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>. If you are unable to resolve your issue contact the Helpdesk at [helpdesk@uta.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uta.edu).

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest stairwell. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals.

### Librarian to Contact:

**PEACE WILLIAMSON**  
**STEM LIBRARIAN**  
**CENTRAL LIBRARY**

702 Planetarium Place

Office #216, Arlington, TX 76019

<http://www.uta.edu/library/> | [peace@uta.edu](mailto:peace@uta.edu)

Research Information on Nursing:

<http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing>

Library Home Page .....	<a href="http://www.uta.edu/library">http://www.uta.edu/library</a>
Subject Guides .....	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu">http://libguides.uta.edu</a>
Subject Librarians	<a href="http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php">http://www.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php</a>
Database List	<a href="http://www.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php">http://www.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php</a>
Course Reserves	<a href="http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do">http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do</a>
Library Catalog	<a href="http://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/">http://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/</a>
E-Journals	<a href="http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/searchSubject">http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/searchSubject</a>
Library Tutorials	<a href="http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php">http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php</a>
Connecting from Off- Campus	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus">http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus</a>
Ask A Librarian	<a href="http://ask.uta.edu">http://ask.uta.edu</a>

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## UTA College of Nursing Additional Information:

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**Clinical Evaluations:** In order to pass this clinical course, the student must receive a passing grade (**minimum of 83%**) on the faculty evaluation of the student's clinical performance (Nurse Practitioner Clinical Evaluation). Students who fail a faculty evaluation have a one-time option to retake the practicum. A second faculty member will be present during the clinical performance retake. **If the student passes the clinical performance retake (minimum of 83%), the maximum grade the student can receive for the exam for purposes of grade calculation is 83%.** If the student fails the retake, the student will receive a grade of "F" for the course.

**Clinical Clearance:** All students must have current clinical clearance to legally perform clinical hours each semester. If your clinical clearance is not current, you will be unable to do clinical hours that are required for this course and this would result in course failure.

### **Student Requirement For Preceptor Agreements/Packets:**

1. Preceptor Agreements must be **signed and dated** by the student and the preceptor the first day the student attends clinical (may be signed on that day), scanned and emailed to [npclinicalclearance@uta.edu](mailto:npclinicalclearance@uta.edu).
2. **Student** is responsible to ensure that all of his/her preceptor agreements are signed and complete including their student 1000 number and course number before beginning clinical experience and those agreements are scanned and emailed to Kim Hodges @ [npclinicalclearance@uta.edu](mailto:npclinicalclearance@uta.edu) or Janyth Arbeau at [arbeau@uta.edu](mailto:arbeau@uta.edu) by the third week of the semester. (For instance, if a student starts working with a particular preceptor late in the semester, he/she would contact that preceptor during the first 3 weeks of the semester.
3. If this is the first time a preceptor is precepting a graduate nursing student for The University of Texas at Arlington, please have him/her complete the Preceptor Biographical Data Sheet. If he/she is a returning preceptor have them fill out the phone number and email address section of the preceptor agreement.
4. The signed/completed preceptor agreement is part of the clinical clearance process. Failure to submit in a timely fashion will result in the inability to access the E-log system.
5. All communications to the NP Clinical Coordinator should be made to the following email address: [npclinicalclearance@uta.edu](mailto:npclinicalclearance@uta.edu). This includes scanned copies of preceptor agreements, preceptor evaluations of the student, and student evaluations of the preceptor.

**Clinical E-Logs:** Students are required to enter all patient encounters into the E-Log system. E-Log is both a student learning opportunity and an evaluation method for clinical courses. Patient encounters include patients the student assesses, diagnoses, and manages as part of their clinical coursework. Individual clinical courses may have additional guidelines/requirements related to their specific course and will be noted in the course syllabus (e.g. types of encounter required, number of patients required during course).

Students can access their Elogs by entering their own unique Elogs username and password which will be accessible their first clinical semester. <http://totaldot.com/> The username consists of the student's first, middle, and last initials (in CAPS) with the last four digits of their 1000#.

Example: Abigail B. Cooper, 1000991234 is ABC1234. If the student does not have a middle initial, then only two initials will be used. The student's password is simply their last name. Example: Cooper (note first letter is a capital letter).

The student's E-Log data provides a description of the patients managed during the student's clinical experience, including the number of patients, diagnoses of patients, and the type of interventions initiated. As a result, E-Log data are an essential requirement of the student's clinical experience and are used to evaluate student clinical performance. The data are used to meet course requirements and to evaluate student clinical performance. Upon completion of the Program, students will receive an executive summary of their E-Log entries for their professional portfolio.

**Students are expected to enter information accurately so that (if needed) faculty may verify/validate the information provided. Falsifying and/or misrepresenting patient encounter data is considered academic dishonesty.**

**Status of RN Licensure:** All graduate nursing students must have an unencumbered license as designated by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) to participate in graduate clinical nursing courses. It is also imperative that any student whose license becomes encumbered by the BON must immediately notify Dr. Mary Schira, Associate Dean, Department of Advanced Practice Nursing. The complete policy about encumbered licenses is available online at: [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us)

**MSN Graduate Student Dress Code:** The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing expects students to reflect professionalism and maintain high standards of appearance and grooming in the clinical setting. **Clinical faculty has final judgment on the appropriateness of student attire and corrective action for dress code infractions. Students not complying with this policy will not be allowed to participate in clinical.**

Please View the College of Nursing Student Dress Code on the nursing website: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/msn/msn-students> .

**UTA Student Identification:** MSN Students MUST be clearly identified as UTA Graduate Students and wear a UTA College of Nursing ID in the clinical environment.

**Unsafe Clinical Behaviors:** Students deemed unsafe or incompetent will fail the course and receive a course grade of "F". **Any of the following behaviors constitute a clinical failure:**

1. Fails to follow standards of professional practice as detailed by the Texas Nursing Practice Act \* (available at [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us))
2. Unable to accept and/or act on constructive feedback.
3. Needs continuous, specific, and detailed supervision for the expected course performance.
4. Unable to implement advanced clinical behaviors required by the course.
5. Fails to complete required clinical assignments.
6. Falsifies clinical hours.
7. Violates student confidentiality agreement.

\*Students should also be aware that violation of the Nursing Practice Act is a “reportable offense” to the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners.

**Blood and Body Fluids Exposure:** A Health Verification form was signed by all MSN students at start of the program documenting personal health insurance coverage. All MSN students have mandatory health insurance and will need to manage exposure to blood and fluids. Current CDC guidelines can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/>

**Confidentiality Agreement:** You signed a Confidentiality Form in orientation and were provided a copy of the form. Please take your copy of this Confidentiality Form with you to your clinical sites. Please do not sign other agency confidentiality forms. Contact your faculty if the agency requires you to sign their confidentiality form.

**Graduate Student Handbook:** Students are responsible for knowing and complying with all policies and information contained in the Graduate Student handbook online at: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/msn/msn-students>

**Student Code of Ethics:** The University of Texas at Arlington College of nursing supports the Student Code of Ethics Policy. Students are responsible for knowing and complying with the Code. The Code can be found in the student handbook online: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/msn/msn-students>

**No Gift Policy:** In accordance with Regent Rules and Regulations and the UTA Standards of Conduct, the College of Nursing has a “no gift” policy. A donation to one of the UTA College of Nursing Scholarship Funds, found at the following link: is <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/student-resources/scholarship> would be an appropriate way to recognize a faculty member’s contribution to your learning. For information regarding Scholarship Funds, please contact the Dean’s office.

**Online Conduct:** The discussion board should be viewed as a public and professional forum for course-related discussions. Students are free to discuss academic matters and consult one another regarding academic resources. The tone of postings should be professional in nature. It is not appropriate to post statements of a personal or political nature, or statements criticizing classmates or faculty. Inappropriate statements/language will be deleted by the course faculty and may result in denied access to the Discussion boards. Refer to UTACON Student Handbook for more information.

***For this course Blackboard communication tools, discussion boards, and UTA MAV email will be used extensively and should be checked often.***

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## Department of Advanced Practice Nursing Support Staff

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**Rose Olivier**

Administrative Assistant I  
Pickard Hall Office # 605  
(817) 272-9517  
Email address: [olivier@uta.edu](mailto:olivier@uta.edu)

**Janyth Mauricio (Arbeau)**

Clinical Coordinator  
Pickard Hall Office # 610  
(817) 272-0788  
Email address: [janyth.mauricio@uta.edu](mailto:janyth.mauricio@uta.edu) or  
[npclinicalclearance@uta.edu](mailto:npclinicalclearance@uta.edu)

**Kimberly Doubrava**

Support Specialist II  
Pickard Hall Office #612  
(817) 272-9373  
Email address: [khodges@uta.edu](mailto:khodges@uta.edu) or  
[npclinicalclearance@uta.edu](mailto:npclinicalclearance@uta.edu)

### **Graduate Advisors:**

**Students with last Name A-L:**

Sheri Decker  
Graduate Advisor II  
Pickard Hall Office # 611  
(817) 272-0829  
Email: [s.decker@uta.edu](mailto:s.decker@uta.edu)

**Students with Last Name M-Z:**

Luena Wilson  
Graduate Advisor I  
Pickard Hall Office # 613  
(817) 272- 4798  
Email: [lvwilson@uta.edu](mailto:lvwilson@uta.edu)

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

**N5450 Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Clinical Practice**  
**DAILY CLINICAL LOG (240 Clinical hours required)**

**Student name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Faculty:** \_\_\_\_\_

**(Daily) Clinical Hour Tally Sheet**

Date	_ / _								Totals
NICU									
Number of Hours									
Number of Patients									
notes									

Date	_ / _								Totals
NICU									
Number of Hours									
Number of Patients									
notes									

Date	_ / _								Totals
NICU									
Number of Hours									
Number of Patients									
notes									

Date	_ / _								Totals
NICU									
Number of Hours									
Number of Patients									
notes									

**FACULTY SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preceptor Signature(s)**

**Date(s)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ***NURSE PRACTITIONER CLINICAL OBJECTIVES***

1. Provide evidence of clinical skills in performing advanced health assessments to include:
  - a. collecting a complete health history
  - b. examining all body systems
  - c. collect additional data as needed (labs, x-rays, etc.)
  - d. making appropriate decisions regarding priority needs for data collection (subjective and objective)
  - e. determining which problems/data collection can be deferred until later
  - f. making an appropriate and accurate assessment of client's health status (rule outs, differential diagnoses, nursing diagnoses, etc.)
  - g. presenting pertinent data to preceptor in a succinct manner
  - h. presenting a cost-effective, clinically sound plan of care which may include:
    - 1) advanced nursing management
    - 2) medical intervention
    - 3) pharmacotherapeutics
    - 4) diagnostic testing
    - 5) teaching/counseling
    - 6) follow-up plan
  - i. discussing with preceptor personal strengths and needed areas of improvement
2. Show increasing evidence of ability to develop, implement and evaluate an appropriate management plan for newborns in the neonatal intensive care unit.
3. Show increasing evidence of ability to develop, implement and evaluate an appropriate plan for health maintenance and health promotion of clients.
4. Show evidence of ability to integrate health promotion/disease prevention activities into each client encounter.
5. Provide evidence of advanced nursing activities to promote and maintain health of infants.
6. Demonstrate ability to provide quality, culturally sensitive health care for individuals of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds.
7. Provide evidence of the ability to formulate and administer advanced nursing care and medical therapeutics in a variety of setting.
8. Integrate current research findings into the development and implementation of health care for children and their families.
9. Continue personal development of the various roles of the nurse practitioner as evidenced by didactic and clinical work.

## GUIDELINES FOR CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

### 1. Use of Protocol Manuals:

Occasionally, students encounter preceptor sites that do not use formal protocols. It is recommended that students select a published protocol book to use in these circumstances. The selected reference should be discussed with and reviewed by the clinical preceptor. If agreeable, the protocols will be the basis for your care with appropriate modifications as necessary in that clinical site.

### 2. Documentation of Care:

The UTA College of Nursing Nurse Practitioner Program requires a wide variety of clinical hours which necessitates the student to obtain experiences in numerous settings. The student is expected to appropriately, thoroughly, and accurately document each client encounter on the client's health record, i.e., SOAP notes, clinical summaries, etc. All entries made by the student in the client's health record should be reviewed by the preceptor. Documentation will be co-signed by the preceptor as appropriate for the clinical site. If you are in a site using an Electronic Medical Record, you may be required to do SOAP notes in the clinical setting to document your care at the request of your clinical faculty and/or preceptor.

### 3. Clinical Preceptors:

Guidelines for the selection of preceptors are included in the "Preceptor Agreement Packet." Please note that the "Letter of Agreement" in the packet **MUST** be signed and on file at UTA **BEFORE** clinical experiences commence at the site. {Students are expected to negotiate their clinical objectives and number of hours with each preceptor.} Your clinical preceptor is responsible to see EVERY patient that you see.

### 4. Preceptor Evaluations:

Preceptor evaluations are required each semester and indicate the student's clinical performance **over time** as opposed to the site visit and/or practicum evaluation which evaluates clinical performance on one client. Evaluations can be obtained from those preceptors that spend 16 hours or more in clinical with the student. The student is encouraged to ask the preceptor to discuss the evaluation with him/her before mailing it to the student's clinical advisor.

### 5. Clinical Experiences Journal:

A journal will be kept of all the student's clinical experiences throughout the NP Program. (details provided in Blackboard)

### 6. Professional Attire:

Students should dress professionally and appropriately according to the clinical practice setting. A name badge must be worn at all clinical sites at all times identifying the student as a nurse practitioner student.

### 7. E-LOG

Students are responsible for maintaining accurate clinical documentation in the e-log. These must be up-to-date