

St. John Fisher College
Wegmans School of Nursing
NUR 449: Senior Preceptorship

Clinical Preceptorship Preceptor Role Expectations

Faculty Role Expectation

Each Clinical Site Visitor has been assigned students on different clinical units and in different agencies. Clinical Site Visitors are expected to visit each student, weekly, during the preceptorship for a formal review of the student's experience and discussion of clinical issues. Unannounced visits throughout the preceptorship are expected during the student's scheduled clinical days. The purpose of the unannounced visits is to observe the student in clinical practice. Each Clinical Site Visitor member will discuss parameters for contacting faculty with problems, questions, schedule changes, or other issues with each student.

Clinical Site Visitors will be accessible to students and preceptors whenever a student is scheduled for clinical time.

Clinical Site Visitors are responsible for the establishment of positive working relationships with preceptors and other essential unit personnel (e.g. nurse managers). A positive working relationship is characterized by ongoing communication that facilitates the achievement of the course and student personal learning objectives.

With the preceptor and students, Clinical Site Visitors will identify individual learning needs and objectives to be achieved throughout the preceptorship experience. Ongoing feedback is expected, and formal feedback is necessary at midterm and at the end of the clinical course. Clinical Site Visitors serve as mentors through the student's transition from the student nurse role to the graduate nurse role.

Student Role Expectation

Students are responsible for active participation in the transformation process that occurs as they learn and experience the novice staff nurse role. This journey toward becoming an expert nurse is largely a solitary one, much of the learning that occurs in this course happens as a result of individual reflection and analysis of clinical experiences and learning. The student's growth also comes from the active partnership established with the preceptor. Student preparation for clinical includes applying all skills and knowledge learned in previous clinical rotations in addition to learning about the staff nurse role and responsibilities.

Students are expected to learn the routine of their unit and to partner with their preceptor in the care of patients. As the clinical rotation progresses, it is expected that student patient care will become more independent and more complex (as indicated by both the number and acuity of patients cared for).

Students are expected to work cooperatively and professionally with their preceptor (s) and other staff, assisting in the work of the unit whenever possible. With the preceptor and Clinical Site Visitors, students will identify individual learning needs and objectives for the preceptorship experience. Preceptors are encouraged to give ongoing feedback for optimal learning, in addition to the written assessment at midterm and at the end of the clinical course.

Students are expected to demonstrate accountability and professionalism throughout the experience. Clinical time is arranged by the student, according to the assigned preceptor's work schedule, and shared with the Clinical Site Visitors. Students will meet their obligation in a timely and professional manner.

Students should contact the Clinical Site Visitor whenever assistance is needed with questions, problems, schedule changes or other issues.

Students are held accountable for parameters and standards for safe, high quality student practice as defined by:

WSON Nursing Student Undergraduate Handbook

Clinical site policy and procedures

Professional standards of care

Preceptor determination of appropriate participation in clinical care activities

Preceptor Role Expectation

Nurse Managers have identified preceptors who are nurses interested in working with students, have clinical expertise, and who are effective role models. The responsibilities of the preceptors are to help the student observe and experience the staff nurse role from orientation through active "hands on" participation in care. Students learn best by doing and by the end of the clinical rotation, it is expected that students will be able to take a full staff nurse assignment with supervision but minimum preceptor assistance.

The preceptor will collaborate with faculty to promote student learning and growth through regular communication. Preceptors are encouraged and expected to communicate their ongoing feedback about student performance to both the Clinical Site Visitor and the student. Written feedback on the Student evaluation form is done at mid-term (~55 hours) and at the end of the preceptorship (110 hours). In the event that more than one preceptor works with the student over time, the preceptor team should collaborate to provide faculty and student with feedback. Preceptors are also asked to advocate for students in obtaining valuable off-unit learning experiences.