

Master of Nursing Program Clinical Experiences

Students are assigned to group clinical rotations by the course coordinators to provide the wide variety of experiences required to become a skilled generalist nurse. Each student will be assigned hospital clinical placements, an interprofessional community experience placement, and a community agency clinical placement. Any student with religious or cultural needs that limit participation in school activities on certain days or during certain hours, please contact Mary Ann Jessee mary.a.jessee@vanderbilt.edu and the Vanderbilt University Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (<https://www.vanderbilt.edu/eoa/>) to seek appropriate accommodations.

Hospital Clinical Experiences

This series of acute-care, population-focused clinical courses engage students in application of clinical and theoretical concepts with patients being treated for physical and mental health disorders and their families. This series of courses spans each semester and consists of clinical experiences with older adult long-term care, adult medical/surgical, obstetrics, pediatrics, and psych/mental health patient populations.

Hospital clinical experiences consist of two 8-hour sessions or one 12-hour session plus a 4-hour conference session and may begin as early as 6:00am or end as late as 11:00pm depending on the course, clinical site, and patient population. Hospital clinical experiences are scheduled Tuesday-Saturday. Students should expect to have Saturday clinical during at least one clinical rotation over the year (3 – 5 weeks at a time), so please plan to be available. Some clinical sites may be as much as 25 miles from VUSN campus, while most will be within 5 miles of campus. Please ensure your availability and transportation for any of these potential clinical schedules.

Hospital clinical experience assignments will be made during the first week of classes once we have documentation of all completed New Student Compliance Requirements and University Required Training Modules. Students often ask for the clinical experience assignments and schedule to be provided earlier, but significant regulatory requirements prevent completion of these assignments until the first week of classes.

Hospital Clinical Training Requirements: All students will have hospital clinical placements at multiple facilities over the course of the program and must complete Clinical Site Training Requirements for each site. Soon after you complete your VUSN Requirements (New Student Compliance Requirements and University Required Training Modules), you will receive email requests to complete Clinical Site Training Requirements. All students will need to complete clinical site trainings for multiple health systems in preparation for clinical for the year.

These training requirements must be completed as soon as the requests are received in order for students to be cleared for clinical experience participation. Completion of these Clinical Site Training Requirements is separate from the VUSN requirements and does not influence your registration for classes. However, failure to complete these requirements as directed will prevent you from beginning clinical experiences and will delay your program of study. If you have specific questions regarding the email requests for Clinical Site Training, please contact Rita Tejada at rita.tejada@vanderbilt.edu.

If you have general questions concerning hospital clinical experiences or placements, please contact Dr. Heather Robbins, heather.m.robbsins@vanderbilt.edu.

Uniforms and Equipment: Our clinical uniform requirements include a lab coat, black scrubs, and white, black, or brown solid leather or other impermeable material shoes with a full heel. All students are required to purchase specific scrubs and lab coats. There will be more information about scrub and lab coat requirements posted soon on the Admitted Students Webpage. Students should also have shorts and a tank top or sports bra for assessment laboratory sessions as peer-engaged assessment practice is the foundation for learning the nursing physical assessment. If assessing or being assessed by your peers or by someone of a different gender is against a religious or cultural norm, please contact Mary Ann Jessee (mary.a.jessee@vanderbilt.edu) and the Vanderbilt University Office of Equal Opportunity and Access (<https://www.vanderbilt.edu/eoa/>) to seek appropriate accommodations.

A stethoscope and pen light must be purchased prior to the start of classes. We suggest a lightweight, single tubing stethoscope with a chest piece that incorporates both a bell and a diaphragm. If possible, you should test the sound quality of several stethoscopes before purchase. If you purchase online, please read the customer reviews for guidance. A basic stethoscope may cost you \$50-\$150 depending on your preference.

Community Engagement Practicum Clinical Experiences

This series of community and population-focused clinical courses engage students in application of clinical and theoretical concepts with patients and populations in the community and abroad. This series of courses spans semesters 2-4 of the program and consists of clinical experiences with one designated clinical agency and patient population. Since this is a longitudinal clinical placement, students have the opportunity to indicate their preferences for community clinical agency and population of interest. Requests will be honored as we are able, but placement in the preferred site/population is not guaranteed.

Information about the community health clinical agencies and populations will be discussed with students during the first semester of the program. Students will be provided the opportunity to ask questions about the agencies, populations, and associated clinical projects and submit their top 3 choices for placement. Every effort will be made to accommodate one of students' top choices; however, due to site-specific limitations and scheduling, the students' first choice cannot be guaranteed.

If you have questions concerning the Community Engagement Practicum placements, please contact Professor Leah Branam (leah.branam@vanderbilt.edu)

Interprofessional Chronic Illness Management Practicum Clinical Experiences

This series of interprofessional collaborative clinical learning experiences is grounded in the social determinants of health, health equity and justice, and health promotion in a community-living setting. Nursing, medicine, pharmacy, social work, physical and occupational therapy, MPH, and/or law students will engage in interprofessional clinical learning experiences that promote practice-realistic patient and health care team encounters. Interprofessional clinical learning will occur in the community, particularly

community living complexes serving older adults and adults with disabilities living with chronic illness and navigating the influence of social determinants of health on overall health and wellness. Emphasis will be placed on fostering health and wellness through education, intervention, evaluation, and collaboration with individuals' healthcare team.

If you have questions concerning community health or interprofessional clinical experiences or placements, please contact Dr. Carrie Plummer (carrie.e.plummer@vanderbilt.edu).