



**School of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Nursing Programs**

**Doctor of Nursing Practice  
Student Handbook  
2020-2021**



~ AFFIRMATION ~

I choose to be a member of  
the La Salle University community.

I conduct myself with  
honesty, integrity, civility, and citizenship.  
I respect people, property, our University,  
and its Lasallian and Catholic heritage.

I celebrate our many cultures.  
I promote the free exchange of scholarly ideas.

I commit to my personal involvement in  
learning for the greater good.

In all my actions, I am La Salle.  
In association, we are La Salle.

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## **SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES NURSING PROGRAM**

### **Mission**

Consistent with Lasallian values, the Mission of the Nursing Program is to provide scientifically based nursing curricula to educate clinically competent, caring, nursing professionals with a commitment to excellence in practice, service, life-long learning, and scholarship.

### **Vision**

The Nursing Program educates professionals prepared as leaders in practice, service, scholarship, and education, contributing to the advancement of the health and well-being of communities. Explore, Experience, Excel

### **Nursing Program Goals**

To prepare students to provide nursing services in health care agencies and communities with an emphasis on vulnerable populations.

- Prepare students to provide professional nursing services in health care agencies and communities with an emphasis on vulnerable populations,
- Facilitate students' professional development in the knowledge, skills, and values to advocate for a healthy society,
- Foster student and faculty engagement in interprofessional and collaborative health care services, programs, and research,
- Educate students to strengthen the nursing profession and to contribute to the health of society through service and practice,
- Develop a community of life-long learners among students, faculty, alumni, and community partners.

### **Philosophy for Nursing Program**

Nursing is a practice-based profession encompassing both arts and sciences. Nursing provides health services to diverse individuals and groups. Nurses collaborate with multidisciplinary professionals and clients. Nursing care is aimed at facilitating health and wellness, thus fulfilling a contract between society and the profession. Safe, quality nursing interventions are evidence-based. The nursing community at La Salle University respects the humanity of the people they serve recognizes the potential for healing within the person, integrating mind, body and spirit. Students bring their experience to the process of development as ethical, caring practitioners. Students and faculty relationships foster scholarship, collegiality, respect, and collaboration.

1. Science 2. Holistic care 3. Professionalism 4. Population health 5. Environment

## **DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM**

### **DNP Program Goals**

1. Educate professional nurses for interprofessional practice in advanced nursing roles across community and health care settings.
2. Meet the health needs of diverse individuals, families, groups, communities and populations.
3. Support faculty and student scholarly activity that informs quality and safety in healthcare systems.

### **DNP Program Philosophy**

The philosophy of the DNP program is connected to the belief that the practice doctorate enriches advanced nursing practice by strengthening and expanding students' knowledge and skills. The program prepares students for careers as expert nurse clinicians and leaders who develop, implement, and evaluate programs of care and transform health care systems by using evidence-based innovations and technologies and facilitating interdisciplinary processes. The program develops graduates that have met established competencies of specialty organizations and are responsive to the changing health care needs of national and international populations and diverse patients and groups.

### **DNP Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the completion of the DNP program, the student will be able to:

1. Apply theoretical and research-based knowledge from nursing and other disciplines to plan and implement safe, quality health care for vulnerable individuals and groups in an APRN or advanced nursing practice (APN) role.
2. Facilitate inter-professional collaboration to provide patient-centered, quality, ethical and safe healthcare.
3. Analyze the impact of evidence based healthcare interventions on patient outcomes.
4. Evaluate health promotion and disease prevention efforts and outcomes to achieve quality healthcare
5. Analyze the influence of public policy decisions on the health promotion, disease prevention, and health restoration services provided to diverse populations.
6. Enhance practicum judgment and decision-making abilities to address health promotion/disease prevention efforts for individuals, aggregates, or populations.
7. Utilize advanced communication and leadership skills to lead quality improvement and patient safety initiatives.
8. Promote culturally congruent and comprehensive healthcare services to all.
9. Analyze healthcare information systems/technologies to improve healthcare outcomes.
10. Demonstrate responsibility and accountability for ongoing professional development.

### **DNP Program Contact Persons**

The Director of the DNP Program can be reached at 215-951-1903 (Administrative Assistant to the DNP Program). Administrative offices of Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia (FJTSA) can be reached at 484-622-7280.

### **Overview of the Post-Master's Degree DNP Program**

The Post-Master's Degree DNP Program at La Salle University has a strong practice component with access to environments that provide opportunities for knowledge and skill development. The curriculum

consists of 34 credits. The curriculum includes an extensive practice immersion. The project, an important requirement evidencing student expertise, is a practice-application. DNP students must complete a minimum of 1,000 hours of post baccalaureate practicum practice.

## **Overview of the Post BSN-DNP Programs**

### **Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia CRNA Program**

The Nurse Anesthesia program offers an entry level BSN to DNP innovative curricular design that allows students to maintain full-time employment during the first 2 years of the program as they complete online prerequisite DNP core courses. The remaining 27-month practicum residency portion of the program requires full-time enrollment in the program. Because of the intensity of advanced practice nursing in the nurse anesthetist track, the total course of study is 51 months in length and a total of 85 credits. However, the curriculum is structured so that 24 months of DNP course work is completed at La Salle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences online. Upon satisfactory completion of all program terminal objectives, the student will be awarded a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from La Salle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences. Upon recommendation of the director of FJ TSA, the student will be permitted to take the National Certification Examination to gain NBCRNA certification.

### **Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia Mission**

The Nurse Anesthesia Program educates highly competent advance practice nursing students to satisfactorily complete the Nurse Anesthesia Program's terminal objectives and achieve certification as a nurse anesthetist by the NBCRNA upon program completion. By satisfactory completion of the Nurse Anesthesia Program's terminal objectives, the student will enter the profession of nurse anesthesia as a safe, independent, and culturally competent practitioner capable of functioning in a wide variety of anesthesia practice settings.

### **Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia BSN-DNP Program Terminal Objectives**

A list of the Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia BSN-DNP program terminal objectives can be found at <http://fjtsa.com/program-terminal-objectives/>

### **Admissions Criteria**

Post-MSN to DNP admissions criteria may be found at <https://www.lasalle.edu/doctor-of-nursing-practice/admission-requirements/>

Post-BSN to DNP Anesthesia program admissions criteria can be found at <http://fjtsa.com/admission-requirements/>

### **Conditional Admissions**

Students may earn credits while conditionally accepted, but must complete the application process by:

- 1) Completing the demographic portion of the application;
- 2) Submitting an official graduate transcript with references;
- 3) Providing proof of post-BSN practicum hours, as appropriate;
- 4) Providing a photocopy of their current RN license; and
- 5) Providing a photocopy of APRN license or certification when applicable.

Conditionally-accepted students may apply *no more than six (6) credits earned* to the DNP degree.

The DNP Admissions Committee meets monthly, and as needed, during the academic year.  
*Conditional acceptance is no guarantee of official acceptance.*

## **Academic Standing and Progression Policies**

### **Attendance Policy**

Active participation is required in all online courses in the Doctor of Nursing Program. While most course work is asynchronous, synchronous sessions scheduled at the start of a course may be required.

### **Practicum Experience Attendance**

Post-master's DNP students are required to complete 1,000 hours post baccalaureate hours of practicum practice as part of a supervised academic program. Students are required meet the ~~practicum~~ objectives of the course and satisfy the required practicum hours necessary to earn the number of course credits.

### **Academic Integrity**

The Academic Integrity Policy of the Nursing Programs of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences is consistent with the University Academic Integrity Policy, found here:

<https://wa3.lasalle.edu/channels/docs/get.php?id=350>

### **Nursing Course Withdrawal Policy**

It is the student's responsibility to know the withdrawal date for courses each semester. Dates are published each semester on the academic calendar on the Registrar's page on the La Salle website.

Medical withdrawals are considered in cases of serious illness and disability during the semester only. If a student receives counseling from the faculty to withdraw from a course due to illness or related circumstances, and the student voluntarily chooses to remain in the course, the likelihood of a medical withdrawal at the end of the semester is seriously limited. Withdrawals given for medical reasons are for all courses in a specific semester, not for any individual course.

### **Test Make-Up**

Please see the faculty member of the course for the course policy. Alternate forms of tests may be given for all missed examinations. This may include oral or essay examinations.

### **Required GPA**

All graduate nursing students are required to maintain a cumulative grade point average of "B" (3.0). In addition, students must earn a "B" or better in each of the advanced core courses in order to progress into the residency courses. Once enrolled in residency courses, students must earn a "B" or better. Graduate students who earn a grade of "B-" or less in any advanced core or residency course may repeat the course only once. The course must be repeated at La Salle University. Graduate students who have a GPA less than 3.0 will be placed on academic probation. A graduate student that earns less than a "B" in more than one advanced core or residency course may not progress in their plan of study.

### **Academic Advising**

All students are advised by the Director of the DNP Program on formal acceptance. Faculty and the Director are available by appointment for student advisement any time during the academic year and especially during the pre-registration period. Students earning course grades below 84% must meet with the Program Director for advisement.



## Graduate Practicum Hours

Upon application, students must provide proof of any earned graduate practicum hours. Proof of hours is typically obtained via the master's degree program coordinator or registrar in the form of a letter, on university letterhead, stating the student's name, program, date of graduation, and number of practicum hours earned. Proof of current Nursing Executive, Advanced Certification (NEA-BC) may be used for 500 practicum hours. Other post-MSN certifications *may be* considered on a case-by-case basis.

All doctoral nursing students are expected to provide evidence of current certification(s) as appropriate. The DNP program highly recommends professional certification for all nurses with advanced nursing practice and works with individual students to achieve this prior to graduation.

## The Post-Masters DNP Plan of Study

The Post-Masters DNP Program consists of 34 credit hours beyond the master's level nursing credits. The number of required courses is 11:

- Core Courses (NUR 702; NUR 703; NUR 609)
- Advanced Core Courses (NUR 695; NUR 637; NUR 704)
- Residency Courses (NUR 705; NUR 750; NUR 751; NUR 880; NUR 882)

\*An additional 1 credit continuation course(s) may be required for an Incomplete Doctor of Nursing Scholarly Project.

Students may elect to enroll in the Core and Advanced Core courses on a part-time basis, i.e., 3 credits/semester. Students may choose a part-time or full-time course of study. Individual course sequence is arranged with the DNP director upon admission.

Optional courses are offered for students who need additional time to complete their Scholarly Project. NUR 881 and NUR 883 are offered for students requiring faculty support with continuation of studies. CHANGED NUR 702. SOME LA SALLE COURSES DO NOT MATCH WEBPAGE

Structure	Courses	Credits
Core	NUR 702: Theoretical Foundations of Doctoral Practice	3
	NUR 703: Professional Ethics	3
	NUR 609: Health Care Economics	3
Advanced Core	NUR 695: Public Policy Initiatives: Local to Global	3
	NUR 637: Epidemiology	3
	NUR 704: Statistics and Biostatistics	3
Residency	NUR 705: Patient Safety and Health Care Outcomes	3
	NUR 750: Translating Evidence into Practice	3
	NUR 751: Clinical Leadership and Interprofessional Collaboration	3
	NUR 880: Practicum Project	3
	NUR 882: Practicum Residency	4
Optional	NUR 881: Project Seminar (Pass/Fail)	1
	NUR 883: Practicum Residency Seminar (Pass/Fail)	1
	NUR 887: Practicum Seminar (Pass/Fail)	1-2

**Post BSN-DNP Program Plans of Study**

**Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia BSN-DNP Program**

<b>Structure</b>	<b>Courses</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Core	NUR 618: Advanced Pathophysiology	3
	NUR 617: Advanced Pharmacology	3
	NUR 616: Advanced Physical Health Assessment	3
	NUR 702: Advanced Therapeutics	3
	NUR 703: Professional Ethics	3
	NUR 609: Health Care Economics	3
	NUR 709: Research for Evidence Based Practice	3
Advanced Core	NUR 695: Public Policy Initiatives: Local to Global	3
	NUR 637: Epidemiology	3
	NUR 704: Statistics and Biostatistics	3
Residency	NUR 705: Patient Safety and Health Care Outcomes	3
	NUR 750: Translating Evidence into Practice	3
	NUR 751: Practicum Leadership and Interprofessional Collaboration	3
	NUR 880: Practicum Project	3
	NUR 882: Practicum Residency	4

Anesthesia Courses and Practicum Residency	NUR 711: Principles of Anesthesia Practice	4
	NUR 712: Physics, Chemistry and Equipment in Anesthesia	2
	NUR 713: Pharmacology of Anesthetic Agents	3
	NUR 714: Advanced Physiology and Pathophysiology for Anesthesia Practice	4
	NUR 715: Nurse Anesthesia Practicum Practicum I	1
	NUR 716: Advanced Principles of Anesthesia Practice	3
	NUR 717: Regional Anesthetic Management	4
	NUR 718: Obstetric and Pediatric Anesthesia	1
	NUR 719: Nurse Anesthesia Practicum Practicum II	2
	NUR 720: Advanced Anesthetic Management for Special Procedures I	1
	NUR 721: Nurse Anesthesia Practicum Practicum III	2
	NUR 722: Advanced Anesthetic Management for Special Procedures II	2
	NUR 723: Nurse Anesthesia Practicum Practicum IV	1
	NUR 724: Professional Aspects of Anesthesia Practice	2
	NUR 725: Nurse Anesthesia Practicum Practicum V	4
	NUR 726: Crisis Management in Anesthesia	
	NUR 727: Nurse Anesthesia Practicum Practicum VI	
	NUR 728: Transition to Advanced Nurse Anesthesia Practice	

## **Compliance Requirements\***

*\*Please note that some clinical sites may require additional compliance measures.*

The School of Nursing and Health Sciences requires that each student complete compliance requirements **as instructed**. DNP nursing students must go to the CastleBranch website (<http://lasalle.castlebranch.com>) for directions related to the procedure for completing compliance requirements.

No student will be eligible to attend practicum experiences if the drug screening is positive. It is the student's responsibility to recognize the need to recertify and to communicate any changes to the Practicum Compliance Officer or DNP Program Director. A copy of current health insurance policies or cards must be on file.

### **Child Abuse Clearance/Criminal Record Check Policy**

Health care and educational agencies require a cleared child abuse and a cleared criminal record check from Pennsylvania and the student's state of residence (if outside of PA). Any student with a positive child abuse or criminal record check will not be permitted to enter or to remain in the Nursing Program. It is the student's responsibility to deal with any positive criminal record or child abuse check that is returned. Upon initial enrollment, FBI fingerprinting criminal record check is also required. Yearly submission of criminal record and child abuse clearances are required.

Students are required to update the Director of the Doctor of Nursing Program and Director of FJTSA (when appropriate) if there has been any change in their criminal record status. Any student who misrepresents information related to their criminal record will be dismissed from the Nursing Program. Students will be immediately dismissed if convictions are found on the student's record for offenses as listed on the Prohibitive Offenses Contained in Act 169 of 1996 as Amended by Act 13 of 1997 Criminal Offenses set forth by the PA Department of Aging.

Questions about the student health policies can be directed to the Director of the DNP Program or Administrative Assistant for DNP (215-991-1903)

### **Substance Abuse**

Doctoral nursing students abide by the substance abuse policies of La Salle University specified in the Student Guide to Rights and Responsibilities. In addition to the rationales supporting these policies, this policy stands because of the need for safe patient care and the safety of faculty, staff, and students. This policy is consistent with the policy statement of the *American Association of Colleges of Nursing*: <https://www.aacnnursing.org/News-Information/Position-Statements-White-Papers/Substance-Abuse>

Nursing students must abide by the substance abuse policy and subsequent revisions of the policy stipulated by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nurse Examiners and other state boards by which they are licensed as registered nurses.

Consent to the results of drug screening is granted to the Program administrator by the student.

If a student tests positive for one or more of the drugs specified on the screening test, the Laboratory physician (Medical Review Officer [MRO]) discusses this with the student to determine the presence of

metabolites of prescribed medications. The student may be required to contact the prescribing physician and/or pharmacy to authorize release of medical information to the Program to indicate the illness for which the drug was prescribed and other relevant information.

If the student tests positive for one or more of the drugs on the screening test and the Laboratory physician (MRO) determined that the test is positive, the student may choose to request confirmation testing of the original specimen by another approved laboratory identified by the Agency used for drug testing. All expenses and fees associated with the additional confirmation testing are paid for by the student contesting the results.

An administrator of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences will suggest that a student who tests positive seek evaluation for substance abuse. The student must agree to the evaluation. If a diagnosis of substance abuse is made, the treatment costs will be borne by the student. No student is eligible to attend practicum experiences if the drug screening is positive. Students enrolled in practicum courses will be withdrawn from the courses immediately.

### **Readmission Following Positive Testing Event**

If the student is dismissed or withdraws from Nursing Programs or the University due to positive test results for alcohol and/or drug use, and the student wishes to be considered for readmission, the student must:

1. Submit a letter from a treatment agency verifying completion of a counseling substance program or abuse treatment program. Authorize release of information to the Dean or DNP Director.
2. Prior to readmission, submit to an unannounced substance abuse screening at the student's expense. A positive screen, positive criminal checks, positive child abuse check, or a DUI conviction will result in ineligibility for readmission.
3. The student will be subject to random screening of blood alcohol levels and/or drug screening.
4. The student must be aware that the above conditions are in addition to those imposed by the La Salle University Catalog and the La Salle University Student Guide to Rights and Responsibilities.

### **Licensure**

All doctoral nursing students must provide evidence of current licensure as a registered nurse and, if applicable, an advanced practice nurse at the time of program application. Students are required to secure a Registered Nurse license for any state in which they are employed or provided access to for a Residency experience. Students are solely responsible for securing the appropriate license and are advised to begin this process early, as some states may take several months to provide an RN license.

If a Pennsylvania license is needed the student should apply for endorsement to:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of State  
Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs  
P.O. Box 1753, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-1753

### **Personal Professional Liability Insurance**

All students must provide evidence of personal professional liability (malpractice) insurance at the commencement of the DNP program. If the policy expires, it is the responsibility of the student to send in copies of the licensure renewal certificate prior to termination of the initial insurance policy.

## DNP Degree Completion Timeline

All requirements for the DNP degree must be completed within seven academic years from the date of the first enrollment for study following admission to the doctoral courses. Transfer students' candidacy period is seven years.

## Doctor of Nursing Practice Scholarly Project

The DNP Scholarly Project (DNPSp) addresses a practicum practice issue for diverse individuals, families, groups, communities, and populations concentrating on the scholarship of practice. The student identifies a project that is based on needs assessment data, a review of research and related literature, and other data sources. Scholarly Project evaluation strategies and outcomes must be specified. The student is required to discuss the project with key stakeholders, such as practicum leaders in health care and community settings. The student designs, implements and evaluates the project, and disseminates results.

Please refer to the DNP Scholarly Project Manual for additional details.

## Grading

The Nursing Programs of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences follow the La Salle University graduate grading scale policy. The School of Nursing and Health Sciences interprets this system using the following numerical scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92
B+	87 – 89
B	84 – 86
B-	81 – 83
C	75 – 80
F	74 and below
I	Incomplete
W	Withdrawal

## Portfolios

A completed portfolio is required of students to:

1. Provide opportunities for developing individualized learning goals and reflecting on personal progress;
2. Document profiles related to specific educational and professional activities; and
3. To serve as a written trajectory of educational accomplishments.

Each student enrolled in the DNP program will maintain an electronic portfolio throughout the time they are enrolled in the DNP program. Each course requires an artifact and four courses require a reflection paper that is posted in the Canvas course corresponding short reflection piece to be posted to the portfolio. All completed practicum hour logs for DNP courses will also be posted in the portfolio. Students are responsible for maintaining current and updated materials in their portfolio.

Student portfolios will be audited for completeness by the Program Director:

1. Before DNP residency courses begin; and
2. Immediately prior to graduation.

## **Readmission**

After filing an official leave from the DNP curriculum program of studies with the Director of the DNP Program, students seeking readmission to the DNP Program for any reason should apply to the Director of the DNP Program. The Graduate Nursing Admission Committee will review each student's academic record and notify the student about the decision to readmit.

## **Complaints/Student Rights and Grievance Procedure**

Policies and procedures for Student Guide to Rights and Responsibilities can be found online at: <http://www.lasalle.edu/students/dean/divpub/manuals/studentguide/>. Feedback from students, whether of a positive or negative nature, should be used for the improvement of the educational programs and environment of the University. The purpose of this document is to outline avenues by which students may lodge complaints within the School of Nursing and Health Sciences (SONHS) at La Salle University. This document provides an overview of the process, followed by sections that address the most common categories of student issues and complaints, with the aim of providing students with general information and specific contact strategies. Specific procedural details may vary among departments and programs; students are encouraged to refer to the handbook of their programs.

It is an express SONHS policy that all students always have the right to lodge a complaint that they deem important, without fear of retaliation of any sort or other adverse consequence as a result of doing so. The recommended general strategy for reporting complaints is to first contact the specific individuals or units most directly connected with the issue at hand unless there are good reasons for not doing so such as a desire to maintain anonymity (see section 4 below). The Campus Directory generally provides contact information for all the campus units, departments, Dean's offices, etc. from which an individual can usually determine where to go to make a complaint. All main campus entities also have contact information via web pages.

Policies and procedures for managing complaints regarding harassment and/or discrimination can be found in the Student Guide to Rights and Responsibilities which can be found online at:

<http://www.lasalle.edu/students/dean/divpub/manuals/sgrrr/>

Additionally, there is a University Policy and Procedure for appeal of final grades, available in the Student Guide to Rights and Responsibilities:

<http://www.lasalle.edu/students/dean/divpub/manuals/sgrrr/>

The University Handbook also presents a review of student rights, including grade grievances. Students should be aware that neither Chairs nor Deans can require an instructor to change a properly assigned course grade.

The Academic Integrity Policy of the Nursing Programs of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences is consistent with the University Academic Integrity Policy that can be found online at:

<http://www.lasalle.edu/students/dean/divpub/manuals/sgrrr/>

**1. Issues about academic advising:** The student should begin with the specific departmental or program advisor. Names, emails, office numbers and telephone number, and names of the appropriate individuals can be found in the campus directory; if unsure of who the advisor is, the student may contact the administrative assistant assigned to his/her department or program. Complaints may continue to the

advisor's Program Director or Department Chair. Normally, supervisory level complaints are submitted by a written process, which may include email and/or submission of the Complaint form found in the program Student Handbook.

**2. Issues about grading of assignments or exams, exam procedures, excused absences, class policies, course content or teaching method.** Students should first discuss the issue with the individual faculty person since faculty members have primary authority and responsibility in all areas. If the issue is still unresolved, the student may then contact the Program Director or Department Chair using the Complaint form in the program Student Handbook. If unable to resolve the issue at this level, the student may proceed to contact the Dean and present the written complaint to the Dean. Only the individual instructor assigned to the course decides disagreements regarding whether an assignment earns a grade. Information about assignment requirements and grading procedures are contained in the course syllabus and/or on Canvas. The campus has standing policies on student accommodation for religious and disability reasons. If a student has a complaint in these areas, they can contact Rose Lee Pauline, Affirmative Action Officer, Title IX Coordinator, and Academic Affairs Support Specialist, 215.951.1014, [pauline@lasalle.edu](mailto:pauline@lasalle.edu).

**3. Issues about faculty performance or faculty behavior.** If reasonable and appropriate, students should begin with the individual faculty person to discuss and resolve the problem together, if possible. If this direct effort fails, students may then contact the Program Director or Department Chair using the Complaint form in the program Student Handbook. If a student is unable to resolve the problem at this level, he or she may contact the Dean and present the written complaint to the Dean. This step typically constitutes the end of the formal complaint process.

**4. Issues wherein the student wishes their identity to remain unknown with respect to an instructor or staff member, or where the student otherwise chooses to avoid directly discussing the problem with that individual.** If, for whatever reason, a student does not want to personally or directly contact an instructor or staff member to discuss a complaint, the student should begin with the next highest level of responsibility, which would typically be the Program Director or Department Chair. The student can request an appointment to meet with the Chair or Director and/or send a written description of the issue or problem and request that their identity be kept confidential. That request will be honored unless there are over-riding reasons to do otherwise. For example, if a student alleges sexual harassment by a faculty member to a Department Chair, the Chair *must* forward that information, to include the identity of the complainant, to the campus Affirmative Action Officer.

Students may also submit comments, concerns, and suggestions by completing a form located in the student lounge in St. Benilde Tower (Rm. 4423) and in the Appendix. Students have the right to lodge a complaint that they deem important without fear of retaliation. Student complaints will be handled in a confidential and professional manner.

Matters that relate to accreditation standards and policies that cannot be resolved at the program, school, or university level may be addressed with CCNE. Only signed complaints related to accreditation standards or policies can be forwarded to CCNE. More information can be found at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu>



### **Transfer of Credit**

Students may transfer graduate-level work. Application for permission to transfer courses is submitted to the DNP Program Director at the time of admission into the program. Students submit a transcript, course description from the relevant course catalog and syllabus from the semester in which the course was taught. Students are informed of transfer approval/disapproval in writing.

With approval of the program director, students may transfer up to six hours of graduate level work into graduate programs that are 36 credits or less in length. Students may transfer up to nine hours of graduate-level work into programs that are greater than 36 credits in length. Course credit may be transferred only from graduate programs at accredited institutions, and only courses with a grade of B or better may be transferred.

### **Technology Requirements**

Students are required to demonstrate technological proficiencies that increase in breadth and depth during doctoral studies. Expected proficiencies include skills in word processing, computing, searching, data mining and analysis, software versatility (web-based and computer-based), and familiarity with hardware and select peripherals. Students may be required to purchase software as part of a course requirement.

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students complete a *minimum* of 34 semester hours of post-master's coursework. This coursework includes successful completion of all courses, a total of 1,000 post bachelor's supervised practicum hours, a completed portfolio of student work, and a successfully defended DNP Scholarly Project. Graduation details are specified in the La Salle University, Graduate Catalog, 2019-2020. The Director of the DNP Program and the Registrar review transcripts at least two months before each graduation time: January, May, and September. The cumulative GPA in the DNP Program must be at least a 3.0/4.0 in order to graduate.

### **Pregnancy Policy**

Students who are pregnant or are within one month of the post-partum period prior to practicum practice must provide clearance to return to practicum practice from their health care practitioner.

### **Universal Precautions**

The School of Nursing and Health Sciences is concerned about the safety of the faculty, students, and the client population in the practicum setting. Based on the mandatory Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Occupational Safety and Health Administration guidelines, the School of Nursing and Health Sciences adopts the policy that both students and faculty will consistently observe blood and body fluid precautions when working with all clients in all settings.

Based on the most recent research findings, an individual can be a carrier of blood-borne illness (e.g., AIDS, HIV, & Hepatitis B) and not exhibit practicum signs/symptoms for several years after exposure to the virus. Because of the implications and uncertainties, it is mandatory that all faculty and students adhere to this policy. Universal precautions are a shared responsibility for both students and faculty.

DNP students may need to fulfill additional requirements as per the practicum agencies. Such requirements are mandatory rather than discretionary and must be satisfied prior to any activity in the practicum area.

## **Exposure Policy**

The La Salle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences acknowledges the inherent risks associated with working around or with blood and body fluids. The following policy outlines your responsibilities in this area:

1. You must have and maintain current health insurance and show verification of coverage each year while matriculated in the La Salle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences.
2. La Salle University and the practicum agencies that provide practical experiences for our students are not responsible or liable for the costs of medical follow-up or expenses incurred.
3. If you are exposed to blood and body fluids, you will:
  - a. Assume full responsibility for disease sequelae. Neither the School of Nursing and Health Sciences nor the practicum site is responsible for ensuring medical follow-up.
  - b. *Follow the policies of the practicum agency (if any) and assume responsibility for medical follow-up.*
  - c. Contact the School of Nursing and Health Sciences within 2 hours of exposure. Once initial care is provided, a meeting with the student and the course faculty and with the Director of the DNP Program should be arranged. Contact your primary care physician or nurse practitioner and undergo any necessary precautions, treatments, or tests.

**If an exposure occurs while a student is enrolled in an FJTSA course, the student should notify practicum faculty, report to the practicum site emergency room immediately and notify the Director of FJTSA.**

## **Preceptors**

A preceptor is required for the DNP Scholarly Project courses, NUR 750, 880 and 882. Preceptors are typically the third member of the student's DNPSP committee and are subject matter expert's in the student's selected area of interest. Preceptors agree to guide, advise, and facilitate the students work during the DNPSP process. Students must collect an agreement to precept CV and copies of professional certifications (when appropriate) prior to the beginning of NUR 750. All preceptor documents should be submitted to the DNP Program Director for review.

## **Practicum Sites**

For **all** DNP courses with a practicum hour component (NUR 705, 750, 751, 880, 882), practicum site selection must be appropriate to meet the student learning outcomes for the course. Course faculty must approve practicum site placement.

Students are required to submit **Practicum Agency Placement Form** to course faculty for approval. An Affiliation Contract/Agreement needs to be completed and/or be on file prior to the start of practicum practice. Practicum hours will be recorded and validated by course faculty and preceptor and documented on the proper form provided in each course with required practicum hours.

For all FJTSA courses, students are assigned to sites based on geographical location and level within the program.

## **Practicum Evaluation**

Practicum evaluations are required for NUR 750, 880 and 882. The practicum evaluation will be completed at the end of each semester by the student's preceptor. As well, each student will complete a Site and Preceptor Evaluation at the end of each semester. A copy of completed evaluations from each semester shall be submitted to the DNP-SP committee chairperson as well as maintained in the student's files.

## **Practicum Hours**

For all non-FJTSA courses, students are required to obtain written faculty approval and preceptor/agency verification of the submitted hours and experiences upon completion of the practicum hours. Practicum hours will be recorded and validated by preceptor and documented on **Practicum Journal Form**.

Specific information regarding FJTSA practicum hours requirements and documentation can be found in the Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia at Einstein Medical Center Montgomery Student Handbook.

## **Practicum Failure**

Practicum student learning outcomes must be met satisfactorily in order to pass the practicum requirement of the DNP Program. Midterm and final evaluations are completed by students as self-evaluations, and by preceptors and/or course faculty. Failure to pass practicum projects or to meet practicum learning outcomes will result in course failure. Unsafe practicum practice is interpreted as practicum failure.

## **Unsafe Practicum Performance**

Unsafe practicum performance is care that seriously **jeopardizes a patient's well-being** and/or causes **potential or actual harm to self or others**. A student demonstrating a pattern of unsafe performance will not be allowed to continue in the practicum nursing course. Students are provided an opportunity to demonstrate safe practicum performance within the structure of the course to meet practicum student learning outcomes.

## **Practicum Jeopardy**

Students must satisfactorily complete both the theoretical and practicum project components of the practicum residency courses in order to receive a passing letter grade for the course. When a student exhibits unsatisfactory performance that would prevent him/her from meeting residency course student learning outcomes, the following procedure should be followed:

1. Immediately notify the student in person and in writing regarding student performance.
2. Immediately notify the Program Director in person and in writing.
3. Faculty and student should meet to develop an action plan within 1 week of notice of unsatisfactory performance. The action plan must be student-driven with clear student ownership of the plan.
4. Faculty should make ongoing documentation in the student's record regarding the student's progress in achieving the specified goals.
5. If a target date is set and the student's unsatisfactory performance remains, the student, faculty, and director will meet to discuss further action, up to and including dismissal from the program.

**Unacceptable Conduct** (Student Guide to Rights and Responsibilities available at:

<http://www.lasalle.edu/students/dean/divpub/manuals/sgrrr/>

Faculty reserve the right to remove from the program any student who demonstrates unsafe,

unprofessional, or unethical behavior at any time. Aggressive behavior will not be tolerated.

### **Graduate Policy for Incomplete Grades**

Incomplete grades at the graduate level require that a contract be written between the faculty member and student to set requirements and deadlines for completions. Please see the University Policy regarding incomplete grades for Graduate Students in the Graduate Catalog.

### **Cancellation of Classes**

All courses at the University remain in session unless announced otherwise by radio and/or television media. The School **closing number is 105 for day classes or 2105 for evening/weekend classes. Students with classes off Main campus should check with their course faculty for alert numbers.** If classes are in session, students are expected to be present for practicum assignments. For safety reasons only, faculty and students can make individual decisions about attending practicum experiences. Students and faculty should refer to the La Salle University Web Page for all emergency and weather-related announcements and University closings. Online courses should follow instructions posted to the course learning management system.

### **Military Reserve Call-up**

Any student who is called up for reserve duty should contact the Registrar's Office. University procedure will be to drop all courses for these students and remove all tuition charges. Financial aid will be returned to proper lender. The Registrar's Office will contact the Bursar, the Student Financial Services Office, and the appropriate Dean. If the call-up is at the end of the semester and if the student can finish coursework off campus, then the appropriate Dean or Graduate Chair should use his/her judgment to make such provision.

For post-BSN CRNA students: The Nurse Anesthesia Program recognizes that it may be necessary for a student to be absent from the Nurse Anesthesia Program for time for military service. At the same time, the Nurse Anesthesia Program and student recognize that extended absences may adversely affect the student's didactic and practicum educational endeavors. All nurse anesthesia students are granted military leave in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Students will be granted leave for required military training and/or duty in the Guard or Reserve. Upon the student's return to the Nurse Anesthesia Program, all leave time must be made up and all Nurse Anesthesia Program terminal objectives must be met prior to graduation.

## **SCHOOL/PROGRAM GOVERNANCE**

### **Student Representation on School of Nursing and Health Sciences Committees**

To maximize student participation in all aspects of the DNP Program, the faculty invites student membership on faculty committees. The DNP Director solicits student representation on these committees. A variety of committee opportunities are available. In particular, the Doctor of Nursing Program Curriculum Committee will have 1 DNP student and 1 alternate student member.

Student representatives serve as an important communication link between faculty and students regarding program issues, changes, and needs. The representative should be an objective, conscientious, responsible individual with leadership ability and effective communication skills.

1. Representatives are expected to attend all designated committee meetings. The faculty reserves the

- right to request that representatives not attend certain meetings or parts of meetings.
2. Alternates should attend all meetings that student-representatives cannot attend.
  3. When an agenda is distributed, representatives should review it and prepare for meetings accordingly.
  4. The representatives are charged to bring all student questions and concerns pertinent to the specific committee to meetings.
  5. Representatives will receive minutes from meetings. Information should be shared with the student body.
  6. Students may attend meetings in person or through video conferencing.

### **Research Participation**

Nursing faculty and administrators conduct program evaluation studies or participate with off-campus researchers in collecting data to provide a basis for improving the nursing program and/or services to students. Anonymity and confidentiality will be maintained in the collection of any data. Student participation or non-participation will not in any way affect the student's grade.

### **Right to Inspect File**

Students may inspect their personal file by scheduling an appointment with the Program Director. A student must examine the file with the Program Director in attendance; the student cannot alter or remove the files.

### **Identification Cards**

All students are required to carry a valid La Salle ID card. This card is also the library card. Online and remote students may upload a photo and obtain their ID at: <http://www.lasalle.edu/studentaccounts/id-cards/>.

### **Parking**

Online students who come to campus for meetings or other scheduled events should consult the DNP office for parking instructions and/or Shuttle Service.

### **Emergencies–Security**

The on-campus Security Office is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, providing security services, parking registration, identification card distribution, shuttle bus/escort services and help with cars. The Department of Security and Safety is in Good Shepherd Hall. For general information, call 215-951-1300; **FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 215-991-2111.**

### **Scholarships and Financial Aid**

A list of scholarship sources is available at the Financial Aid Office (Administrative Building Main Campus) and in the offices of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences.

### **Sigma Theta Tau, International, Kappa Delta Chapter**

The La Salle University Nursing Honor Society was chartered in April 1988 as the Kappa Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, International. The purposes of the society are (1) to recognize superior achievement, (2) to recognize the development of leadership qualities, (3) to foster high professional standards, (4) to encourage creative work, and (5) to strengthen commitment to the ideals and purposes of the profession. Membership is by invitation and by application once a year. For more information, please contact the Senior Counselor, Kappa Delta chapter, Sigma Theta Tau in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences

### **Computer Assisted Instructional Materials**

The faculty continually evaluates educational resource materials for software packages that will enhance student learning and facilitate teaching effectiveness (Connelly Library, Audiovisual). The online program uses the approved Learning Course Management System to deliver their course offerings. The Connelly Library Media Services librarian provides updated lists of AV resources regularly and on request. Specific “LibGuides,” for example Credo Instruct, developed by University librarians are available on the library web site.

### **Other Learning Resources**

Other learning resources for both undergraduate and graduate students include the Center for ACADEMIC Achievement that assists in the construction of required papers. Students are given advice and criticism on scholarly writing within their discipline. Further, students can receive counseling pertaining to study skills and time management through the counseling center. Students may attend courses with a peer-writing fellow who critiques writing; this is part of an on-going La Salle University initiative. Doctoral students who need writing assistance, or the use of an editor should speak with the DNP Director for resources and policies.

The School has computer laboratories to facilitate student learning located on Main and West campuses.

### **University Policies**

Each year, La Salle University publishes a **Student Guide to Rights and Responsibilities**. Students are referred to specific Sections and Policies. Also, the **Information Manual for Student Organization Officers and Advisors** regulates student organizations. The three documents are available on the University’s web page. <http://www.lasalle.edu/students/dean/divpub/manuals/studentguide/>

**APPENDICES  
AND  
FORMS**

## APPENDIX A: CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATIONS

### **Classroom Accommodations**

Every student at La Salle is given equal opportunity for participation in classes, academic activities, programs, and extra-curricular offerings. Students who need accommodations in order to fully partake in these activities must submit medical or psychological certification of an illness or condition. Once the University obtains the student's completed documentation, we will work with him/her to make the accommodations.

To ensure that you have the best possible academic experience, we offer a variety of classroom accommodations. The accommodations available are designed to help you achieve your academic goals. We want to help you accomplish your academic goals!

### **How do I request accommodations?**

1. Submit written documentation from your medical specialist or licensed psychologist. The age of acceptable documentation is dependent upon the health condition, the student's current health status, and his/her request for accommodations.
2. The documentation should include a list of the classroom accommodations the student would like to use.
3. The University works with students requesting accommodations on a case-by-case basis. It is only after we obtain complete documentation and work with you to determine the appropriate accommodations, that a letter confirming your accommodations will be sent.

All medical information is 100% confidential. You can be as discrete as you choose, however, we recommend letting your instructors know about your disability. If you should choose not to inform them, then your instructors will only be notified of the accommodations of which they need to be aware.

### **Chronic Health and Physical Conditions**

*Requirements of your medical specialist:*

- A medical specialist in the area of the specific impairment for which accommodations are being sought must complete and sign the documentation.
- The practitioner's code of ethics in relation to qualifications and conflicts of interest must be upheld in order to have proper assessment of required accommodations.
- Documentation must be typed, dated, signed by the specialist, and submitted on professional letterhead.

### **Learning Disorder (including a diagnosis of ADD/ADHD)**

*Requirements of your medical specialist:*

- A licensed specialist should submit a current psychoeducational or neuropsychological evaluation which must be typed, dated, signed by the specialist, and submitted on professional letterhead.
- The current and complete psycho-educational evaluation must be less than three years old and include all test scores and results.



*Requirements of the report:*

- The evaluation should include objective testing to demonstrate the presence of current and certified disorders, clear identification of functional impairments related to the disorders, and recommendations for accommodations in a higher educational environment.
- The evaluation must have a clear statement of the DSM-IV or DSMV diagnosis.
- A recent 504 plan or IEP Plan is helpful but not required.

**Psychological Disorders**

*Requirements of the report:*

- Report must include a clear statement of the diagnosis, including related symptoms and any fluctuating conditions.
- The report must also contain a clear explanation of how symptoms cause significant limitations in academic settings.

**Sensory Impairment**

*Requirements of the report:*

- Must include a clear statement of the sensory impairment including related symptoms and any fluctuating conditions.
- The report must also contain a clear explanation of how symptoms cause significant limitations in academic settings.

**Types of Classroom Accommodations**

- Classes in buildings that are physically accessible
- Convenient daily shuttle bus service is available
- Testing accommodations
- And many more!

For more information or to request accommodations contact:

Ms. Rose Lee Pauline, Affirmative Action Officer, Title 9 Coordinator, Academic Affairs Support Specialist  
1900 West Olney Avenue,  
Philadelphia PA, 19141-1199  
215-951-1014  
Email: [pauline@lasalle.edu](mailto:pauline@lasalle.edu)

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**APPENDIX B:**

**Nursing Programs Student Complaint Form**

A complaint is an educational or personal issue or condition that a student believes to be unfair, inequitable, discriminatory, or a hindrance to his/her education. Students who have a complaint about their La Salle University experience should complete this form and submit it to the appropriate individual as directed in the program Student Handbook. It is an express School of Nursing and Health Sciences policy that all students always have the right to lodge a complaint which they deem important without fear of retaliation of any sort or any other adverse consequence as a result of doing so.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Semester/Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Current student: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Name of individual and/or program against whom the complaint is filed:

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe your complaint in detail, including date/s of occurrence if possible: (Attach additional sheets, if necessary, along with any documentation that will help describe and substantiate the complaint):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Students are encouraged to discuss their concerns and complaints through informal conferences with the appropriate instructor or program. Have you made an attempt to resolve this complaint in this way?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, describe the outcome (Attach any additional comments, if necessary):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What outcome do you hope to achieve after talking to the appropriate University official(s)? (Attach additional sheets if necessary):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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I understand that information contained on this Complaint form will be held confidential to the extent possible. Complaint information may be shared with University officials in order to conduct a thorough investigation. I hereby declare that the information on this form is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX C:**

**Contract for Incomplete Grades**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (Student Name) request an Incomplete (I) grade in Nursing \_\_\_\_\_,  
(semester and year \_\_\_\_\_). I understand that the course requirement(s) ( \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ) must be completed by \_\_\_\_\_ and given to the instructor. I also understand that if I am unable to complete the course work within the allocated time frame, that I *may* receive a reduction in the project grade for lateness. This may potentially result in a lower grade for the course.

If the student fails to meet the above requirements, and the faculty member does not assign a grade, the University policy applies. The University policy on "I" Incomplete grades states that a student who receives a grade of "I" for a course must complete the remaining work within the time of the next semester (whether the student is enrolled in course work or not during that subsequent semester). If the work is not completed within that time, the "I" grade will remain on the transcript permanently, and the course must be repeated to produce a satisfactory grade.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- cc: Student File
- Student Copy
- Faculty Copy
- Director DNP Program

COMMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX D:  
Independent Study Contract**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_ Course #: \_\_\_\_\_ Course Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Meetings: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Meetings: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Meetings: \_\_\_\_\_

Course Description:

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Course Expectations:

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(Use additional space if necessary)

Major sources to be used:

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(Use additional space if necessary)

Reason for needing independent study:

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Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN ALL SIGNED COPIES TO THE DEAN'S OFFICE

**For Office Use Only:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Not Approved

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean, School of Nursing and Health Sciences

**APPENDIX E: La Salle University Doctor of Nursing Practice Program  
Practicum Preceptor Form-Student Instructions**

**(1) Preceptor Identification and Participation Agreement:**

Prior to confirming a preceptor's participation in a practicum experience designed to fulfill curricular requirements the following must occur:

- Provide course syllabus to preceptor
- Identify student role and responsibilities.
- Identify purpose and relevance to project.
- You will explain the project upon which you are working, and planned dissemination of the information obtained from the experience

**(2) Agreement to Precept**

The Agreement to Precept will help you fully convey the important elements of their participation. After the preceptor receives information enough to satisfy the criteria identified in section (1) above, you must ask them to sign the Agreement to Precept. Give the preceptor a copy of the signed form and return a copy of the signed form to the Program Director. You may also keep a copy for your records. **Do not begin practicum hours until you have obtained a signed copy of the Agreement to Precept.**

All preceptors must also provide the student with a current CV, copy of the valid and current professional license and copy of professional certification, when appropriate. These documents must be submitted to the Program Director **before any practicum hours are performed.**

**APPENDIX F:**

**La Salle University  
Doctor of Nursing Practice Program  
Agreement to Precept**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Contact Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Course:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Practicum Student Learning Outcomes:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby grant the right to use information from the practicum experience during in which I participated, to [\_\_\_\_\_ (student's name) and La Salle University.

I understand that materials derived from the experience will be kept by the University and/or the student and that the information contained will be submitted to faculty for evaluation. I received satisfactory answers to my inquiries concerning the project and I understand that the experience will be utilized for educational, institutional, and/or scientific purposes. I understand that compensation for use of materials developed as a result of my participation is not available to me. All rights, titles, and interest in the materials gathered during my participation on the project will become and remain the property of La Salle University, SONHS.

*I understand that I may contact [insert contact information of faculty member with whom participants may speak] to share comments or concerns regarding the practicum experience.*

I have read and consent to the above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Preceptor

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Preceptor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX G:  
LA SALLE UNIVERSITY DNP PROGRAM  
PRACTICUM AGENCY PLACEMENT FORM 2018-19**

**To be completed and approved prior to any DNP practicum experience**

<b>Student Name:</b>	
Student Address (incl. # & street, building, floor, room, suite, city, state, zip, etc.):	
Student Cell Phone:	
Student Email:	
DNP Course:	
Term/Year:	
<b>Preceptor Name and Credentials:</b>	
<b>Organization Full &amp; Legal Name:</b>	
Organization Address, (incl. # & street, building, floor, room, suite, city, state, zip, etc.):	
Is the site part of a larger health system, or is it a private, stand-alone facility? Fill in the circle to the right that applies.	<input type="radio"/> Private <input type="radio"/> Part of larger health system
Is this site your place of employment? Fill in the circle to the right that applies.	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Preceptor Specialty:	
Years of Practice:	
State of Licensure & #:	
License Issue and Expiration Dates:	
Preceptor CV/Resume	
Preceptor Contact Telephone:	
Preceptor Email:	
<b>Total Hours to be Completed with this Preceptor:</b>	



## APPENDIX H:

### La Salle University Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Preceptor Evaluation of Student: NUR 750, NUR 880, and NUR 882

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Preceptor \_\_\_\_\_

Practicum Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Course: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Please circle the number which best reflects your opinion of the student's practicum performance, with 3 being average and 5 indicating the highest positive rating (excellence/expert).

Competency	Rating: Please circle	Comments/Suggestions
<b>1. Theoretical Foundations for Practicum Practice</b> <i>Student has scientific foundation for practice and the ability to translate that knowledge accurately and effectively to benefit patients, groups of patients, and organizations.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	
<b>2. Organizational Dynamics and Change in Complex Health Care Systems</b> <i>Student can appreciate different modes of care delivery. Student can assess organizations, identify systems issues, and facilitate change.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	
<b>3. Leadership and Inter-professional Collaboration</b> <i>Student appreciates and represents organizational purpose and collaboration. Student facilitates team functioning and interprofessional collaboration. Student can function as a team member and/or team leader.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	
<b>4. Quality Measurement and Outcomes Analysis</b> <i>Student applies data and analytics to quality of care and patient safety.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	
<b>5. Evidenced-based Practice</b> <i>Student applies evidence-based practice to approach systems issues and improve health outcomes.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	
<b>6. Health and Social Policy</b> <i>Student appreciates the influence of health care policy, health care finance and practice regulation on access, safety, quality, and efficacy. Student serves as an advocate for social justice and equity in health care.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	
<b>7. Practicum Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation's Health</b> <i>Student analyzes and applies epidemiologic, biostatistics and environmental data in the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs affecting population health.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	
<b>8. Health Informatics</b> <i>Student uses health informatics to evaluate care. Student uses health informatics to implement quality improvement</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	

<i>and support decision-making.</i>		
<b>9. Communication</b> <i>Student writes clearly and succinctly, addressing the appropriate audience. Student is attentive, asks questions and actively listens.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 –NA</b>	
<b>10. Professionalism</b> <i>Student exhibits ethical nursing behaviors and decision making. Student takes responsibility and accountability for the development of professional behaviors. Student is appropriately autonomous, accountable and inclusive of others' contributions. Student recognizes personal strengths and weaknesses and learns from mistakes.</i>	<b>1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 -NA</b>	

**Comments:** This is the most valuable part of your evaluation of the student, and we appreciate the time you take to do this. Comments are especially important for any marginal or exceptional ratings. Please provide specific examples.

**Strengths:**

**Areas for improvement:**

Reviewed with student (circle): Yes No

Preceptor signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX I:**

**La Salle University  
Doctor of Nursing Practice Program  
Student Evaluation of Practicum Site & Preceptor  
NUR 750, NUR 880 & NUR 882**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Course \_\_\_\_\_

Preceptor Name \_\_\_\_\_ Practicum Site \_\_\_\_\_

**PRACTICUM SITE**

	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Provides an environment that meets course objectives		
Provides an environment to meet practicum objectives		
Provides orientation as needed		
Is supportive of DNP education		

**PRECEPTOR**

	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Provides consultation		
Available to student		
Challenged student's thinking		
Facilitated student's work		
Provided opportunities to meet practicum objectives		
Offered constructive criticism		

Overall impression:

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

APPENDIX J:

La Salle University  
School of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Doctor of Nursing Practice Program  
Practicum Journal Form

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Course \_\_\_\_\_ Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Practicum Goal: \_\_\_\_\_

Practicum Objectives:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

*Directions:* Please describe all practicum activities. In the evaluation section indicate how the activity helped you meet your practicum goal/objectives and course objectives.

Date	Practicum Activity	Activity Evaluation and Practicum Objective(s)	DNP Essential(s)	Hours	Cumulative Hours

**Complete this section only for *final* cumulative practicum hours.**

***Summary:***

Please write a paragraph indicating the most important lessons learned from the overall practicum experience.

Identify 2 major strengths:

Identify 2 improvement areas and a brief plan of action.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Practicum Partner Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Print: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:  
\_\_\_\_\_

*\*By signing this practicum log, I attest that my hours are complete, truthful and honestly earned.*

## **The Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice**

The DNP curriculum is conceptualized as having two components:

1. DNP Essentials 1 through 8 are the foundational outcome competencies deemed essential for all graduates of a DNP program regardless of specialty or functional focus.
2. Specialty competencies/content prepare the DNP graduate for those practice and didactic learning experiences for a particular specialty. **Competencies, content, and practica experiences needed for specific roles in specialty areas are delineated by national specialty nursing organizations.**

### ***Essential I: Scientific Underpinnings for Practice***

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, the biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences as the basis for the highest level of nursing practice.
2. Use science-based theories and concepts to: determine the nature and significance of health and health care delivery phenomena; describe the actions and advanced strategies to enhance, alleviate, and ameliorate health and health care delivery phenomena as appropriate; and evaluate outcomes.
3. Develop and evaluate new practice approaches based on nursing theories and theories from other disciplines.

### ***Essential II: Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Improvement and Systems Thinking***

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Develop and evaluate care delivery approaches that meet current and future needs of patient populations based on scientific findings in nursing and other practicum sciences, as well as organizational, political, and economic sciences.
2. Ensure accountability for quality of health care and patient safety for populations with whom they work.
  - a. Use advanced communication skills/processes to lead quality improvement and patient safety initiatives in health care systems.
  - b. Employ principles of business, finance, economics, and health policy to develop and implement effective plans for practice-level and/or system-wide practice initiatives that will improve the quality of care delivery.
  - c. Develop and/or monitor budgets for practice initiatives.
  - d. Analyze the cost-effectiveness of practice initiatives accounting for risk and improvement of health care outcomes.
  - e. Demonstrate sensitivity to diverse organizational cultures and populations, including patients and providers.
3. Develop and/or evaluate effective strategies for managing the ethical dilemmas inherent in patient care, the health care organization, and research.

### ***Essential III: Practicum Scholarship and Analytical Methods for Evidence-Based Practice***

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Use analytic methods to critically appraise existing literature and other evidence to determine and implement the best evidence for practice.
2. Design and implement processes to evaluate outcomes of practice, practice patterns, and systems of care within a practice setting, health care organization, or community against national benchmarks to determine variances in practice outcomes and population trends.
3. Design, direct, and evaluate quality improvement methodologies to promote safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered care.
4. Apply relevant findings to develop practice guidelines and improve practice and the practice

environment.

5. Use information technology and research methods appropriately to:
  - collect appropriate and accurate data to generate evidence for nursing practice;
  - inform and guide the design of databases that generate meaningful evidence for nursing practice;
  - analyze data from practice; design evidence-based interventions;
  - predict and analyze outcomes; examine patterns of behavior and outcomes; identify gaps in evidence for practice
6. Function as a practice specialist/consultant in collaborative knowledge-generating research.
7. Disseminate findings from evidence-based practice and research to improve healthcare outcomes.

#### ***Essential IV: Information Systems/Technology and Patient Care Technology for the Improvement and Transformation of Health Care***

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Design, select, use, and evaluate programs that evaluate and monitor outcomes of care, care systems, and quality improvement including consumer use of health care information systems.
2. Analyze and communicate critical elements necessary to the selection, use and evaluation of health care information systems and patient care technology.
3. Demonstrate the conceptual ability and technical skills to develop and execute an evaluation plan involving data extraction from practice information systems and databases.
4. Provide leadership in the evaluation and resolution of ethical and legal issues within healthcare systems relating to the use of information, information technology, communication networks, and patient care technology.
5. Evaluate consumer health information sources for accuracy, timeliness, and appropriateness.

#### ***Essential V: Health Care Policy for Advocacy in Health Care***

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Critically analyze health policy proposals, health policies, and related issues from the perspective of consumers, nursing, other health professions, and other stakeholders in policy and public forums.
2. Demonstrate leadership in the development and implementation of institutional, local, state, federal, and/or international health policy.
3. Influence policy makers through active participation on committees, boards, or task forces at the institutional, local, state, regional, national, and/or international levels to improve health care delivery and outcomes.
4. Educate others, including policy makers at all levels, regarding nursing, health policy, and patient care outcomes.
5. Advocate for the nursing profession within the policy and healthcare communities.
6. Develop, evaluate, and provide leadership for health care policy that shapes health care financing, regulation, and delivery.
7. Advocate for social justice, equity, and ethical policies within all healthcare arenas.

#### ***Essential VI: Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes***

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Employ effective communication and collaborative skills in the development and implementation of practice models, peer review, practice guidelines, health policy, standards of care, and/or other scholarly products.
2. Lead interprofessional teams in the analysis of complex practice and organizational issues.



3. Employ consultative and leadership skills with intraprofessional and interprofessional teams to create change in health care and complex healthcare delivery systems.

***Essential VII: Practicum Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation's Health***

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Analyze epidemiological, biostatistical, environmental, and other appropriate scientific data related to individual, aggregate, and population health.
2. Synthesize concepts, including psychosocial dimensions and cultural diversity, related to practicum prevention and population health in developing, implementing, and evaluating interventions to address health promotion/disease prevention efforts, improve health status/access patterns, and/or address gaps in care of individuals, aggregates, or populations.
3. Evaluate care delivery models and/or strategies using concepts related to community, environmental and occupational health, and cultural and socioeconomic dimensions of health.

***Essential VIII: Advanced Nursing Practice***

The DNP program prepares the graduate to:

1. Conduct a comprehensive and systematic assessment of health and illness parameters in complex situations, incorporating diverse and culturally sensitive approaches.
2. Design, implement, and evaluate therapeutic interventions based on nursing science and other sciences.
3. Develop and sustain therapeutic relationships and partnerships with patients (individual, family or group) and other professionals to facilitate optimal care and patient outcomes.
4. Demonstrate advanced levels of practicum judgment, systems thinking, and accountability in designing, delivering, and evaluating evidence-based care to improve patient outcomes.
5. Guide, mentor, and support other nurses to achieve excellence in nursing practice.
6. Educate and guide individuals and groups through complex health and situational transitions.
7. Use conceptual and analytical skills in evaluating the links among practice, organizational, population, fiscal, and policy issues.

Source: American Association of Colleges of Nursing. (2006, October). The essentials of doctoral education for advanced nursing practice. Retrieved from <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/publications/position/dnpessentials.pdf>

## APPENDIX K:

### La Salle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences Confidentiality Policy

Faculty members and students are required to sign a Confidentiality Statement. Students will be required to sign additional confidentiality forms for affiliating agencies. The signed form is filed in each faculty member's or student's file in the School.

Faculty members and students are required to obtain information about the client from the client, the client's chart, the client's health care providers, and specific computer records prior to and during the practicum experience. Students may print only that information that is needed and must immediately black out the client's name from the printout. This information is shared with faculty members and other students in the course for educational purposes as well as those persons involved in the client's care. The above-mentioned are the only persons privileged to this information. The faculty believes that maintaining client confidentiality is an essential part of the professional nurse's role. Therefore, violation of this policy by any nursing student is grounds for disciplinary action.

The faculty member and student are obligated at all times to comply with standards of documentation and confidentiality mandated by state and federal regulatory agencies and accrediting agencies, as same may be modified and amended from time to time including applicable requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), the Standards of the Joint Commission, administrative and medical record policies, and guidelines established and approved by practicum agencies. The faculty member or student agrees to hold the University harmless for all actions that may arise from the inappropriate use or release of confidential patient information.

In light of the above information, I understand that I will:

1. Not discuss any client or information pertaining to any client with anyone on the health care team who has no educational purpose or who is not involved in the care of the client.
2. Not leave information concerning the client (i.e., computer printouts, interview forms, etc.) in any place where it could be viewed by anyone not privileged to this information.
3. Not discuss any client or information pertaining to any client in any place, i.e., elevators, corridors, dorm rooms, home, where it may be overheard by anyone not privileged to this information.
4. Not print any portion of the computer record that is not authorized by the instructor.
5. Not take any computer printout from the unit without blacking out the client's name.
6. Not mention a client by name, only by code number, when writing course assignments.
7. Not mention any person as a client at the practicum agency or provide any information on the telephone except to those authorized to have that information.
8. Not mention a client by name to anyone in casual conversation including my family members or friends.
9. Adhere to HIPAA regulations.

Student Signature and Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Student signature denotes that the student has read and agrees to abide by the above statement.*

**APPENDIX L:**

**La Salle University  
School of Nursing and Health Sciences**

**Exposure Policy**

The La Salle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences acknowledges the inherent risks associated with working around or with blood and body fluids. Although, as a nursing student, you have been taught and are expected to follow universal precautions, it is still possible to come into direct contact with blood and body fluids.

In order to ensure that you, as a student, and the practicum agencies where you perform your practicum practicums are protected in the event of exposure to infectious organisms, the following policy outlines your responsibilities in this area:

1. You must have and maintain current health insurance and show verification of coverage each year while matriculated in the La Salle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences.
2. La Salle University and the practicum agencies that provide practical experiences for our students are not responsible or liable for the costs of medical follow-up or expenses incurred. The student:
3. If you are exposed to blood and body fluids, you will:
  - a. Assume full responsibility for disease sequelae. Neither the School of Nursing and Health Sciences nor the practicum site is responsible for ensuring medical follow-up.
  - b. Follow the policies of the practicum agency (if any) and assume responsibility for medical follow-up.
  - c. Contact the School of Nursing and Health Sciences within 2 hours of exposure. If you are an undergraduate student, you should contact the Undergraduate Director or, if you are a graduate student, contact the Director of the DNP Program.
  - d. Contact your primary care physician or nurse practitioner and undergo any necessary precautions, treatments, or tests.

Prior to the start of your practicum experience, you will be reminded by practicum faculty of the need to follow universal precautions in a reasonably prudent manner. In addition, you will be required to sign this statement acknowledging receipt of this Exposure Policy.

By my signature below, I acknowledge receipt of this Exposure Policy and my responsibilities under it as mandated by the La Salle University School of Nursing and Health Sciences and I am willing to comply with them as a student of La Salle University.

Student's Name (Please Print) \_

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Student's Signature

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Date

I have received a copy of the La Salle School of Nursing and Health Sciences Doctor of Nursing Program **Student Handbook**. I understand and agree to adhere to the policies therein.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State, Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Primary Telephone)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Personal Email)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)