



## **Baccalaureate Nursing Student Handbook**

Department of Nursing  
School of Health and Environment

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Subject to change and revision

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## **A Message from the Faculty of the Baccalaureate Nursing Program**

Welcome to the Baccalaureate Nursing Program of the University of Massachusetts Lowell (UML), School of Health and Environment (SHE)! Whether you are just entering the nursing program or continuing as a UML nursing student, we want you to know about the educational resources available to you at the University and within the department. This handbook has been carefully planned and compiled to serve you. It has been created with two objectives: to provide clear and thorough guidelines; and, to serve as a practical, helpful resource. Please also refer to the UML *Undergraduate Online Academic Catalog*, the *University Programs of Study*, and the University website: [www.uml.edu](http://www.uml.edu), as well as the *Department of Nursing* website: <http://www.uml.edu/college/SHE/Nursing/Default.html> and/or contact your academic advisor.

Whether your future involves key clinical positions, advanced practice, nursing research, faculty opportunities or combinations of these, all require creativity, passion, strong intellectual skills and leadership based on quality standards and best practices. As you learn, discover and achieve, it is your UML and student nurse experiences that will support your personal and professional success. We encourage you to read this handbook, become familiar with it, and gain an understanding of the policies and procedures that govern our program and contribute to creating Massachusetts Nurse Leaders. Your amazing journey is in process! *Prepare to successfully advance in your student nursing career at the University of Massachusetts Lowell!*

**Please become very familiar with this Handbook. Students are responsible for using the Handbook as a resource when questions arise and as a guide to academic and nonacademic policies and procedures.**

### **General Statement of Nursing Student Responsibilities and Rights**

Students are expected to adhere to the policies and procedures currently in effect. It is the responsibility of each student to be aware of and to comply with current policies and procedures. Failure to stay informed is not an acceptable excuse for non-compliance. The University of Massachusetts Academic Policies are located in the *Undergraduate Online Academic Catalog* at <http://www.uml.edu/catalog/undergraduate/default.htm>.

Students are advised to pay particular attention to the following policies which can be found at <http://www.uml.edu/catalog/undergraduate/policies/default.htm>

- Academic Integrity
- Attendance Policies
- Withdrawal from Courses
- Repeated Coursework/Course Deletions
- Off-Campus Study
- Student Complaints and Right of Access to Student Records
- Advanced Placement Policies for Baccalaureate Applicants
- Transfer Policies for Registered Nurses
- Services for Learning and Physically Disabled Students

In addition to the above policies all students taking nursing courses are expected to adhere to the following Departmental **Essential Professional Competencies** in both clinical and didactic settings.

1. Demonstrate effective affective responses.
2. Assume responsibility for own actions and outcomes.
3. Demonstrate acceptance of limited knowledge and experience.
4. Follow through on commitments, is dependable and punctual.
5. Demonstrate self-direction in seeking learning opportunities.
6. Show respect for others in the classroom.
7. Accept constructive feedback when offered.
8. Seek validation of clinical judgments with faculty and/or preceptor.
9. Able to separate personal issues from professional responsibilities.
10. Keep the patient/client/resident as the priority.
11. Respect cultural and personal differences of others; is not judgmental about patients', clients', residents' lifestyle.
12. Set priorities and reorganizes as necessary.
13. Project professional image/demeanor.

Grading of the Essential Professional Competencies is Pass/Fail. Successful demonstration of these competencies is essential for the passing of any clinical or didactic course. Any student who is not demonstrating these competencies by the conclusion of the semester will fail the course. Warnings may be given at any point throughout the semester.

### **Technical Standards and Computer Literacy Statement**

Upon entrance and throughout the nursing program all students are required to demonstrate essential functions in order to fulfill the requirements of the nursing curricula. These include technical standards for admission, continuation and graduation as well as computer literacy. The technical standards can be found in the undergraduate catalogue or at: [http://www.uml.edu/catalog/undergraduate/colleges/health\\_environment/nursing/major.htm#Technical%20Standards](http://www.uml.edu/catalog/undergraduate/colleges/health_environment/nursing/major.htm#Technical%20Standards).

### **Good Moral Character**

The University of Massachusetts Lowell, Department of Nursing encourages all prospective Nursing students to familiarize themselves with the statutory requirements of licensure in the Commonwealth prior to applying for admission to the Nursing program. The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing publishes an information sheet on *good moral character*. Copies are available from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing, 239 Causeway Street, Boston, MA 02114 and on-line at: [http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dph/quality/boards/good\\_moral\\_info.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Eeohhs2/docs/dph/quality/boards/good_moral_info.pdf). Prospective applicants to the nursing program who intend to apply for licensure in states other than Massachusetts are encouraged to contact the appropriate authority in those states to ensure that they will meet the requirements for licensure application in those states.

## **University of Massachusetts Lowell Mission**

The mission of the University of Massachusetts Lowell is to enhance the intellectual, personal and cultural development of its students through excellent, affordable educational programs. The University seeks to meet the needs of the Commonwealth today and into the future and supports the development of sustainable technologies and communities through its teaching, research, scholarship and engagement (<http://www.uml.edu/about/profile/default.html>).

### **Academic Policies**

#### ***Transfer of Credits***

1. Upon acceptance to nursing transfer of credits is completed by the admissions office.
2. If a student wishes to transfer courses after enrollment, the student first checks the online Transfer Dictionary to see if the course has received prior approval or denied transfer. If the course is not listed, then the student should consult with the assigned academic advisor about prior courses taken, and provide a course description as well as an unofficial transcript. An official transcript for the course needs to be sent directly to the Registrar.
3. Students complete an undergraduate academic petition (available online from the Registrar's website under *Forms*) and have their academic advisor sign it.
4. The Academic Petition with the course description and transcript attached is then submitted to the Chairperson of the Department of Nursing (Dr. Karen Devereaux Melillo) for her signature and then the Dean of the School of the School of Health and Environment.

#### ***Drop/Add***

Courses for which a student is registered may be "dropped" or new courses may be "added" or "swapped" if the drop/add procedure is followed before the deadline date noted on the academic calendar (approximately 10 days after the beginning of the semester). Please note that practicum courses can not be swapped after the last day of final exams of the preceding semester. Any necessary changes in practicum sections only will be done by course coordinators and/or program administrators.

## **School of Health and Environment**

The School's mission is to promote human health and development that enables people to live in safe and productive communities and environmentally sustainable economies. The School does this through:

- an array of academic programs in the health and environment professions that prepare graduates to practice their professions with knowledge, competence, and respect for the interdependence of human and global wellbeing;
- proven success in interdisciplinary research that increases understanding of health, disease and disability and their social and environmental determinants; and

- a public university's commitment to community service, advancing prevention-based strategies in health and environmental policy (<http://www.uml.edu/college/SHE/Mission.html>)

### ***Blood Borne Pathogen Policy***

The School of Health and Environment's policy on Blood Borne Pathogens dictates that students with category I or II exposure status must participate in training on blood borne pathogens and universal precautions prior to clinical laboratories and practica in which they will be taking part in tasks/procedures where exposure is possible and at least annually thereafter.

### **Department of Nursing**

The **Mission** of the Department of Nursing is to educate students, advance knowledge, and provide service to the University, the profession, and the community through excellence in the discovery, application, integration, and dissemination of knowledge. The health promotion needs of individuals, groups, families, and communities are emphasized.

The Department's **Vision** is to be a center for excellence in nursing education, research, and community service.

The **Philosophy** of the Department of Nursing reflects beliefs regarding person, environment, health, nursing, and education. People have unique qualities and individual needs for respect, worth and recognition of personal dignity. They have the right to make choices and establish goals, which influence and are influenced by the environment. Health is a dynamic state of physiological, psychological, social, and spiritual well-being. Nursing is a health care discipline guided by professional standards of care supporting individuals, families, groups, and communities in the promotion of health throughout the lifespan. Education is a self-actualizing, creative, lifetime endeavor involving values clarification, progressive systematic inquiry, critical analysis, and judgment. The baccalaureate program incorporates a liberal arts and science education with generalized preparation in professional nursing. The master's program is predicated upon a baccalaureate education and prepares advanced practice nurses. The doctoral program builds on both the generalized preparation in professional nursing and the specialist preparation at the master's level to prepare nurse scholars in health promotion.

### **Accreditation**

The baccalaureate and master's degree programs in the Department of Nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and approved by the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing.

### **Chain of Command in the Department of Nursing**

In the event that you need to communicate a concern or need relating to courses/clinical expectations while a student in the nursing department, we ask that you follow the designated chain of command. First you should discuss your concern/need with the faculty member of the course/clinical that you are having the concern/need. If you cannot resolve this issue you

should bring this concern/need to the practicum or course coordinator. If you still cannot resolve your concern/need or if it pertains to a didactic course then you should bring this to the attention of the baccalaureate program director. If you and the program director cannot resolve your concern/need then you should make an appointment with the Chair of the Department of Nursing. Lastly, if you have not resolved your concern/need then you would schedule a meeting with the Dean of the School of Health and Environment. To effectively meet all students' needs we ask that you follow the appropriate chain of command as outlined for you.

## **Communication in the Department of Nursing**

All persons in the Department of Nursing (students, faculty and staff) are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner when communicating with one another.

**Communication via Email:** Students are provided an UML email account. The Department of Nursing and UML business offices send official communications to your assigned UML email account. All students are encouraged to check for e-mail messages frequently, at least twice a week; and periodically during winter and summer breaks. Course faculty may recommend an even greater frequency or may send email via course Blackboard websites.

**Communication via USPS:** The Department of Nursing and University also send official communications to your home address especially during winter and summer school breaks. It is important that we have your current home address. Please be certain that your contact information is current on the Intercampus Students Information System (ISIS).

**Communication via Telephone:** The Department of Nursing and University also may attempt to contact you via your telephone number. Once again it is important that we have your current home and/or cell number. Please be certain that your contact information is current on the Intercampus Students Information System (ISIS).

**Communication via Bulletin Boards:** Bulletin boards for each student level (freshmen – seniors) are located in the hallway on the second floor of Weed Hall near the Nursing Laboratories in Weed 201 and 206. There also are bulletin boards located on the second floor of Weed Hall for the UML Student Nurses Association, the Diversity in Nursing Project, and the Eta Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau. Each student is responsible for checking the bulletin boards frequently for official notices and general information.

**Communication via Online Course Websites:** Many baccalaureate faculty use online course websites through Blackboard, the University's learning and course management system. If your course has a designated website, then it is your responsibility to check it weekly for course announcements, activities, and assignments. Faculty often post student grades for class assignments and exams on the course website.

## Baccalaureate Program Goals:

The Baccalaureate program prepares nurse generalists who:

- Apply professional standards in a variety of settings serving diverse populations.
- Demonstrate competency in the application of nursing knowledge in practice.
- Participate as members of the nursing profession.

## Baccalaureate Curriculum Objectives:

The Baccalaureate program prepares nurse generalists who:

1. Develop therapeutic relationships with individuals, families, groups, and communities.
2. Utilize critical thinking and ethical principles in the implementation of standards of practice.
3. Collaborate with clients, families, and health care professionals in the delivery of care.
4. Utilize research findings in practice.
5. Demonstrate the ability to promote health in diverse populations.
6. Participate in efforts to influence health care policy.
7. Assume responsibility for learning and professional development.

## Student Outcomes:

<b>Outcomes</b> Graduates of the Baccalaureate Program are prepared to:	<b>Indicators of Success</b>
1. Practice nursing in any health care setting.	a. Pass the NCLEX -RN exam b. Sustain employment in the practice of nursing
2. Sustain life-long learning.	a. Obtain advance degrees b. Attend various educational programs related to health care practice
3. Contribute to the profession of nursing.	a. Become a member of professional groups and organizations b. Present papers and posters related to nursing practice c. Participate on committees in health care agencies d. Engage in research utilization

## Department of Nursing Policies

### ***Basic Math Competency Policy:***

All freshman and transfer students who are entering the nursing program, including those students who are on the waiting list, must take and pass a basic math competency exam with a score of 90% or better. Students who do not achieve a successful score of 90% on the basic math competency exam will be required to take and pass a math enrichment course with a grade of 3.3 or higher. Students who do not achieve a score of 3.3 or higher will not be allowed to continue in the nursing program, and have no right to appeal this determination. (Registered Nurse students are exempt).

### ***Medication Math Calculation Policy:***

All nursing students must take and pass three medication calculation exams with a score of 90% or higher. An exam will be given in each semester of the junior year and in the fall semester of the senior year. In each of these semesters, students who do not achieve a successful score of 90% or higher on the first examination will be given a second opportunity to take an examination. Those students, who do not pass the retake medication calculation examination at 90% will fail that clinical practicum. All second opportunity medication calculation exams will be given prior to entering the next clinical course. (Registered Nurse students are exempt).

### ***HESI Policy:***

All pre-licensure nursing students will be required to take nationally normed tests throughout the curriculum. The specialty tests, which become part of the course grade, will be given in the following courses: *Health Promotion and Risk Reduction of Families I and II*, *Pharmacology*, and *Clients with Acute and Life Threatening Illnesses*. In the final semester of the nursing program, students will be required to take a nationally normed comprehensive examination and this test score becomes part of the course grade. More recently, *Nursing Fundamentals* and *Pathophysiology* added HESI specialty exams to their courses.

All pre-licensure senior level-nursing students who are registered for the spring term will take a HESI Exit Exam while enrolled in *33.413 Role Transition*. Those students who do not achieve the passing score of 90% on the first examination will be required to take a second HESI Exit Exam. If students who pass the first exam wish to take the second exam they will be able to do so. The HESI Exit exam will be part of the final course grade in the *33:413 Role Transition* theory course. If two exams are taken, the highest grade will be utilized. (Registered Nurse students are exempt).

Senior nursing students who do not achieve a Health Education Systems Incorporated (HESI) score of 800 or higher on the first HESI exit (comprehensive) exam must register for an approved review course and provide a copy of the course certificate prior to taking the second HESI exit exam.

### **Grading Scale:**

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.0	N/A	0.0
100	93	87	86	80	77	76	73	67	64	60	<60
94	90	89	84	83	79	74	70	69	66	63	

### **Academic Progression Policy:**

At the end of the fall semester all freshmen nursing students will be reviewed, and those at risk (without a 2.70 cumulative in science) must meet with their advisors monthly to develop a strategy for successful continuation in the nursing program.

To qualify for continued matriculation in the nursing program, all sophomore, junior, senior, and RN-BS students must maintain ongoing cumulative averages of 2.70 or better by achieving the following averages at the end of each semester: 1) a semester average of 2.70 or better, 2) not less than a grade C in any professional major course and 3) a semester average of 2.70 or better for professional courses attempted in the major. Students enrolled in nursing also must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.70 or better in required science courses. Students who fail to satisfy these academic requirements will be dismissed from their respective programs

([http://www.uml.edu/catalog/undergraduate/colleges/health\\_environment/degree\\_programs/retention-continuance.htm](http://www.uml.edu/catalog/undergraduate/colleges/health_environment/degree_programs/retention-continuance.htm)).

### **Midterm Warning Policy:**

Students who are in danger of failing or are failing any nursing course will be given a mid-term academic or clinical warning. Students who are on academic and or clinical warning will remain on that warning for the rest of the semester and must see their academic advisor each week until the end of the semester.

### **Academic Advising/Course Registration:**

Each student is assigned to an academic advisor upon matriculation into the program. The list of advisors is posted on the Junior and Senior Student Bulletin Board on the second floor of Weed Hall and is also available on the ISIS system at <http://www.uml.edu/it/isis/>. The Advisee list should be checked each semester. Advisors are available during office hours to meet with students two days per week during designated time periods totaling 3 hours each week with 5 hours during pre-registration, at which times students may call or sign up for meetings. Advisors are available to provide advice and counsel about course selection, student concerns and questions, or about resources at the University. **Students are responsible for setting up an appointment with their advisors during registration periods** (early April and November) to discuss academic progress, course selection or any academic concerns the student may have. Once the student is matriculated and after meeting with the advisor, registration may be done on the ISIS system. No swaps of practicum sections will be honored without faculty approval after the first day of final exams.

**Undeclared Health and Transfer Students** who are admitted into nursing program at the end of their freshmen year will enroll in 33.101 *Strategies for Academic Success* in their sophomore year.

## Department of Nursing Clinical Policies

### ***CORI/SORI Policy:***

Students who are in the nursing program where clinical affiliations occur that involve children, the disabled, the elderly; an educational experience or program that includes a clinical or practicum affiliation with a private or public health care provider, may be required to undergo a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI and/or Sex Offender Record Information (SORI) check. In addition, depending on the agency policy, students may be expected to pay for the cost of the CORI or SORI check. Depending on the outcome of the contents of the student's CORI or SORI, participation in a specific academic clinical or practicum may be denied.

### ***Health and Professional Requirements:***

Documentation of health requirements is required by both the Department of Nursing and Student Health Services. These requirements are mandated by State Law and contractual agreements with our clinical sites. All students must provide the following documentation at the time of acceptance and prior to clinical practica every semester.

***Health Requirements:*** *Prior to the first nursing practicum, all students are required to have the following:*

- Current (Within the Past 12 months) History and Physical Examination (at entry of program; forms available on the web at <http://www.uml.edu/student-services/health/form.html> . Do not send a copy of the original health form sent with your freshman application.
- Documentation of Immunizations (include dates and lab results):
- Mantoux/PPD test (TB) (within the past 3 months. Date and result of reading required. Must be renewed every year although some agencies may require renewals as often as every 3-6 mos. Positive Mantoux/PPD test requires a documented chest x-ray and recent physical exam with health care provider recommendations).
- 1<sup>st</sup> MMR and 2nd MMR (Measles (Rubeola) Mumps and Rubella vaccine) or titers indicating immunity to Rubeola, Rubella and Mumps or 1 MMR and 1 live Measles (after one year of age).
- Tetanus/Diphtheria (Td) a booster dose is required every 10 years.
- Hepatitis B vaccine (3 doses or lab titer) required or waiver must be signed.
- Varicella (Chicken Pox)-stated history of disease or titer indicating immunity or varicella vaccine (two doses 4-8 weeks apart)
- Current CPR certification (AHA Healthcare Provider or ARC Professional Rescuer)
- Current First Aid certification (Registered Nurse students are exempt)

***Professional Requirements: (For RN students):***

- MA Nursing License (second license required if practica are out-of-state)

### ***HIPAA Policy:***

All students must be trained regarding the *Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996*, the federal law that addresses patient rights and ethics by mandating the confidentiality and privacy of patient information.

### ***Professional Competencies Policy:***

Professional Competencies: All students enrolled in nursing courses are expected to adhere to the Essential Professional Competencies as stated in the Professional Competencies Contract. Grading of these is pass/fail. Successful demonstration of these competencies is essential for passing any clinical or didactic course. Any student who is not demonstrating these competencies by the conclusion of the course will fail the course, despite passing grades on tests. Warnings may be given at any point during the semester (see list of competencies on page 3).

### ***Uniform Policy:***

The official UML student nurse uniform is a unisex royal blue scrub top embroidered with the words UMass Lowell Nursing with matching scrub pants. A plain white crew neck top beneath the scrub top is permissible. The crew neck top fabric should be cotton blend knit with  $\frac{3}{4}$  length or shorter sleeves. A white laboratory jacket similarly embroidered, UML name pin, white shoes, and watch with a second hand also are required.

### ***Clinical Absence Policy:***

Student attendance at all clinical and skill laboratories is mandatory. Students who miss clinical time will be required to make up all missed time. There will be no excused absences. Students will be required to register for clinical make-up through Continuing Studies. The cost of each 6-hour clinical day will be \$150.00 plus the Continuing Studies registration fee. This cost must be paid to continuing studies prior to the make-up day.

The telephone number for Continuing Studies is (978) 934-2480. Grades will be reported as Incomplete (INC) until the required clinical make-up time is completed. If only one day has been missed, then it is up to the discretion of the student's clinical faculty member how this one-day of missed clinical will be made up. Students who do not make up the clinical time by the start of the next semester will not be able to progress to the next nursing course. This opportunity is provided for missed required work and cannot be used for grade improvement.

### ***Preceptor Experience Policy***

Clinical Practica (clinical practice experiences) are set up by the faculty and the Director of Clinical Resources with student and faculty input and assistance. The Director keeps a list of potential preceptors that is available for student review, and the student's clinical interests and location choice will be taken into account. All efforts will be made to satisfy the student's goals and to have a placement within the general geographical area of the student's residence. All student requests for a specialty preceptorship in MAT, PEDI, PSYCH, OR/PACU, ER, and ICU require a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or higher and a faculty recommendation. Students who achieve two or more C grades in a nursing course will not be eligible for a preceptor course. Instead, students may take an alternative clinical course on site with a faculty member.

## Nursing Laboratories

The newly renovated nursing simulation and health assessment laboratories (Weed 201, 204, and 206) provide a clinical environment where students may practice varied approaches to nursing care with the assistance of a faculty member, laboratory director, or teaching assistant. Baccalaureate nursing students primarily use the laboratories to learn physical assessment skills and nursing clinical skills. Audio-visual, computer, and written resources are also utilized for laboratory preparation and classroom presentation.

### ***Nursing Laboratories Policies:***

1. The Nursing Laboratories consist of Rooms 201, 204, and 206.
2. The laboratories are available for student and faculty use. Assigned scheduled classes have priority.
3. A laboratory person is to be consulted if student or faculty is not certain on how to use equipment.
4. Individuals using the labs are asked to familiarize themselves with laboratory reference books and catalogues so that they can locate equipment and supplies they might need.
5. To reserve or borrow audio-visual hardware for classroom use, see the SHE Coordinator of Laboratory Resources.
6. All materials borrowed from any of the labs must be signed out by laboratory personnel.
7. All individuals using the Nursing Laboratories are expected to clean up after themselves and must return items used to their proper place.
8. Laboratory personnel must be notified if items are broken, in need of repair, or to be replaced.
9. Individuals borrowing rechargeable items (i.e. ophthalmoscopes, otoscopes, etc.) are responsible for recharging batteries before returning.
10. Medications, syringes, and needles may not be taken out of the Nursing Laboratories at any time.
11. Respect for all the equipment is expected and defacement is not allowed.
12. An Incident Report must be completed for all injuries, including needle sticks, occurring in the laboratories.
13. It is the individual student's responsibility to inform laboratory personnel if they have **latex allergy**.
14. Universal Precautions are to be implemented in all laboratory experiences according to the School of Health and Environment Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure Control Policy.

### **Audio-Visual Media Equipment**

A list of all the nursing audio-visual media is available in Weed 201. The University Media Center, South Campus also has a large volume of programs. The programs are available for classroom presentations or personal viewing. In general, the programs may not be signed out for home or agency use due to the high replacement costs. Audio-visual equipment for presentation (e.g., computer, video or overhead) should be requested in advance by email to the Coordinator of SHE Laboratory Resources. Please indicate the room location in Weed Hall, the time and type of equipment needed, and the course faculty member. Presentations using audio-visual equipment outside this building should be scheduled in one of the rooms at the University Media Center, O'Leary Library, South Campus.

### **Computer Laboratories**

The School of Health and Environment has two computer laboratories (Weed 212 and 216) available to students enrolled in courses within the college. The laboratories are under the direction of the SHE Computer Network Administrator and computer laboratory personnel. Laboratories are open five days a week; the regular hours are 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Additionally the laboratories are open until 9:00 pm on Monday to Thursday.

The extended night hours are based on the availability of student assistant funding. Please check the schedule outside the laboratory door as to its availability as classes, testing, and other events may be scheduled thus the laboratory is unavailable at this scheduled time. Students are expected to provide their own paper for printing, and will need a memory device (disk, USB flash drive) to transfer documents from the working computer to the printing computer when accessing printer. Please note that student documents are erased from the laboratory computers on a daily basis. Make certain that you have saved a copy on a memory device or sent to your email account. Lastly, there is no smoking, eating, or drinking allowed in any of the computer laboratories.

### **Nursing Department Committees and Organizations**

Students are encouraged to become members and representatives to the following Department of Nursing standing and ad hoc committees: the Department of Nursing Committee, the Baccalaureate Nursing Program Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, and the Student Affairs Committee. Students may be elected or appointed by the student body. Terms are for one academic year.

### **Other Nursing Department Organizations**

#### **The Student Nurse Association (SNA)**

All students enrolled in the baccalaureate nursing program are invited to join the UML Student Nurses Association. This organization is affiliated with the National Student Nurses Association and the American Nurses Association. For more information see the SNA faculty advisor or go to [http://www.uml.edu/college/SHE/Nursing/Current\\_Students.html#Student%20Groups](http://www.uml.edu/college/SHE/Nursing/Current_Students.html#Student%20Groups).

#### **The Eta Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society**

Eta Omega became a charter member of Sigma Theta Tau International in 1984. We have over 400 active members who are students, graduates or faculty of the University of Massachusetts Lowell and nurse leaders. Baccalaureate junior nursing students and graduate nursing students who meet the criteria for membership based on their overall Grade Point Averages (GPA) following the Spring semester are sent invitations to apply. The deadline for receiving an application for membership is two weeks into the Fall semester to allow time for students to obtain endorsements from faculty. The Induction Ceremony is held in November. See the Events calendar on the Eta Omega Website at <http://www.uml.edu/college/SHE/Nursing/Eta%20Omega%20Honor%20Society/default.html>

### **Department of Nursing Scholarships**

**The Shirley M. Cyronis Nursing Scholarship** is awarded to a senior in recognition of superior academic achievement, proficiency in the clinical setting and leadership.

**The Madonna Schromm Memorial Scholarship Award** is given to recognize a senior nursing student who demonstrates the qualities of commitment and dedication to nursing which were characteristic of the honoree.

**The Solomont Family Nursing Scholarship** is provided by the Solomont Family, owners and managers of nursing homes in the Greater Lowell and the Merrimack Valley. The award is given to a senior nursing student who shows superior promise as a professional nurse and whose economic circumstances warrant their receiving scholarship assistance.

**The Patricia Tyra Scholarship Award** is presented to a senior nursing student who has a career goal of psychiatric or community health nursing and interest in pursuing advanced studies in nursing.

**The Shalin Wu Scholarship** is awarded to the sophomore nursing student with the highest grade point average at the end of the freshman year

**The Shalin Wu Internship** provides a stipend to a sophomore nursing student to provide visitation services to local nursing home residents throughout the school year. The intent of the donor is to provide companionship to nursing home residents while offering the recipient a valuable experience in preparation for clinical nursing studies.

**The Bring Diversity to Nursing (BDN) Stipends and Scholarships.** The overall purpose of the BDN project is to recruit, retain, and graduate high-quality nursing students from minority and economically disadvantaged backgrounds. BDN will offer stipends to eligible freshmen and sophomore nursing students, and scholarships for eligible junior and senior nursing students. To be eligible for the stipend or scholarship program, students must be in need of financial assistance in order to pursue full-time course of study in the nursing program.

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL**  
**School of Health and Environment**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NURSING**  
**Baccalaureate Course of Study**  
**(Class Entering September 2008 and Following)**

**FRESHMAN YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

35-101 Human A & P I	3_____
35-103 Human A & P I Lab	1_____
47-101 Gen. Psychology	3_____
48-101 Intro to Sociology	3_____
42-101 College Writing I	3_____
33-101 Strategies for Academic Success	1_____

**TOTAL            14**

**Spring Semester**

35-102 Human A & P II	3_____
35-104 Human A & P II Lab	1_____
47-260 Child and Adol. Dev.	3_____
42-102 Col. Writing II	3_____
92-283 Intro to Stats	3_____
AH Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            16**

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

35-251 Physiological Chem I	3_____
35-253 Physiological Chem I Lab	1_____
35-211 Basic Microbiology	3_____
35-213 Basic Microbiology Lab	1_____
33-301 Research & Health Care	3_____
AH Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            14**

**Spring Semester**

35-252 Physiol Chem II	3_____
35-254 Physiol Chem II Lab	1_____
30-306 Intro to Gerontology	3_____
30-319 Pathophysiology	3_____
33-210 NU Fundamentals	2_____
33-210L NU Fundamentals Lab	1_____
33-312 Concepts Prof. Nursing	2_____

**TOTAL            15**

**JUNIOR YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

33-310 Health Promotion & Risk Reduction of Families I (P/M)	5_____
33-311 HPRRF I Pract (P/M)	4_____
33-313 NU Assessment	2_____
33-313 NU Assessment Lab	1_____
33-318 Pharmacology	3_____

**TOTAL            15**

**Spring Semester**

33-314 HPRRF II (MS/Ps)	5_____
33-315 HPRRF II, Pract (MS/Ps)	4_____
AH Elective	3_____
Free Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            15**

**SENIOR YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

33-410 Nsg. Care of Clients with Acute & Life threatening Ill.	5_____
33-411 Nsg. Care of Clients with Acute & Life Threat. Illnesses Prct.	4_____
33-412 Comm. Health & Health Policy	4_____
Free Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            16**

**Spring Semester**

33-413 Role Transition	4_____
33-414 Role Practicum	6_____
33-415 Comm. Health Project	2_____
Free Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            15**

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL**  
**School of Health and Environment**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NURSING**  
**Course of Study for Full-Time Registered Nursing Students 2007**

**FRESHMAN YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

35-101 Human A & P I	3	_____
35-103 Human A & P I Lab	1	_____
47-101 Gen. Psychology	3	_____
48-101 Intro to Sociology	3	_____
42-101 College Writing I	3	_____

**TOTAL            13**

**Spring Semester**

35-102 Human A & P II	3	_____
35-104 Human A & P II Lab	1	_____
47-260 Child and Adol. Dev.	3	_____
42-102 Col. Writing II	3	_____
92-283 Intro to Stats	3	_____
_____ AH Elective	3	_____

**TOTAL            16**

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

35-211 Basic Microbiology	3	_____
35-213 Basic Microbiology Lab	1	_____
33-301 Research & Health Care	3	_____
_____ Sociology/Psychology Elective	3	_____
_____ Free Elective	3	_____
_____ AH Elective	3	_____

**TOTAL            16**

**Spring Semester**

30-306 Intro to Gerontology	3	_____
_____ Technology/Informatics Elective	3	_____
_____ AH Elective	3	_____
_____ Free Elective	3	_____
_____ Free Elective	3	_____

**TOTAL            15**

- **75 is the maximum number of credits that can be transferred** into the nursing program and **45 is the minimum number of credits needed to meet the university residency requirement** for the AD-prepared, licensed RN from community colleges with approved articulation agreements.
- A **minimum of 60 UML course credits** is required to be considered for University Latin Honors (e.g. *cum laude*).
- The senior year may be taken only if all freshman and sophomore year courses are completed. Excelsior College Examinations must be successfully passed if not from a school with which we have an Articulation Agreement.

**SENIOR YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

33-306 Health Assessment	3	_____
33-307 Concepts for Bacc. Nursing	2	_____
33-308 Health Prom in Nsg Practice	4	_____
33-412 Comm. Health & Health Policy	4	_____
_____ Free Elective	3	_____

**TOTAL            16**

**Spring Semester**

33-413 Role Transition	4	_____
33-414 Role Practicum	6	_____
33-415 Comm. Health Project	3	_____
_____ Free Elective	3	_____

**TOTAL            16**

The **RN to BS to MS Accelerated Program** allows 6 graduate credits (500 Level or above) taken while completing the senior year to count toward both degrees *only when the RN completes an application to the Graduate Admissions office and is accepted into the RN to BS to MS Accelerated Program at the beginning of the Senior year*. Otherwise 500 Level courses taken in the senior year will count only towards the RN to BS degree. Although chemistry is no longer a required course, one semester of chemistry and lab is highly recommended for students considering the RN to BS to MS Accelerated Program.

30-550 Human Development & Pathophysiology	33-600 Theoretical Foundations for Nursing
33-552 Social, Cultural & Policy Issues in Health Care	33-601 Research Utilization

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS LOWELL**  
**School of Health and Environment**  
**DEPARTMENT OF NURSING**  
**Course of Study for Part-Time Registered Nursing Students 2007**

**FRESHMAN YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

35-101 Human A & P I	3_____
35-103 Human A & P I Lab	1_____
47-101 Gen. Psychology	3_____
48-101 Intro to Sociology	3_____
42-101 College Writing I	3_____

**TOTAL            13**

**Spring Semester**

35-102 Human A & P II	3_____
35-104 Human A & P II Lab	1_____
47-260 Child and Adol. Dev.	3_____
42-102 Col. Writing II	3_____
92-283 Intro to Stats	3_____
_____ AH Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            16**

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

**Fall Semester**

35-211 Basic Microbiology	3_____
35-213 Basic Microbiology Lab	1_____
33-301 Research & Health Care	3_____
_____ Sociology/Psychology Elective	3_____
_____ Free Elective	3_____
_____ AH Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            16**

**Spring Semester**

30-306 Intro to Gerontology	3_____
_____ Technology/Informatics Elective	3_____
_____ AH Elective	3_____
_____ Free Elective	3_____
_____ Free Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            15**

- **75 is the maximum number of credits that can be transferred** into the nursing program and **45 is the minimum number of credits needed to meet the university residency requirement** for the AD-prepared, licensed RN from community colleges with approved articulation agreements.
- A **minimum of 60 UML course credits** is required to be considered for University Latin Honors (e.g. *cum laude*).
- The senior year may be taken only if all freshman and sophomore year courses are completed. Excelsior College Examinations must be successfully passed if not from a school with which we have an Articulation Agreement.

**SENIOR YEAR I**

**Fall Semester**

33-307 Concepts for Bacc. Nursing	2_____
33-306 Health Assessment	3_____

**TOTAL            5**

**Spring Semester**

33-413 Role Transition	3_____
_____ Free Elective	3_____
_____ Free Elective	3_____

**TOTAL            9**

**SENIOR YEAR II**

**Fall Semester**

33-412 Comm. Health & Health Policy	4_____
33-308 Health Prom. in Nsg Practice	4_____

**TOTAL            8**

**Spring Semester**

33-415 Comm. Health Project	4_____
33-414 Role Practicum	6_____

**TOTAL            10**

The **RN to BS to MS Accelerated Program** allows 6 graduate credits (500 Level or above) taken while completing the senior year to count toward both degrees *only when the RN completes an application to the Graduate Admissions office and is accepted into the RN to BS to MS Accelerated Program at the beginning of the Senior year*. Otherwise 500 Level courses taken in the senior year will count only towards the RN to BS degree. Although chemistry is no longer a required course, one semester of chemistry and lab is highly recommended for students considering the RN to BS to MS Accelerated Program.

30-550 Human Development & Pathophysiology	33-600 Theoretical Foundations for Nursing
33-552 Social, Cultural & Policy Issues in Health Care	33-601 Research Utilization

## **Departmental Resources**

Chair, Dept. of Nursing, Dr. Karen Devereaux Melillo	4417
Director, Baccalaureate Program, Dr. Jacqueline Dowling	4431
Director, Clinical Resources, Ms. Eileen Riley	4469
Director, Interim, PhD Program, Dr. Barbara Mawn	4537
Director, Master's Program, Dr. Susan Houde	4426
Director, Nursing Simulation and Laboratories, Ms. Joanne Dupuis	4418

## **School of Health and Environment (SHE) Resources**

Dean	4510
Academic Administration Director, Ms. Pauline Ladebauche	4419
Computer Network Administrator, Mr. Matt Gordon	4465
Laboratory Resources Coordinator, Mr. Dale Pevey	4491
Service Center Staff	4525

## **University Resources**

Billing, Business Office	3570
Career Services	2355
Centers for Learning, South Campus	2941
Counseling Center	4331
Emergency, Campus Police	2911
Financial Aid	4220
Graduate School, Dugan Hall	2380
Libraries: O'Leary Library South	3205
Lydon Library North	4550
Parking Stickers, Access Services, South Campus Dining Hall	4221
Police Non-Emergency	2398
Registrar's Office	2550
Student ID, Access Services, South Campus Dining Hall	4221
University Health Services	4991
University Web Page	<a href="http://www.uml.edu">www.uml.edu</a>
University Closing/Weather Cancellations	2121

## Nursing Department Faculty and Staff

<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Ext.</b>
<b>Faculty</b>		<b>(978)</b>	<b>934-</b>
Melillo, Karen Devereaux, Chair	<a href="mailto:Karen_Melillo@uml.edu">Karen_Melillo@uml.edu</a>	Weed 202	4417
Dowling, Jacqueline Bacc. Prog. Dir.	<a href="mailto:Jacqueline_Dowling@uml.edu">Jacqueline_Dowling@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 312	4431
Houde, Susan, Master's Prog. Dir.	<a href="mailto:Susan_Houde@uml.edu">Susan_Houde@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313Q	4426
Mawn, Barbara, Interim PhD Prog. Dir.	<a href="mailto:Barbara_Mawn@uml.edu">Barbara_Mawn@uml.edu</a>	Weed 224	4485
Abdallah, Lisa	<a href="mailto:Lisa_Abdallah@uml.edu">Lisa_Abdallah@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary, 320	4432
Aldrich, Joanne	<a href="mailto:Joanne_Aldrich@uml.edu">Joanne_Aldrich@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313M	4415
Brewin, Dorothy	<a href="mailto:Dorothy_Brewin@uml.edu">Dorothy_Brewin@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313D	4479
Carter, Karyn	<a href="mailto:Karyn_Carter@uml.edu">Karyn_Carter@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313U	4468
King, Varlerie	<a href="mailto:Valerie_King@uml.edu">Valerie_King@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313V	4454
Knight, Margaret	<a href="mailto:Margaret_Knight@uml.edu">Margaret_Knight@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 321	4471
Koren, Ainat	<a href="mailto:Ainat_Koren@uml.edu">Ainat_Koren@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313O	4429
McDonough, Annette	<a href="mailto:Annette_McDonough@uml.edu">Annette_McDonough@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 314	4422
McEnany, Geoffry Phillips	<a href="mailto:Geoffry_PhillipsMcEnany@uml.edu">Geoffry_PhillipsMcEnany@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 316	4409
McMullen, Maureen	<a href="mailto:Maureen_McMullen@uml.edu">Maureen_McMullen@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 309	4529
Morgan, Betty	<a href="mailto:Betty_Morgan@uml.edu">Betty_Morgan@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 317	4462
Patterson, Miki	<a href="mailto:Miki_Patterson@uml.edu">Miki_Patterson@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313C	4404
Reece, Susan	<a href="mailto:Susan_Reece@uml.edu">Susan_Reece@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313B	4421
Remington, Ruth	<a href="mailto:Ruth_Remington@uml.edu">Ruth_Remington@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 315	4423
Rosa, Katherine	<a href="mailto:Katherine_Rosa@uml.edu">Katherine_Rosa@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 131G	4397
Simons, Shellie	<a href="mailto:Shellie_Simons@uml.edu">Shellie_Simons@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313L	4401
Soroken, Laurie	<a href="mailto:Laurie_Soroken@uml.edu">Laurie_Soroken@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313K	4270
Tremblay, Celeste	<a href="mailto:Celeste_Tremblay@uml.edu">Celeste_Tremblay@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313R	4403
Wilber, Jennifer	<a href="mailto:Jennifer_Wilber@uml.edu">Jennifer_Wilber@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313K	3671
<b>Staff</b>			
Beaulieu, Pauline	<a href="mailto:Pauline_Beaulieu@uml.edu">Pauline_Beaulieu@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313G	4538
Dupuis, Joanne	<a href="mailto:Joanne_Dupuis@uml.edu">Joanne_Dupuis@uml.edu</a>	Weed 200	4418
Riley, Eileen	<a href="mailto:Eileen_Riley@uml.edu">Eileen_Riley@uml.edu</a>	O'Leary 313F	4469
<b>SHE Service Center</b> Ann Marie Bird, Jeanne Manousos Janet Paton	<a href="mailto:Ann_Bird@uml.edu">Ann_Bird@uml.edu</a> <a href="mailto:Katherine_Manousos@uml.edu">Katherine_Manousos@uml.edu</a> <a href="mailto:Janet_Paton@uml.edu">Janet_Paton@uml.edu</a>	Weed 102	4510 4525 4517
SHE Service Center FAX #			3006
<b>SHE Staff</b>			
Gordon, Matthew, Computer Labs	<a href="mailto:Matthew_Gordon@uml.edu">Matthew_Gordon@uml.edu</a>	Weed 216	4465
Pevey, Dale, Lab Resources	<a href="mailto:Dale_Pevey@uml.edu">Dale_Pevey@uml.edu</a>	Weed 216	4491

**University of Massachusetts Lowell  
School of Health and Environment  
Department of Nursing**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (print your name) have received, read, and understand the policies and procedures in the Baccalaureate Nursing Student Handbook of the University of Massachusetts Lowell. By signing this I hereby agree to follow and adhere to these policies.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_