



## Program Assessment Report (PAR)

### Nursing (NUR) Masters Degree

**REPORT PREPARED by:** Bowling, Ann M.

**ACADEMIC YEAR COVERED BY THIS REPORT:** 2020-2021

### I. PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Masters Nursing Graduates will be able to: 1. Examine scientific findings from nursing, biopsychosocial fields, genetics, public health, quality improvement, and organizational sciences for the continual improvement of nursing care across diverse settings. 2. Demonstrate leadership skills necessary for ethical and critical decision making, effective working relationships, and a systems-perspective to promote high quality and safe patient care. 3. Apply quality principles within an organization and articulate the methods, tools, performance measures, and standards related to quality. 4. Apply evidence-based outcomes within the practice setting, resolving practice problems, working as a change agent, and disseminating results. 5. Use communication strategies and patient-care technologies to integrate, coordinate, deliver and enhance care. 6. Examine the policy development process and advocacy strategies necessary to intervene at the system level to influence health and health care. 7. Use communication strategies necessary for interprofessional collaboration and consultation to manage and coordinate care. 8. Integrate broad, organizational, client-centered, and culturally appropriate concepts in the planning, delivery, management, and evaluation of evidence-based clinical prevention and population care and services to individuals, families, and aggregates/identified populations. 9. Demonstrate advanced level of understanding of nursing and relevant sciences as well as the ability to integrate this knowledge into practice including both direct and indirect care components that influence healthcare outcomes for individuals, populations, or systems.

### II. PROCEDURES USED FOR ASSESSMENT

#### A. Direct Assessment

Course reports are completed at the end of every semester for all nursing courses (NUR 7001, NUR 7002, NUR 7003, NUR 7004, NUR 7005, NUR 7102, NUR 7103, NUR 7104, NUR 7105, NUR 7106, NUR 7124, NUR 7201, NUR 7202, NUR 7203, NUR 7211,

NUR 7212, NUR 7301, NUR 7302, NUR 7304, NUR 7305, NUR 7313, NUR 7351, NUR 7352, NUR 7353, NUR 7354, NUR 7355, NUR 7512, NUR 7513, NUR 7550, NUR 7551, NUR 7552, NUR 7611, NUR 7612, NUR 7613, NUR 7720, NUR 7731, NUR 7732, NUR 7733, NUR 7734, NUR 7735, NUR 7801, NUR 7802, NUR 7803, HLT 7121, HLT 7001) by the course instructor. The report includes a section where the course coordinator identifies and describes the evidence of achievement of the program outcomes. The report includes information about the didactic and clinical component of the courses. The methods of evaluation include, but are not limited to, comprehensive final examination, clinical evaluations, and writing assignments. In addition, first time pass rates on certification exams are used to assess the program learning outcomes.

## **B. Scoring of Student Work**

1) Clinical Evaluation of Program Learning Outcomes Each individual tract in the master's program has an individualized clinical evaluation tool that is used to evaluate the students in that tract. All tracks use a five point scale and students are expected to be at a C level or higher at the end of each of the clinical practicums and at the level of an A or B when they graduate. A = Superior B = Above Average C = Average D = Below Average E = Cannot Evaluate Didactic Evaluation of Program Learning Outcomes Evaluated using a Standardized Grading Scale 90.00 and above = A 80.00 – 89.99 = B 70.00 – 79.99 = C 60.00 – 69.99 = D 59.99 and below = F 2) Written Assignments which are assigned a letter grade are assessed using a rubric. Certification Pass Rates for Nurse Practitioner Programs - As per our SPEP, first-time pass rates for certification exams are assessed on an annual basis. 3) Our accrediting body (CCNE) requires these be 80% or higher per calendar year, per campus/site and track. Exams are available for nurse practitioner tracks.

## **C. Indirect Assessment**

Indirect assessment of program learning outcomes is completed as part of end-of-program and alumni surveys. The overall program satisfaction is assessed as part of the end-of-program survey (exit survey) and alumni satisfaction survey (completed 1 year and 3 years after graduation). Note This is item # IV-I of the Systematic Program Evaluation Plan (SPEP) for the nursing program. The SPEP was developed considering requirements of our approval and accrediting bodies. The current assessment tools ask the student to evaluate how well they believe the program outcomes were met in their program of study.

## **III. ASSESSMENT RESULTS/INFORMATION:**

1. Course Reports
2. Clinical Evaluations
3. Certification First-time Pass Rates
4. End of Program Survey
5. Alumni Surveys

Overall interpretation of the results 1) Course reports are done each semester, demonstrate student achievement in the course and indicate how program learning outcomes are evaluated in the course. No changes were recommended based on the course reports. 2) Clinical evaluations are done for each student in each clinical course by preceptors and faculty and demonstrate student achievement in the clinical and lab settings and were developed considering program learning outcomes. No changes recommended at this time. 3) Certification first-time pass rates for 2020 graduates (calendar year 2020) were as follows – Adult-Gerontology Acute Care NP - 100% - Pediatrics - Primary Care - 93.75% - Pediatrics - Acute Care - 71% - Family NP - 100% - Neonatal NP - No results - Student graduated in December 2020 - no certification results. - Psych-Mental Health - 88.89%. This standard is met at the required certification pass rate meet CCNE's 80% requirements. 4) End-of-program surveys evaluation of "overall program satisfaction" reviewed in AY 2020-2021 for results from the previous year (overall satisfaction of 25%) with only 11.4% response rate. The evaluation also asked graduates to evaluate how well the curriculum provided opportunities to meet program outcomes. Each outcome was evaluated with positive outcomes (strongly agree or agree) Outcome #1 - 100% Outcome #2 - 100% Outcome #3 - 75% Outcome #4 - 75% Outcome #5 - 100% Outcome #6 - 75% Outcome #7 - 75% Outcome #8 - 50% Outcome #9 - 75% There were identified concerns and results of the survey were shared with Graduate Curriculum Committee by the Program Assessment Committee. A request was made to Graduate Curriculum to identify a plan for improvement in Spring of 2021, no plan for improvement was received by Program Assessment at the end of Fall 2021 semester. 5) End-of-program surveys evaluation of "overall program satisfaction" reviewed in AY 2020-2021 for results from the previous year (overall satisfaction of 25%) with only 11.4% response rate. The evaluation also asked graduates to evaluate how well the curriculum provided opportunities to meet program outcomes. Each outcome was evaluated with positive outcomes (strongly agree or agree) Outcome #1 - 80% Outcome #2 - 90% Outcome #3 - 80% Outcome #4 - 90% Outcome #5 - 100% Outcome #6 - 80% Outcome #7 - 100% Outcome #8 - 80% Outcome #9 - 70%. This standard is met.

1. No changes recommended at this time. 2. No changes recommended at this time. 3. Standard met for the required certification pass rates for first-time testers is 80% or higher per calendar year per campus/site and track. (CCNE standard). 4. This standard was not met. Survey results were discussed in program assessment committee and presented to the Graduate curriculum committee. Upon analysis, there were identified concerns including dissatisfaction with coursework. This was discussed starting in the Feb 12, 2020 Graduate Curriculum meeting regarding potential modification of core courses. 5. Pending results from Summer surveys.

#### **IV. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING**

Results are shared with the faculty at Graduate Curriculum and Faculty Assembly regarding certification pass rates when these results are available from the certifying agencies. Survey Results and Course Report Results were shared with the Graduate Curriculum Committee and at Faculty Assembly Meetings once results were collated. Results were shared with the community partners by the Dean (Spring 2021) and Department Chair (Fall 2021) at their meetings with the chief nursing officers in the Dayton area. Graduate Curriculum Committee have had multiple discussions regarding the curriculum related to the proposed Revised National Task Force Nurse Practitioner Program Guidelines and Revised AACN Essentials which may result in an increase in the required number of clinical hours for the Nurse Practitioner Programs. Currently 75% of the MS graduate nursing programs are NP programs.

## **V. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

Additional documentation, when provided, is stored in the internal Academic Program Assessment of Student Learning SharePoint site.