

# **Guidelines for the Clinical Practice Project**



**Master of Science in Nursing Program**

**School of Nursing**

**Northern Michigan University**

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# Table of Contents

Introduction.....	2
Description of the Clinical Practice Project .....	3
Clinical Practice Project Objectives .....	3
Types of Projects .....	4
Requirements: File Papers, Scholarly Work, and Products .....	4
Scholarly Papers: Guidelines for Writing .....	5
Faculty Oversight .....	5
Requirements: Individual File Paper Assignments and Evaluation Rubrics .....	6
NU 510: Clinical Project Proposal Paper .....	6
NU 547: Clinical Project: Scholarly Paper.....	9
Oral Presentation .....	12
Grading Policies .....	13
School of Nursing Grading Policy .....	13
Repeating Courses (See <i>Graduate Bulletin</i> ).....	13
Grades .....	13
Requirements: Forms and Documentation .....	14
Verification of Completion.....	14
Timeline for Completion of Clinical Practice Project.....	14
Clinical Practice Project Responsibilities .....	16
Student Responsibilities.....	16
Faculty and Advisor Responsibilities.....	16
Appendix.....	17

## Introduction

Evidence-based practice is a hallmark of professional nursing and is critical for quality, cost-effective health care. The primary goal of nursing research at all levels of nursing education (baccalaureate, master's, practice-focused doctoral programs, and research-focused doctoral programs) is to strengthen the profession's contribution to enhancing the health and healthcare of individuals, families, populations, and communities (American Association of Colleges of Nursing [AACN], 2006; International Council of Nurses [ICN], 1999). Master's level advanced practice nurses often bridge the gap between the generation and clinical application of knowledge. Translational research and research utilization are integral parts of evidence-based practice. Master's level nurses should be able to understand the importance of evidence-based practice and be able to facilitate evidence-based practice in their own clinical settings.

In the *Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing*, the AACN (2011) describes expectations in terms of research and evidence-based practice at the master's level:

*"The master's-prepared nurse examines policies and seeks evidence for every aspect of practice, thereby translating current evidence and identifying gaps where evidence is lacking. These nurses apply research outcomes within the practice setting, resolve practice problems (individually or as a member of the healthcare team), and disseminate results both within the setting and in wider venues in order to advance clinical practice" (AACN, 2011).*

Therefore, a requirement of the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program is the completion of an evidence-based clinical practice project to prepare students to become clinicians who function at an advanced level.

The purpose of this document is to provide students with information about the requirements for the clinical practice project. Specifically discussed are:

- Clinical practice project requirements
- Types of clinical practice projects
- Processes necessary to meet the project requirements
- Scholarly paper and oral (PowerPoint) presentation evaluation rubric
- Grading policies
- File paper submission processes and procedures
- Student and faculty responsibilities
- Checklists and timetables

## Description of the Clinical Practice Project

The clinical practice project is a clinically-based project that links research to practice. The purpose of the project is to synthesize knowledge and skills attained in the MSN program by designing, implementing, and evaluating a clinically based project that is intended to positively influence patient outcomes, quality of care, and/or access patterns to care in rural settings. This process includes submission of two scholarly (file) papers and an oral PowerPoint presentation. An example of a clinical practice project may involve the implementation and evaluation of an evidence-based guideline, protocol, or quality improvement project.

### Clinical Practice Project Objectives

Upon completion of the clinical practice project, the student will be able to:

1. Identify a rural population with a health-related problem/condition amenable to a health promotion (disease prevention) or quality improvement project that improves patient outcomes, quality of care, and/or access patterns to care.
2. Critically review the literature to identify research and/or evidence that provides support for your planned intervention.
3. Identify and describe a theoretical framework based on nursing theories and/or theories from other science-based disciplines that is congruent with the proposed design/plan.
4. Use information technology and research methods to collect data and implement the chosen evidence-based intervention, quality improvement project or other approved project.
5. Serve as an advocate for social justice, and equity by maintaining ethical standards for the protection of human subjects.
6. Evaluate the project using concepts related to community, environmental health, and cultural and socioeconomic dimensions of health.
7. Summarize and communicate the results, strengths, and limitations of the project.
8. Provide recommendations for future clinical practice projects.
9. Demonstrate leadership by presenting findings from the clinical practice project to healthcare providers and/or other professionals.

The MSN clinical practice project provides opportunities for meeting competencies identified within the AACN's (2011), *Essentials of Master's Education in Nursing*. The competencies met by the clinical practice project are listed below:

1. Background for Practice from Sciences and Humanities
2. Organizational and Systems Leadership
3. Quality Improvement and Safety
4. Translating and Integrating Scholarship into Practice
5. Informatics and Healthcare Technologies
6. Health Policy and Advocacy
7. Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes
8. Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving Health
9. Master's-Level Nursing Practice

## Types of Projects

Examples of clinical practice projects include but are not limited to the following:

- Develop, implement, and evaluate an evidence-based, health-promotion/disease prevention program that is designed to benefit an at-risk or vulnerable community in a rural setting
- Identify strategies to remove barriers and improve access to care in rural settings and evaluate those strategies.
- Collaborate with healthcare providers to implement and evaluate a quality improvement project within a healthcare setting
- Work collaboratively to implement and evaluate novel forms of information technology to improve patient outcomes
- Compare patient care models, potential cost savings, and outcomes
- Design, implement, and evaluate an evidence-based health education program in the community

## Requirements: File Papers, Scholarly Work, and Products

To be eligible for graduation, students in the MSN program are required to complete and submit two formal file papers to the School of Nursing. The first file paper (entitled, Clinical Project Proposal Paper) is submitted when students take NU 510 *Theoretical and Scientific Foundations for Evidence-Based Practice* and the second file paper is submitted when students take NU 547 *Clinical Practicum-3* (entitled Clinical Project Paper). Students may also submit file papers when taking directed study courses. The file papers must be written using APA formatting (7<sup>th</sup> edition) prior to submission. Specific instructions for writing each can be found in course syllabi (NU 510 and NU 747) and in this document. Students must receive a grade of 83% or higher on their scholarly paper to submit the file paper. Additional information about file papers is available in the [MSN Student Handbook](#). The submission process for the file paper includes the following:

- Submit a File Paper Submission Form. You can access this form as a [google doc](#)
- Include a copy of your paper with your professor's feedback
- Highlight in yellow all areas that were updated in the paper in response to professor feedback
- Complete the summary table on the form summarizing how you addressed the professor's feedback

File papers and the File Paper Submission Form can be submitted electronically to Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu) the Graduate Program Coordinator. Following submission, the Graduate Program Coordinator will complete and submit a Verification of Completion of Graduate Projects form to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research at least 20 days prior to the student's date of graduation.

The products of the project include the two file papers and an oral PowerPoint presentation. Depending upon the nature of the project, additional products may be generated which include but are not limited to the following:

- In-service
- Pamphlet/brochure
- Algorithm

- Clinical protocol/guideline
- Flow sheet
- Screening tool
- Policy
- Manuscript for publication
- Video
- Manual

### **Scholarly Papers: Guidelines for Writing**

The completed file papers should provide evidence demonstrating that the student can think critically and communicate effectively, orally and in writing. To demonstrate these outcomes, written work must be complete, logical, and clear. All written work must adhere to the following guidelines:

- APA style using the **APA Publication Manual (7<sup>th</sup> edition)** guidelines including requirements for grammar, punctuation, spelling, and references
- Times New Roman (12 point) font
- Scholarly papers should be double-spaced. All margins should be 1.0 inch in width (normal margins)
- While working on the paper, if writing assistance is needed, students are encouraged to meet with staff at the [NMU Writing Center](#). Online tutoring options are available.
- Professor Mike Strahan, NMU School of Nursing library liaison, is available to review APA formatting within the paper and to correct minor typographical errors. The Olson Library APA style guide can be found [HERE](#)
- Document length: varies from paper to paper. See course specific syllabi for details (including preliminary pages, references, and appendices)

### **Faculty Oversight**

The clinical practice project requires faculty oversight. Students receive oversight from their instructor of record while taking courses that include file paper and scholarly paper submissions. Melissa Romero ([mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu)) is the student advisor and is available to provide oversight to students in the program. In the first semester, while taking NU 510, students select a topic of interest and submit the first file paper which is a clinical project proposal. As students' progress through the program, additional assignments and scholarly papers are used to assist in clarifying details associated with the project. Students are also required to submit a progress update each semester in a discussion forum on the MSN Clinical Project Share Site. The Share Site provides a forum where students can ask questions about their project and interact with faculty and their advisor. Students and faculty have continuous access to the Share Site (during and between semesters).

## Requirements: Individual File Paper Assignments and Evaluation Rubrics

### **NU 510: Clinical Project Proposal Paper**

The purpose of this paper is to identify gaps in care in a rural setting and design an original clinical project proposal relating to an aspect of health promotion/disease prevention to improve health status/access patterns. Before you begin your paper, you should identify a rural clinical population with a health-related problem/condition amenable to a health promotion (disease prevention) or quality improvement project that improves patient outcomes, quality of care, and/or access patterns to care. The topic should be relevant to advanced practice nursing. This assignment is a “mini-version” or a proposal for a clinical project that you will implement later in the MSN program

The manuscript (body of the paper) should be no longer than five (5) pages in length. Identified headings in the table below should be used in the paper. Title and reference pages are required but are not counted as part of the 5-page limit. APA formatting is required and the paper should be in Times New Roman font (12 pt. size).

### **Paper Headings and Criteria**

#### **Clinical Problem/Population**

- Identify a rural population with a health-related problem/condition that is amenable to nursing intervention.
- Problem should be relevant to advanced practice nursing.
- Briefly describe the population and the problem.

#### **Knowledge gap**

- Identify a knowledge gap related to this problem/condition.  
***What don't we know?***
- This requires a brief literature review. It is ***not*** supposed to be exhaustive. Include a minimum of three references for this part of the paper. One reference must be a research study and the other two may be informational (information from the CDC, other web-sites, etc.)

#### **Theoretical Framework**

- Provide an overview and describe the theory that you plan to use to guide your project.
- Describe how the theory fits with the clinical problem.
- An appendix may be included if needed to describe terminology and illustration of the model.

#### **Purpose and Intervention**

- Provide the purpose of your clinical project.
- Describe what you plan to do and include sufficient detail about your plans.

#### **Significance**

- **Significance for the Population** (health, well-being or QOL) Describe how introducing the intervention (i.e. resolving the clinical problem) will contribute to the health, well-being, or

quality of life (QOL) of the individuals or group identified above.

- **Significance for the Discipline**  
Describe how gaining knowledge in this area might contribute to the discipline of nursing.

**Conclusion**

- Provide a conclusion and describe the importance of theory in practice.

<b>EVALUATION RUBRIC: CLINICAL PROJECT PROPOSAL PAPER</b>			
<b>Quality of Work</b>	<b>Superior</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Not Acceptable</b>
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>Identify a clinical project topic amenable to intervention that relates to advanced practice nursing</p> <p>Identification of rural population</p> <p>Total Points: 10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical project topic identified</li> <li>• Amenable to advanced practice nursing</li> <li>• Population identified</li> </ul>	<p>Items not clearly identified (e.g., clinical project topic not clearly identified and explained, the topic is possibly or not amenable to advanced practice nursing, population not fully identified)</p>	<p>Information omitted</p>
<p><b>Literature Review</b></p> <p>Include a literature review related to the clinical project topic</p> <p>Total Points: 15</p>	<p>Minimum of 1 research article summarized with sufficient depth and breadth. Two other references must be included (websites, etc.)</p>	<p>Articles not fully summarized. Information lacking. Less than 3 resources or research article not included.</p>	<p>No literature review provided.</p>
<p><b>Purpose &amp; Intervention</b></p> <p>Total Points: 10</p>	<p>Purpose of the project and intervention described clearly and with sufficient detail</p>	<p>Purpose of the project and intervention not clearly described and without sufficient detail.</p>	<p>No information included.</p>
<p><b>Theoretical Framework</b></p> <p>Briefly identify and describe the</p>	<p>Theoretical framework identified and described Writer explains how the theory ties in with the clinical project</p>	<p>Theoretical framework is not fully/clearly described and writer does not explain how the theory ties in with the project</p>	<p>Information omitted</p>



<p>theoretical framework and explain how it ties in with the clinical project</p> <p>Total Points: 10</p>			
<p><b>Significance</b> Significance for the population (how will the intervention help the population?) &amp; for the discipline of nursing</p> <p>Total Points: 15</p>	<p>All items addressed Logically organized Relevant</p>	<p>Some items addressed Generally well-organized Most relevant information included</p>	<p>No items addressed Poorly organized Relevant information omitted</p>
<p><b>Writing Style</b></p> <p>Two points for each item</p> <p>Total Points: 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Logical flow of ideas throughout the paper</li> <li>• Professional terminology</li> <li>• Spelling (typos)</li> <li>• Sentence structure/grammar</li> <li>• Paper is properly organized in Times New Roman, 12-point font</li> <li>• Paper has proper margins and paragraph structure/paragraphs longer than 1-2 sentences</li> <li>• Paper is the appropriate length (5) pages not including the title and reference pages</li> <li>• Includes appropriate headings</li> </ul>		

<b>References</b>  Total Points: 5	References are submitted, complete and in APA format.	References are submitted but not complete and/or not formatted appropriately	References were omitted.
<b>Title Page</b>  Total Points: 5	Title page is submitted, complete and in APA format	Title page is submitted but not complete and/or not formatted appropriately	Title page was omitted
<b>APA</b>  Total Points: 5	The writer cites all sources in-text and includes all corresponding Reference entries. All formatting is correct according to APA style.	The writer cites most sources in-text and includes most corresponding Reference entries according to APA style. Some formatting problems exist or some elements are missing.	The writer does not cite sources in-text and/or include corresponding Reference entries according to APA style.

#### **NU 547: Clinical Project: Scholarly Paper**

In the final semester of the program, students will implement their clinical project, submit a scholarly paper, and complete an oral presentation. The scholarly paper should be no longer than ten pages in length. Identified headings in the table below should be used in the paper. Title and reference pages are required but are not counted as part of the 10-page limit. APA formatting is required and the paper should be in Times New Roman font (12 pt. size).

**Introduction:** Identify a clinical problem or issue that needs to be solved/addressed. In this section, you may need to define some of the terms and acronyms that you will be using throughout the paper. Define any terms that a “layperson” would not understand. Once the terms have been identified and defined, then always use the same terminology throughout the entire paper. This section is generally 1-4 paragraphs in length.

**Literature Review:** Include a literature review that provides background information about the area of inquiry and the significance or impact that could occur if the clinical problem/project topic was solved/addressed. In this section, identify and describe 2-3 research studies that have addressed the topic of interest. When describing each research study, include the following information:

- The purpose of the study.
- The number of subjects in the study and descriptive information about the subjects (e.g., 500 undergraduate nursing students).
- The study design (qualitative or quantitative? (e.g., Using a randomized controlled trial design, Jones and Bartlett (2022) attempted to...).
- Instruments (if relevant).
- Results of the study, including which results were and were not significant.

Information from other resources (websites, etc.) can be included in this part of the paper in addition to the two research studies. The background and significance section should lead into the purpose of the clinical practice project. This section of the paper is generally 2-3 pages in length.

**Purpose of the Clinical Project:** Identify the purpose of the project.

**Theoretical framework:** Include a description of the theoretical framework that will be utilized. Include some general information describing the theory and identify how the theory ties in or relates to your project. This section of the paper is about 1 page in length.

**Methods:** Provide information about the details of your project. This includes the design, people involved (sample), setting (where the project took place), the intervention, measures (how was the data collected), and data collection and analysis. **Ethics:** Include at least one paragraph describing how confidentiality (if applicable) and ethical standards were maintained. This section of the paper is 2-3 pages in length.

**Results:** Provide a description of the results of the project. This section of the paper is 2-3 pages in length.

- **Demographic information:** provide information about the demographic characteristics of the sample (number of participants, race, age, gender). Tables are sometimes used in this section to describe sample characteristics. Any tables should be in APA format.
- **Descriptive information:** The information in this section varies depending upon the nature of the project and the types of data that were collected. Tables may be included in this section and frequency data are often reported. Tables should be in APA format.
- **Discussion:** In this section, the overall results are summarized and analyzed.
- **Implications for Clinical Practice:** Identify what the project contributes to clinical practice and how the findings impact practitioners.
- **Strengths:** Identify the strengths of the project. Some of these may include: the design, sample, measures, data collection processes, etc.
- **Limitations:** Identify the limitations associated with the project. Some of these may include: the design, sample, measures, data collection processes, etc.

**Conclusion:** Provide a brief summary statement about the project and some concluding remarks. This section is about a ½ page in length.

**References:** provide references in APA format.

<b>Evaluation Rubric: MSN Clinical Practice Project Scholarly Paper and Oral Presentation</b>			
<b>Semester One</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<p><b>Chapter One: Introduction</b></p> <p><b>Introduction:</b> Identify a clinical problem or issue that needs to be solved/addressed. Define any terms or acronyms that a “layperson” would not understand.</p>			
<p><b>Literature Review:</b> Include a literature review that provides background information about the area of inquiry and the significance or impact that could occur if the clinical problem/project topic was solved/addressed. A minimum of two research articles must be summarized.</p> <p>When describing each research study, include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The purpose of the study.</li> <li>• The number of subjects in the study and descriptive information about the subjects (e.g., 500 undergraduate nursing students).</li> <li>• The study design (qualitative or quantitative? (e.g., Using a randomized controlled trial design, Jones and Bartlett (2022) attempted to...)).</li> <li>• Instruments (if relevant).</li> <li>• Results of the study, including which results were and were not significant.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Purpose of the Clinical Project:</b> Identify the purpose of the clinical project.</p>			
<p><b>Theoretical framework:</b> Include a description of the theoretical framework that will be utilized. Include some general information describing the theory and identify how the theory ties in or relates to your project.</p>			
<p><b>Methods:</b> Describe the design, sample and setting, the intervention, measures, data collection and analysis. Include at least one paragraph describing how confidentiality (if applicable) and ethical standards were maintained.</p>			
<p><b>Results:</b> Provide descriptive information about the demographic characteristics of the sample (number of participants, race, age, gender).</p>			
<p><b>Demographic information:</b> Provide descriptive information about the sample and descriptive information obtained from the data that were collected.</p>			
<p><b>Discussion:</b> Provide an overall summary of the results of the project.</p>			
<p><b>Clinical Implications for Practice:</b> Identify what the project contributes to clinical practice and how the findings impact practitioners.</p>			

<b>Strengths:</b> Identify the strengths of the project. Some of these may include: the type of project, sample size, survey techniques, data that were collected, etc.			
<b>Limitations:</b> Identify the limitations associated with the project.			
<b>Conclusion:</b> Provide an overview of the project; the purpose, the results and any concluding statements.			
<b>APA Formatting</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Title Page			
In-Text Citations			
Reference List			
<b>Writing Style &amp; Grammar</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Writing style is complete, logically organized, relevant, free from spelling and grammatical errors, and uses professional terminology. The paper is no longer than 10 pages in length and font is Times New Roman (12 pt. size).			
<b>Synthesis of Ideas</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Comments</b>
All relevant ideas from sources are synthesized and covered in-depth.			
<b>Resources</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Comments</b>
All references and sources are academic and scholarly.			

### Oral Presentation

An oral PowerPoint presentation of the student's completed work will be presented to other students and faculty on-campus during final exam week. The overall purpose of the presentation is to have the student identify and describe the nature of the project, provide a literature review, and to discuss how the project was implemented and evaluated in addition to a description of strengths, limitations, and clinical implications for practice. The oral presentation provides an opportunity for the student and faculty to discuss the clinical project in terms of its scientific merit, its contribution to the clinical practice environment and patient population, and its implications for further projects. **The presentation should be 30 minutes in length (minimum) and include at least 20 PowerPoint slides.** The layout of the PowerPoint presentation should be similar to the scholarly paper and include the following headings:

1. Introduction
2. Review of the Literature
3. Theoretical Framework
4. Purpose of the Clinical Practice Project
5. Methods:
  - a. Design
  - b. Sample and Setting
  - c. Intervention
  - d. Measures
  - e. Ethical Standards
  - f. Data Collection and Analysis
6. Results:
  - a. Demographic Information
  - b. Descriptive Information
  - c. Discussion of the Results

7. Clinical Implications for Practice
8. Strengths
9. Limitations
10. Conclusion
11. References

### Grading Policies

The MSN program requires students to complete and submit two scholarly papers as part of coursework that also serve as formal file papers which are submitted to the School of Nursing. The file papers are normally assigned as part of a course but they may be associated with a directed study. Students must receive a grade of 83% or higher on the paper before receiving permission from the instructor to submit the file paper. File papers are non-graded assignments. However, file paper submission is required for graduation.

### School of Nursing Grading Policy

Students must earn the equivalent of an 83% (B grade) or better to pass each course. Score percentages for final grades in courses of  $\geq 0.50$  are rounded up and score percentages of  $\leq 0.49$  are rounded down. If a student achieves less than 83%, in a course, the course may be repeated once.

### Repeating Courses (See *Graduate Bulletin*)

A student may repeat a maximum of two graduate courses. However, individual courses may be repeated only once. The grade received on the second attempt is substituted for the first grade in the computation of the student's GPA.

### Grades

The grading scale used by Office of Graduate Studies and Research with the corresponding numerical values are listed as follows:

Grades / Numerical Value	
A = 4.0	C+ = 2.3
A- = 3.7	C = 2.0
B+ = 3.3	C- = 1.7
B = 3.0	D+, D, D-, F = 0.0
B- = 2.7	

Grades Consisting of "I", "R", "X", "S", or "U" (see *Graduate Bulletin*)

**"I" = Incomplete:** The "I" grade applies to work of acceptable quality when the full amount is not completed because of reasons acceptable to the instructor, such as illness. This grade never applies to poor work. If the incomplete is not made up by the established deadline, the "I" grade reverts to the alternate grade designated by the instructor.

**"R" = Research in Progress:** A grade of "R" may be given to designated graduate courses where research, thesis, or internship work is likely to continue beyond the end of the semester in

which the student is registered for the course. The maximum amount of time that can be given to complete an “R” grade is three years from the date of enrollment in the course, although the instructor has the option to specify a shorter period of time. Should the student not complete the work required, the grade of “R” will remain on their transcript, no semester hours of credit will be earned for this course, nor will it enter into the computation of overall GPA.

**“X” = Course in Progress:** An “X” grade is assigned when a course cannot meet the required number of sessions during the semester because of unusual circumstances or conditions and which, therefore, necessitates an extension of class period beyond the last official day of the semester for reasons such as: adverse weather conditions resulting in cancellation of classes, illness, death, or termination of the instructor.

**“S” = Satisfactory:** A grade of “S” is issued when a course has been satisfactorily completed. Courses graded “S” are counted in earned hours. The grades are not included in the computation of the GPA.

**“U” = Unsatisfactory:** A grade of “U” is issued when a course has not been completed satisfactorily. Courses graded “U” are included in attempted hours. The grades are not included in the computation of the GPA

## Requirements: Forms and Documentation

### Verification of Completion

Upon completion of the clinical practice project, oral presentation and submission of two file papers, a **Clinical Practice Project Verification of Completion Form (Appendix)** will be completed and sent to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.

## Timeline for Completion of Clinical Practice Project

### Semester One

1. Student registers for *NU 510 Theoretical and Scientific Foundations for Evidence-Based Practice* and *NU 540 Professional Role Development*.
2. Student works with instructor to identify a clinical practice project topic, population, theoretical framework, potential measures, and intervention.
3. Student completes clinical project proposal paper and submits it as file paper
4. Student posts general information about the clinical practice project and a list of goals that the student would like to meet upon completion of the project in the discussion forum on the Share Site.

### Semester Two

1. Student registers for *NU 512 Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Improvement and Safety* and *NU 520 Health Policy and Advocacy for Improving Rural and Population Health*.
2. Student meets with Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu) as needed to discuss project.
3. Student posts more detailed information about the clinical practice project in the discussion forum on the Share Site.

### Semester 3

- Student registers for *NU 541 Advanced Health Assessment* and *NU 513 Analytic Approaches for Advanced Nursing Practice*.
- Student meets with Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu) as needed to discuss project.
- Student posts an update on the clinical practice project that includes the role of informatics in the discussion forum on the Share Site.

### Semester 4

1. Student registers for *NU 552 Advanced Pathophysiology* and *NU 554 Advanced Pharmacology*.
2. Student meets with Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu) as needed to discuss project.
3. Student posts an update on the clinical practice project that includes specifics about the design, sample, and setting on the Share Site.

### Semester 5

1. Student registers for *NU 542 Primary Care Management-1* and *NU 543 Clinical Practicum-1*.
2. Student meets with Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu) as needed to discuss project.
3. Student posts an update on the clinical practice project that includes specifics about the design, sample, setting, and intervention on the Share Site.

### Semester 6

1. Student registers for *NU 544 Primary Care Management-2* and *NU 545 Clinical Practicum-2*.
2. Student meets with Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu) as needed to discuss project.
3. Student posts an update on the clinical practice project that includes specifics about the design, sample, setting, measures, intervention, and data collection/analysis on the Share Site.

### Semester 7

1. Student registers for *NU 546 Primary Care Management-3* and *NU 547 Clinical Practicum-3*.
2. Student meets with Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu) as needed to discuss project.
3. Student successfully implements the clinical practice project.
4. Student submits clinical project scholarly paper and submits it as a file paper.
5. Student completes oral PowerPoint presentation at the School of Nursing during final exam week.
6. Student posts a summary of the project and whether goals were met on the Share Site.
7. The **Verification of Completion Form (Appendix)** is completed and sent to the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.

***The timeline for completion may vary depending upon factors such as individualized curricula, plan of study, and timing for implementation of the project which depends upon a variety of factors. The faculty advisor and student should meet early in the curriculum to decide about an individualized timeline for completion.***



## Clinical Practice Project Responsibilities

### Student Responsibilities

- Contact Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu) as needed each semester to discuss the project and ask questions.
- With faculty guidance, complete scholarly work and submit as file papers to Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu).
- Post on the MSN Clinical Project Share Site each semester.
- Obtain editorial or writing center assistance if you have problems with grammar, punctuation, spelling and writing style.
- Obtain permissions from authors to use illustrations, images of theoretical frameworks, and measures if needed and place those permissions in an appendix at the end of the clinical practice project paper.
- Obtain assistance from Professor Strahan if you have problems with APA formatting.
- Conduct project implementation at a clinical or an appropriate setting.
- Prepare a PowerPoint presentation and provide an oral presentation of the project at the university.
- Submit the final file paper to Melissa Romero: [mromero@nmu.edu](mailto:mromero@nmu.edu). Final file paper must be submitted by the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> week of the semester (Friday by 5 pm) during the academic year and July 31<sup>st</sup> (by 5 pm) during summer semesters.

### Faculty and Advisor Responsibilities

- Provide primary guidance and feedback to the student throughout topic development, manuscript development, project completion, and preparation for the final oral presentation, where applicable.
- Critically review scholarly papers and provide suggestions for revisions.
- Attend the School of Nursing's Student Scholarship event.
- Notify students when their papers are ready to send to Melissa Romero as file papers.

Appendix



GRADUATE STUDIES & RESEARCH  
401 Coburn Hall | Marquette, MI  
906-227-2300 | graduate@nmu.edu  
nmu.edu/graduatestudies

**Master of Science in Nursing Clinical Practice Project  
Verification of Completion**

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

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_

(NMU IN)

The candidate listed above in the Master of Science in Nursing program has successfully completed the clinical practice project requirement for this degree.

**Required graduate level project completed:**

- File Papers (2)
- Clinical Practice Project
- Oral Presentation

The title of his/her project is: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Project Director (Advisor)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head or Graduate Program Director

**Distribution: Graduate Office, Student, Adviser**

**For graduate office use only:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date recorded in Banner by \_\_\_\_\_