Be a Nurse – Be a Teacher – You Can Be Both!
Teaching Nursing Students in the Clinical Setting

Introduction:

This is an intensive course to prepare nurses to serve effectively as clinical faculty within Northern California. Educating nurses for clinical faculty roles serves the community in an incredibly important way, and provides a valuable professional development opportunity to participants.

The course offers a practical approach to clinical nursing instruction, and upon successful completion, participants will be equipped with basic skills and knowledge to effectively lead a clinical rotation of nursing students. Content for the clinical teaching role is presented, which includes the teaching-learning process, with a focus on adult learning theory. Innovative and evidence-based teaching methodologies and their application in clinical experiences will be discussed. Emphasis is placed on educating nursing students with varied cultural backgrounds and ages, and includes trends and issues that impact nursing and nursing education.

The course includes classroom instruction, clinical simulation, as well as a 48-hour clinical teaching mentorship with an experienced faculty member. Upon successful completion, in addition to receiving three units of master’s-level academic credit, course graduates will be prepared to serve as adjunct clinical faculty for ADN and BSN clinical rotations for schools.

The program is offered in partnership between the California Institute for Nursing & Health Care (CINHC) and Samuel Merritt University (SMU), with grant funding from The Kaiser Permanente Fund for Health Education at the East Bay Community Foundation.

Program Highlights:

1. Classroom and simulation portion of the course is offered on SMU’s campus in Oakland over four full-day sessions: July 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2013. Participation in all classroom days is a requirement.

   There will be an orientation for accepted participants at SMU with a date and time to be announced as part of the acceptance notification.

2. Curriculum and educational materials are provided, which are based upon the most recent trends in nursing education.
3. In addition to classroom and simulation instruction, course participants will be matched to an experienced clinical faculty member, and will work with that faculty over 48 hours as they lead a group of nursing students through a clinical course.

4. Upon successful completion, participants will receive a letter grade and master’s level credit from SMU.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. BS or higher degree in nursing or a related field with at least one year’s experience in a relevant direct patient care setting within the last five years, which is consistent with the California Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) requirements for pre-licensure nursing faculty. Pre-licensure students are not placed in the Neonatal ICU or Emergency Department as part of their clinical experience.

2. Limited-to-no experience serving as a clinical faculty. This course targets nurses who have recently been hired as clinical faculty, or those who are interested, but have not sought these teaching positions. Nurses working part-time in the clinical setting are encouraged to apply.

3. Availability to serve as clinical faculty (i.e., in a clinical adjunct role) for an ADN or BSN program within Northern California following course completion.

4. Upon acceptance, per university policy, complete or provide proof of current health immunizations, CPR certification (AHA), bloodborne pathogen (BBP) modules, physical examination, proof of health insurance, and background checks. See question 5 below for more details. You will also be given specific instructions for required documentation. The cost of the BBP and background check will be reimbursed upon program completion. Between the time you are accepted into the program and the time the course starts, the university will work closely with you to collect all documentation.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the application process? To apply to the program, complete the Nursing 698 Summer 2013 application, which is available on SMU’s website at http://www.samuelmerritt.edu/nursing. Send the completed application, along with a copy of your most current resume to Nikki West, CINHC Program Director.

   Applications are due by June 3, 2013. A Selection Committee will review applications and send notification by June 10, 2013.

2. What is the cost of this course? Through grant funding from The Kaiser Permanente Fund for Health Education at the East Bay Community Foundation, this course is offered tuition-free. However, the intent is that course participants will proceed with serving as clinical faculty for regional nursing schools.
Upon acceptance to the course, each participant will be asked to provide a $50 registration fee to hold a place in the class, which will be reimbursed upon program completion.

3. **Is this course offered only for SMU faculty?** No. SMU serves as the school hosting the program. However, the course serves nurses and new faculty who teach or who plan to teach for nursing schools across Northern California.

4. **How will my faculty mentorship be assigned?** The 48-hour clinical mentorship will be assigned based on your specialty area, your availability, and the course schedule of the various experienced faculty available to serve as mentors.

5. **If I do not need MSN-level credit, but desire CEUs, can the course provide CEUs?** The Board of Registered Nursing recognizes each semester unit of academic credit as equivalent to 15 contact hours of continuing education. Thus, the entire course qualifies as 45 hours of Continuing Education (CEs).

6. **What are the immunization requirements?** Proof of current immunizations will be required upon acceptance to the course, consistent with all students enrolled in SMU’s nursing program. SMU’s minimum immunization requirements include:

   a. Two-Step Tuberculosis Screening (PPD): Must be completed within 6 months prior to the University entrance date, and will need to be updated annually.
   b. Measles (Rubeola), Mumps, and Rubella: Students born in 1957 or later: documentation of receipt of two doses of MMR or positive titres for rubeola, rubella, and mumps.
   c. Varicella: Documentation of positive varicella titre or of two varicella vaccines received regardless of prior history of chicken pox.
   d. Hepatitis B: Documented proof of the Hepatitis B vaccination series (3 doses over a period of 6 months) or positive titre.
   e. Tetanus (tdap): Verification of a tetanus booster within the last 10 years.

7. **I have additional questions. Where can I get more information?** For further information, contact Nikki West, CINHC’s Project Director at Nikki@cinhc.org or (510) 295-9599. Ms. West will be the initial interface between applicants, SMU, and the course faculty.

For those accepted to the program, there will be an orientation on SMU’s campus to discuss course details and prepare participants.