Attention 4th Year Students:

I hope you are all enjoying your summer (different as it has been!). We look forward to your return in the fall. There are several pieces of information your instructors and the undergraduate administrative team would like to bring to your attention as you plan for the Fall semester. These are organized under the following headings:

- Gone Remote!
- Registration information
- Graduation information
- Email addresses
- Course information bulletins
- Meditech
- MaskFit testing
- CPR
- Certificate of conduct
- Planning your schedule
- International nursing
- Scholarships and awards
- Professional accountability

Please keep this information for future reference.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Gone Remote!</th>
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<td>2019-2020 turned out to be a bizarre academic year, and as we plan for remote delivery of our theory courses and N4100 seminars/labs in the Fall, and limited access to campus for clinical placements, we hope you will find the year ahead not quite so bizarre. We know you have been anticipating this year for a long time and hope it still lives up to your hopes, expectations and milestones to be achieved and celebrated. So far we are still on track with no anticipated delays in end dates for your program. We have worked hard to be responsive to our current health environment in the province and at the university, and also to be ready if change is required.</td>
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<td>We will be in contact regularly with any updates you need as the year unfolds.</td>
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<td>Nursing Society is still very active and has many great ideas to maintain that MUNFON student group interaction and support. Please stay in touch through your class and society contacts.</td>
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<th>Registration for Fall 2020</th>
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<td>Registration for Nursing Courses</td>
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<td>By now you should be registered for your courses. Let us know if you are having problems [864-4804; <a href="mailto:nursundergrad@mun.ca">nursundergrad@mun.ca</a>].</td>
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<tr>
<td>Courses from other Faculties/Disciplines</td>
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<td>You have two semesters remaining! If non-Nursing courses remain to be completed toward your degree, please check the MUN website to see when courses are being offered and sign up for online offerings as possible during the Fall or Winter so that you remain on track for program completion in the Spring and scheduling conflicts with the nursing courses are avoided. [<a href="http://www.mun.ca/regoff/registration/course_offerings.php">http://www.mun.ca/regoff/registration/course_offerings.php</a>]</td>
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**Important** - If you did not do so in Year 3, please request an official program audit as soon as possible to make sure that both you and the Office of the Registrar are in agreement regarding the courses toward the degree which are yet to be completed. Optimally, you will have only NURS 3523, 4100, 4103, 4512 and 4516 to complete during the Fall and Winter of 2020/21; *Link for audit request* - [http://www.mun.ca/regoff/Request_for_Degree_Advice.pdf](http://www.mun.ca/regoff/Request_for_Degree_Advice.pdf)

**Graduation Information**

Your graduation committee will be very busy over the coming year and you are all encouraged to participate in the decisions around graduation. So far we are still planning on onsite celebrations. **January 15, 2021** is the final date for filing with the Registrar Office applications for Spring 2021 Convocation.

**E-MAIL Addresses**

**Single e-mail policy.** Please remember that all official email to and from university departments and students must be sent through accounts with the official Memorial domain names - @mun.ca.

**Course Information Bulletins**

Please be aware that every Year 4 student’s schedule will be different due to N3523 clinical hours, the two 6-week parts of the semester, seminars in N4100 and meetings with faculty. For those who wish to continue external work opportunities, do not book external work time until you have your clinical and course schedules finalized.

**Clinical Preceptorship Course (N3523)**

Welcome to NURS 3523! This course uses a preceptor model and you will be assigned for 6 weeks (240 hours, usually completed as 20 X12 hour shifts) to an experienced nurse in a medical/surgical setting. This rotation will provide you with the opportunity to continue to develop the beginning entry-level competencies. Course orientation will take place **on Wednesday Sept 9 from 2:30-5:30** using online rooms. A link to the orientation will be sent to you via your Brightspace email. The course shell will be made available by **August 30th** and this will allow you to review the course documents under the content tab and view a pre-recorded lecture. Please check HSPnet for further information and information about the Eastern Health online learning modules that need to be completed for clinical. If you have any questions about the course please email me at [kathleen.stevens@mun.ca](mailto:kathleen.stevens@mun.ca).

**Clinical Placement Assignments**

- Clinical placements will be assigned by the Nursing Program. These placements may be changed at any time due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Group clinical courses will use a variety of clinical areas throughout the program to support learning.
- Students are advised that a balance of medical-surgical experience is required throughout the program.
- Students may submit requests for placements outside St. John’s or Corner Brook (city of site of study respectively), and within or outside Newfoundland and Labrador for NURS 4512 and 4516.
Submission of pre-placement requirements is a professional responsibility and a reflection of professional accountability.

**Approval Criteria for Clinical Placements** (Please see Appendix ** in your 2020-2021 Student Handbook)

**Meeting with Clinical Placement Coordinator:** An information session is planned for September 09, 2020 from 10:00-12:00. This session will provide the opportunity to ask questions about upcoming clinical courses.

**NURS 4100 (Advanced Concepts and Skills)**

N4100 Advanced Concepts and Skills will be offered remotely over 6 weeks this upcoming fall semester beginning October 21st to December 4th, 2020. Most of the course will be delivered synchronously with some asynchronous learning opportunities. Classes will be 1.5 hours in length and will be held four times per week with many interesting guest speakers! The simulation/seminars will be twice weekly and delivered through virtual simulation experiences in small groups to optimize learning. The course shell will be opened on October 21st and orientation to the course will occur on this date. The seminar orientation for the virtual simulation games will be held on October 27th. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

Jill Bruneau

**NURS 4103 (Issues in Nursing & Health Care)**

Course Description: This course focuses on current trends and issues in nursing and health care, nursing’s role and development within health care systems, and the development of a personal framework for nursing practice. A global view of nursing and health care issues will be acquired through the exploration of social, political, legal, ethical, and organizational perspectives.

Schedule: Synchronous lectures will be held on Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. via Online Rooms on Brightspace. This six-week course will begin on October 22nd and run through December 4th. All course activities, including debates, will be recorded.

Debates: Groups of three students will debate one side of an issue against another group. Students may select their own groups as well as the topic of the debate. In preparation for the debate, the two groups debating an issue will submit the primary arguments on both sides of an issue and support their position using evidence (10%). On the day of the debate, the two groups will present arguments in support of and opposed to an issue (25%). Classmates observing the debate will be randomly assigned to provide written, constructive feedback to the groups of debaters (5%).

Papers: Students will write two papers in this course about a current issue in health care and identify a strategy to help resolve the issue (15% per paper).

ATI: Students will complete an ATI assessment on professional development (5%).

Final Exam: (25%)
| **ATI** - MUNSON is continuing and expanding the use of ATI for all class cohorts in the coming year. You will be receiving a separate letter about signing up for these resources.  
**ATI comprehensive exam date:** Nov. 18th, 2019 (see N4100 note above) |
|---|
| **Meditech**  
As you are aware, use of the Meditech system is essential to retrieving and documenting needed information regarding your clinical care. It is expected that you can access Meditech smoothly from Day 1 in N3523. It is essential that you know your account name and Acute Care password, and that any documentation of this information is maintained securely.  
Loss of passwords and issuing of new passwords inhibits the care you will be able to provide in clinical placements and is added work for the Eastern Health personnel who must provide them. Please also note that reissuing a password requires that an “incident report” be completed, with a copy to the Associate Dean and to the student’s academic file. |
| **MaskFit Testing**  
As you are also aware, all students in the BN (Collaborative) Program must be fitted for an N95 respirator as part of the pre-clinical requirements (usually done in Years 1 and 3). This is for your safety in the case of clinical care situations which require respiratory isolation/airborne precautions (COVID is one, but by no means the only condition which requires caregivers to wear an N95 mask). Because it is so important to your safety, mask fittings are usually completed at least every two years. We are implementing added precautions this year.  
**Information to know for 2020-2021:**  
- It is to know which mask is appropriate for you to don the mask if the need arises.  
- For approximately 80% of each class cohort, the N95 respirator you were originally fitted for (1870+) is no longer reliably available in Eastern Health agencies. Your name and email address is being sent to Tech Services at MUN to arrange a time for re-testing with the currently available masks. They will be in touch soon regarding available appointment times. **Retesting must be completed prior to the clinical placement.**  
- I am sorry to advise you that there will be a charge for that re-test. Students may be charged an additional fee if a scheduled appointment is missed and must be re-booked.  
- You do not need to complete the training module again, but if there has been a change in health status, concern regarding the ability to use a respirator, or a history of difficulty using a respirator since your last mask fit test, please complete the Respirator User Health Screening Form and submit the form to Alison Maddigan-Cox’s attention (send a new email to nursingrecords@mun.ca). The form is in the Respirator Program shell on Brightspace. |
### CPR

All students in the BN (Collaborative) Nursing Program must provide proof of current **CPR [Level HCP or BLS]** certification. Students must submit a copy of their current certificate to MUNSON’s Clinical Program Administrator [Alison Maddigan-Cox].

- **CPR [Level HCP or BLS] re-certification will be required for all nursing students every 12* months while they are registered in the nursing program.**
  - Students are accountable to ensure they have completed the CPR-HCP re-certification before or during the month of expiration.
- **If your CPR-HCP (CPR-BLS) has expired since March, you are being given a grace period to have recertification completed prior to the end of August. Please attend to this re-certification as soon as possible before that deadline.**
- BLS (Provider) certificate, BLS Health Care Provider (HCP)/AED, or Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation-Health Care Provider (CPR-HCP) certificate is acceptable to meet the BLS requirement. Please ensure you register for the correct course required for the nursing program.
- Examples of companies that provide these courses are St. John Ambulance, Canadian Red Cross, and Lifesaving Society.
- Students will not be allowed to attend clinical practice activities if they do not complete the above requirement.

> Keep a copy of all documents submitted to the Faculty of Nursing for your records.

### Certificate of Conduct

Please note: After admission, and any time prior to completing the program, students charged with or convicted of a criminal offence, or listed on the Child Abuse Registry, are required to report this information to the Dean/Director or the Associate Director/Dean of the Faculty of Nursing.

Failure to report a criminal offense may result in dismissal from the program. Criminal offences will be reviewed by the Administrative Team of the Faculty of Nursing for implication of the conviction in view of the professional and ethical mandate to protect the public.

A listing on the Child Abuse Registry, or failure to report the listing, will result in dismissal.

### Planning your schedule

There is a particular challenge on your plate in the coming semester/year in scheduling your class, clinical study/work time and ‘relax time’. Remote class participation will require much more self-determination and willpower than has been demanded in past years. Make sure you know the parts of your courses which must be attended synchronously and which can be accessed in your own time. We certainly hope that you get adequate MUNFON work-time and relax-time to connect with friends and family during the semester, however also remember that midterm exams, lab exams or assignments are not usually deferred or changed for personal reasons.

The examination period for Fall 2020 commences on Wednesday, December 9 and ends on Friday, December 18. Supplementary exams for the Fall semester are normally scheduled for the day immediately preceding the first day of classes in the Winter Semester; this year’s date is Tuesday January 5, 2021.
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<td>Many students are interested in working on foreign aid projects in [e.g.,] Africa or South America. We are then asked if we could arrange clinical placements there. While we certainly support your independent endeavours on your own time, and are working to address obstacles, arranging an international placement for a clinical course usually is not possible due to scheduling, resources, and the legal arrangements required (especially this year). Andrea Watkins will talk to your group if international placements become possible in the coming year.</td>
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<td>Faculty of Nursing scholarships, awards and bursaries will be available throughout the year. You are encouraged to explore which opportunities for funds are applicable to you and to apply for those awards. Please note that for the past three years at least one scholarship or bursary was not allocated because no one applied. Information will be sent out through the student list serves and posted on the website.</td>
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<th><strong>Accountability as a Learner in a Professional Program</strong></th>
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<td>As you commence your final year of the BN (Collaborative) program, remember that accountability as a learner and beginning professional continues to be a personal and professional responsibility.</td>
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Faculty in this professional program will be encouraging you to gain the cognitive, psychomotor and attitudinal competencies that are necessary for nursing practice to evolve safely and holistically. We expect that you will set high and comprehensive standards for the level of care you provide. It will be these personal standards that will guide and determine your work as a beginning practitioner and for years to come. |

- We encourage you to seek opportunities to augment the assigned reading requirements (set down in course outlines) with reference readings, web searches etc., in order to enhance your understanding of concepts.
- We encourage you to take advantage of tutorial sessions when they are offered.
- We expect students to maximize their time and active learning in class, lab and clinical settings.
- After-hour practise is needed to master nursing skills. Equipment used to teach labs on a weekly basis will remain set up for students during the after-hour sessions of that week. Open times for the lab will be posted weekly.
- We are privileged to have clinical placement agencies that are eager to work with students as you learn, even in this ‘COVID Restricted’ environment. Be sure to respect the COVID precautions in place to keep yourself safe and to keep the doors open to students in subsequent groups. We hope you will find each area to be a supportive and respectful environment, and that you will maximize the opportunities afforded by such placements and differences you will make to the patients/clients you will meet. |

Finally, remember that in all learning environments (classrooms, labs and clinical placements) and anywhere outside of the Faculty of Nursing in which you identify yourself as a nursing student, you are representing MUN Faculty of Nursing, nursing in general, and you personally as a beginning nurse professional.
I hope you are having opportunities to relax and enjoy the summer despite the uncertainty about N3523 and COVID restrictions. As my final note here, I would like to formally let you know that in a few weeks, I will be finishing my time as Associate Dean. I want to thank you for your commitment to nursing, the example of your support to each other and for the glimpses I have seen of the people you are and the nurses you will become. I have learned a lot from you. You will be in very good hands with the new team. Take care, welcome back and best wishes for a successful term.

Professor Andrea Brennan-Hunter
Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs
MUN Faculty of Nursing
864-4626