

## 2021 Nursing- Graduate Certificate in Nursing Education LOA Report

### Program of Study Learning Outcomes Assessment Report

Assessment Cycle	2020-2021
Program of Study	Graduate Certificate in Nursing Education
Department	Nursing
Date of Departmental Approval	
Name of Submitter	Sheri Hartman

Date of data distribution: \_\_10/06/21 \_\_\_\_\_

Subjective feedback from students and faculty preceptors reviewed.

Date of meeting: \_\_10/11/21\_\_\_\_\_

Members at this meeting further discussed the key strengths and weaknesses of the program as outlined in this document. Additionally, it was noted that the PLOs are geared toward nurse practitioner outcomes rather than nurse educator outcomes. Therefore, more specific PLOs for nursing education will be developed and used for the next assessment year.

The participants in the meeting were:  
Sheri Hartman, Deb Lee, Carrie Stroup

#### **Mission Statement:**

The mission of Malone University is to provide students with an education based on biblical faith in order to develop men and women in intellectual maturity, wisdom, and Christian faith who are committed to serving the church, community and world.

#### **Program Goals (these are broad goals rather than specific, measurable learning outcomes):**

The graduate student will:

1. Demonstrate advanced knowledge and skills that build upon the undergraduate learning and equip the practitioner and clinician for all of the responsibility and accountability practices required in these advanced practice nurse roles.
2. Exhibit competence in advanced practice with selected populations including an in-depth assimilation of a specialized role, content, and related skills.
3. Integrate into one's personal and professional life the attributes needed for successful practice including the legal and ethical components required for holistic nursing.
4. Synthesize a body of knowledge whereby the inquiry skills are honed and used to conduct research, share research findings, and advance scholarly and professional goals.

## Key Strengths and Challenges in Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)

### Key Strength #1:

PLO 1: Demonstrate advanced knowledge and skills that build upon the undergraduate learning and equip the practitioner and clinician for all of the responsibility and accountability practices required in these advanced practice nurse roles.

The portfolio assignment required during the third and final course (MSNe 620: Synthesis for the Nurse Educator Role: Seminar and Practicum) of this certificate program provides an opportunity for the student to provide evidence and a reflection of their experience throughout this program.

This project includes:

- I. Teaching Philosophy Statement
- II. Aim of Practicum Placement
- III. Objectives for Practicum Placement
- IV. Teaching Session Overview (describe your practicum teaching (didactic/clinical).
- V. Reflections throughout Practicum Experience
- VI. Summative Education Experience Reflection- Lessons Learned.

Review of the submitted portfolios clearly demonstrated that the students had gained the knowledge and skills necessary to practice as a nurse educator.

An excerpt from one student reflection:

*“Beginning this reflective process in regards to my CNE practicum, I reviewed course objectives and looked back at my initial reflections from the beginning of this journey. Reexamining the initial stages of my journey into obtaining my nurse educator certification, I progressed from having a long road to travel to a shortened road. I continued in my journey and knowledge gaps regarding the role and theoretical knowledge needed either closed or decreased. Gap closure has occurred and continued to do so because of content presented, but additional factors have been critical as well. Encouragement by faculty and the formation of positive mentor-mentee relationships that foster my use of critical thinking, application of new knowledge, and constructive criticism are all factors I personally identify as facilitating my transition.*

*In my practicum setting in the FNP course, I have had the unique ability to focus on both the didactic and clinical settings for constructing my learning activities. Professor Knauf afforded me the opportunity to combine lecture, demonstration, and lab activities. In doing so, I was able to design the prep work required for the FNP students, slides to follow in class, and physical assessment activities in the lab based on theoretical aspects of previous knowledge gained in the program. In the lab, I incorporated group discussion as an active learning activity. Going into this process, I felt unsure of myself as this was a new teaching environment. Professor Knauf listened to my questions, provided guidance and redirection when needed, and positive criticism during planning and implementation. Having that foundation, increased my self confidence in my abilities, reinforced the knowledge I already have, and opened up the arena for learning.”*

## **Key Strength #2:**

PLO 3: Integrate into one's personal and professional life the attributes needed for successful practice including the legal and ethical components required for holistic nursing.

The students demonstrated an understanding of the nurse educator role by the completion of the third course (MSNe 620: Synthesis for the Nurse Educator Role: Seminar and Practicum). They were able to take the information and skills learned throughout this certificate program and apply them to their personal life. This is demonstrated through an excerpt from one of the student reflections:

*"It has been a fantastic experience and I may actually continue to teach here as a guest! Who knew?! I have also been interested in where my current profession in renal and teaching meet. I am a member of the American Nephrology Nurses Association. With this new knowledge, I will pursue a part in their Educator Specialty Practice Network as Best Practice Advisor or Education Advisor."*

Another students writes:

*"By having the experiences that I have in my twenty-four, almost twenty-five years of nursing, my personal goal is to continue growing as a nurse educator, and make the transition from novice to expert. I have been shown grace, and compassion, wishes for success from mentors and instructors throughout the CNE program who have shown genuine care in my wanting to succeed. From this, I feel that I am on the way to individual success, but have a continued safety net of support as I grow."*

## **Key Challenge #1**

PLO 2: Exhibit competence in advanced practice with selected populations including an in-depth assimilation of a specialized role, content, and related skills.

Currently the students perform 64 hours of practicum during their final course MSNe620. However, that course runs through the summer. As the first cohort of students have just completed the certificate, we came to realize how difficult this was for students and faculty. Finding placement sites for these students to complete their education practicum was incredibly difficult. Based on student feedback, it was also difficult to coordinate schedules and take part in school meetings, as those were limited during the summer. This had an impact on the quality of experience these students received.

## **Response:**

Changes to the curriculum-

We will be putting forth a proposal to move the 64 hours of practicum to the MSNe530 course, which runs spring semester. This will provide students with a richer practicum experience with

many opportunities to engage in teaching experiences and faculty meetings. However, this change will not take effect until the 2022-2023 academic year.

**Implications for Budgeting:**

This change requires only a movement of one credit hour to spring semester from summer semester. The Certificate in Nursing Education will remain 10 credits overall for the student. Therefore, there will be no additional funding needed for the student and no additional funding from the university.

Category	PLO	MU Goal	MU Subgoal	Department	Program of Study	GR or UG?
Strength	Demonstrate advanced knowledge and skills that build upon the undergraduate learning and equip the practitioner and clinician for all of the responsibility and accountability practices required in these advanced practice nurse roles.	D: Attain expertise in at least one profession or academic discipline and lay the foundation for meaningful work or further studies at the graduate level.	1 Understand the content, methods, and assumptions of their chosen field(s) of expertise	Nursing	Certificate in Nursing Education	GR
Strength	Integrate into one's personal and professional life the attributes needed for successful practice	D: Attain expertise in at least one profession or academic discipline and lay the foundation for meaningful	3. Understand their personal aptitudes, gifts, and limitations, as they discern their vocational callings 4. Develop the ability to gather	Nursing	Certificate in Nursing Education	GR

	including the legal and ethical components required for holistic nursing.	work or further studies at the graduate level.	and reflect on relevant information and use technological resources			
Challenge	Exhibit competence in advanced practice with selected populations including an in-depth assimilation of a specialized role, content, and related skills.	D Attain expertise in at least one profession or academic discipline and lay the foundation for meaningful work or further studies at the graduate level.	5 Apply specialized knowledge and skills constructively in collaboration with others	Nursing	Certificate in Nursing Education	GR