

Research Opportunities for Students

2009-2010

	General Research Interests	Methodologies Used	Current Projects	Research Activities	Compensation
Badellino, Karen kbadelli@nursing.upenn.edu	Pathophysiologic process of atherosclerosis, diet, exercise, herbal interventions, metabolic syndrome and atherosclerosis.	Molecular biology, protein and lipid biochemical techniques, intervention effectiveness.	Effectiveness of weight loss in decreasing endothelial lipase levels and increasing HDL levels.	Enzyme linked immunosorbent assay, enzyme activity assays, multiple biochemical assays on human plasma samples.	Volunteer or work-study position.
Bowles, Kathryn bowles@nursing.upenn.edu	Health Informatics: decision support, standardized languages, telehealth, electronic patient record, evidence based practice in acute and home care.	Clinical trials; mixed methods.	Development of decision support for discharge referral decision making for older adults. Cost effectiveness analysis of telehomecare for heart failure. Disease management with or without telehealth for chronic illness.	Qualitative coding, data collection, data entry, telephone interviews, data cleaning, equipment management.	Volunteer or work-study position.
Bradway, Christine cwb@nursing.upenn.edu	Urinary incontinence, gerontology, health care of older women, empowerment for older women.	Qualitative designs, mixed methods.	Interested in working with students who would like to conduct studies in her interest/methodology areas.	Qualitative designs, mixed methods.	Volunteer, independent study for course credit, or work-study position.
Bruner, Deborah Watkins wbruner@nursing.upenn.edu	Oncology symptom management, patient-reported outcomes, outcomes research, decision making, recruitment to clinical trials.	Randomized clinical trials, interviews, survey work.	Managing sexual symptoms after GU and Gyn cancer therapy; understanding preferences and utilities in patients w prostate cancer; testing theoretical tenets of Prospect Theory; testing methods to improve recruitment to clinical trials.	Literature review, data cleaning and analysis, telephone interviews, assistance with manuscript preparation.	Volunteer, work study, independent study
Coleman, Christopher colemanc@nursing.upenn.edu	Epidemiology of psychological, physical and social factors associated with high-risk behaviors among vulnerable populations.	Quantitative designs, survey methods.	Data analysis of findings from the HIV risk factor study, Neuroendocrine mediators and quality of life study, HIV risk factors among homeless adults; grant pending	Developing epidemiological studies.	Volunteer, independent study for course credit, or work-study position.
Compher, Charlene compherc@nursing.upenn.edu	Evidence Analysis for nutrition support; Evaluation of medications to improve nutrient absorption in patients with short bowel syndrome; Vitamin D and obesity, adolescent obesity	Evidence analysis, Clinical trials, biomarker measures.	Clinical Guidelines development using evidence analysis, adolescent obesity prevention in Botswana, RCT with GLP2 analog in short bowel syndrome; web survey of clinical outcomes;	Literature search, evidence grading, guideline development; coordinating study visits in CTRC	Volunteer or work-study position. Study coordinator position

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Connolly, Cynthia cac1@nursing.upenn.edu	Pediatric nursing; nursing history; child health policy.	Social history	History of children and pharmaceuticals in the United States.	Data collection, literature searches, data management.	Volunteer; independent study with course credit; senior inquiry; possibility of some funding.
Cuellar, Norma ncuellar@nursing.upenn.edu	Older adults, restless legs syndrome, complementary and alternative medicine.	Quantitative, intervention, surveys.	Phase II RCT examining the use of valerian in RLS; comparison of the genetic variance in type 2 diabetics with and without RLS.	Data collection, data management, and analysis, sample recruitment.	Volunteer position, independent study for credit, work-study, and funded position.
Curley, Martha curley@nursing.upenn.edu	Multi-site clinical trials to generate new knowledge in the care of critically-ill pediatric patients; Interventional studies to support parent needs and priorities in the PICU; instrument development studies to provide clinicians with better tools to assess patient status and risk.	Multisite Clinical Trials; Secondary data analysis; Mixed quantitative and qualitative designs; instrument development	Sedation Management in Pediatric Patients Supported on Mechanical Ventilation for Acute Respiratory Failure. Parent Presence during a Child's Invasive Procedure and/or Resuscitation. Organ Donation after Cardiac Death in Children.	Literature review, data cleaning and analysis, assistance with manuscript preparation.	Volunteer, work study, independent study.
D'Antonio, Patricia dantonio@nursing.upenn.edu	The intersection between nursing history and women's history; the history of nursing in different regions throughout the United States; the historical relationship between nurses from different class and race backgrounds and educational achievement; the history of psychiatric nursing care; current issues in nursing education.	Archival research supporting social and intellectual history frameworks; concept reviews	An historical analysis of nursing as an identity as well as a form of work; the history of knowledge development; the history of desegregating nursing organizations in the south after WWII; the history of nursing's day-to-day work in hospitals; preparing "tool kits" for teaching mental health concepts in the undergraduate curriculum.	Archival searches; on-line journal and data base searches; data analysis	Volunteer; independent study with course credit; senior inquiry; possibility of some funding.
Deatrick, Janet deatrick@nursing.upenn.edu	Family management of chronic illness and cancer in family members.	Survey methods and qualitative methodology.	Caregiving and family management: survivors of childhood brain tumors.	Data collection, literature searches, and other activities.	Volunteer position; work study or independent study.

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Ersek, Mary ersek@m@nursing.upenn.edu	Palliative care, pain management, older adults, long-term care	Quantitative, Randomized controlled trials, implementation science	Nursing Home Pain Management Algorithm Clinical Trial. Web-based informatics and educational support to enhance pain assessment in cognitively impaired nursing home residents. Testing models of pain measurement in persons with advanced dementia.	Data management and analysis, assistance with manuscript and presentation preparation	Independent study, possible compensation
Fairman, Julie fairman@m@nursing.upenn.edu	Nursing history, the history of technology, gender and technology; the history of the nurse practitioner movement--how health professionals navigate and negotiate the terrain of patient care; international growth of the NP movement; caregiving and the state.	Social history, oral history, archival research; topic surveys.	Oral histories of nurse practitioners; physicians, nurses; Caregiving and the State; Black nurse oral history collection; International NP practice.	Archival surveys; interviews with subjects; library work; research on primary concepts.	Funded positions, independent study with course credit, senior inquiry work, work-study possibilities.
George, Maureen mgeorge@m@nursing.upenn.edu	Health behaviors in asthma, such as self-management, adherence, complementary and alternative medicine (CAM). Work in vulnerable populations--the contribution of poverty, low literacy and patient-provider partnership/communication to health disparities.	Survey methods, instrument development and qualitative methodology.	CAM instrument development (brief, low-literacy, self-administered); provider surveys.	Data collection, recruitment, literature review, qualitative coding and secondary analyses, data entry, data cleaning.	Volunteer, independent study for course credit.

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Glanz, Karen KarenGlanz@nursing.upenn.edu	Adolescent Health/Child, Health Behavior and Health, Cancer Prevention, Community Based Research, Evaluation, Health Promotion, Nutrition, Obesity Prevention, Public Health Practice, Rural Health, Smoking Prevention/Cessation	Cognitive interviewing, test and re-test reliability, observational assessments, data entry and cleaning.	The main project will be the development and validation of an instrument to measure perceived food environment in populations of low and high socioeconomic status. Students with interests in other health topics such as skin cancer prevention, cancer screening and obesity, physical activity and built environment could also work with Dr. Glanz to conduct secondary analyses (and manuscript preparation) on her available datasets in these health behavior areas.	Conducting and documenting literature searches, field testing survey items and cognitive interviewing, study participant recruitment, survey administration, data quality assurance and evaluating survey psychometric properties.	Voluntary or work-study position.
Hanrahan, Nancy nancyp@nursing.upenn.edu	Mental health services research, psychiatric nursing, patient outcomes, vulnerable populations.	Quantitative methods to measure intervention effectiveness, utilization of large databases for secondary analysis.	HIV and serious mental illness to improve medication adherence. Burnout and job satisfaction among inpatient psychiatric nurses. Organization of inpatient psychiatric units and patient outcomes. Omaha System and a relative treatment value.	Data manipulation and analysis, literature searches, manuscript development, learning statistical programs, development of presentation.	Volunteer position, independent study with course credit, or funded position.
Libonati, Joseph jlibonatip@nursing.upenn.edu	Pathophysiologic process of hypertension and obesity and how lifestyle (diet and exercise) impacts the progression of these diseases from a cardiovascular perspective.	Molecular biology, isolated heart, muscle and cell studies, protein biochemical techniques, intervention effectiveness, echocardiography.	Effectiveness of exercise in decreasing cell death in the hypertensive heart.	Laboratory preparation, data analysis, literature searches, spreadsheet management, biochemical solution preparation, overall help and planning of projects.	Volunteer or work-study position.
Lipman, Terry lipman@nursing.upenn.edu	Epidemiology of diabetes in children, racial disparities in chronic illness, screening tools for growth and obesity	Epidemiology, randomized controlled trials, qualitative analysis, survey design	Epidemiology of type 1 and type 2 diabetes in children, racial disparities in diabetes in children, survey of the role of specialty APN's, obesity as a trigger of type 1 diabetes	Literature reviews, chart review, data entry, subject recruitment	Volunteer position, independent study for course credit

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Liu, Jianghong liu6@nursing.upenn.edu	Behavioral disorders and cognitive deficit in children and adolescence. Prenatal risk factors, environment toxicity (e.g. lead exposure), and nutrition deficiency.	Quantitative design; longitudinal approach; secondary data analysis.	Assessing the impact of lead exposure and nutrition deficiency on children's behavior. Birth complications and children's behavior problems.	Data clean, data management, literature search and other activities.	Volunteer or work-study position, independent study for credit.
Matthew D. McHugh mchughm@nursing.upenn.edu	Evaluation of the impact of public health policy (laws, regulations, and judicial actions) on health; Unintended consequences, fairness, cost-effectiveness of health policy.	Quantitative quasi-experimental research, empirical policy evaluation, health outcomes research, secondary data analysis.	Impact of California's nurse-to-patient ratio law on health outcomes and emergency preparedness; Effect of hospital overcrowding on racial/ethnic disparities in myocardial infarction outcomes; Impact of changes in Medicare payment policy which would result in hospitals no longer being reimbursed for certain	Data management & cleaning; literature review; assistance with manuscript and presentation preparation.	Work-study position, possible volunteer, senior inquiry, or independent study for course credit.
Medoff-Cooper, Barbara medoff@nursing.upenn.edu	Neurobehavioral outcomes in high risk infants. Feeding behaviors and energy expenditure in infants with complex congenital heart defects. Impact of prematurity on developmental outcomes in infants through the first year of life.	Physiological measures, feeding patterns, total energy expenditure, resting energy expenditure; instruments to measure parental stress and infant behavioral style.	Feeding behaviors and energy expenditure in infants with congenital heart defects.	Participating in data collection at the bedside; data entry; helping families through the data collection procedures in the general clinical research center.	Independent study for course credit, work-study, or funded positions.
Naylor, Mary naylor@nursing.upenn.edu	Transitional care, care coordination, chronic illness, long-term care, costs and quality of care, health policy, comparative effectiveness research.	Clinical trials, cohort studies, mixed methods.	Transitional Care Model; Translating research into practice; Examining health and health related quality of life for elders newly admitted to long-term care; Transitional care intervention for adults with cognitive impairment and their caregivers.	Data collection, data entry, literature review, manuscript and presentation preparation.	Volunteer, independent study for course credit, work-study (if applicable), summer internships, and limited funding.

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Pinto-Martin, Jennifer pinto@nursing.upenn.edu	Etiology and long-term consequences of neonatal brain injury in low birthweight population. Prevalence and etiology of autism spectrum disorders. Screening for early identification of autism spectrum disorders.	Epidemiologic designs: cohort study of low birthweight infants; case-control study of autistic children.	Screening study; case-control study; secondary data analysis.	Consenting families for participation; chart review; data entry.	Volunteer position, independent study for course credit, or work-study position.
Richmond, Therese terryr@nursing.upenn.edu	Preventing violent injury and improving outcomes following injury with a focus on the interplay of physical injury & psychological consequences.	Longitudinal cohort designs, community-based participatory research.	Analytic phase of qualitative and quantitative research with the W/SW Philadelphia community related to stress, assets, violence, and consequences. Conducting a randomized clinical trial testing nutritional and cognitive behavioral interventions to reduce readmission in 11 year	Literature searches and reviews, accompany data collector to childrems home for intervnetion and follow-up surveys	Right now my positions are filled, but volunteer or independent study for course credit. Work-study positions may apply.
Riegel, Barbara briegel@nursing.upenn.edu	Self-care of persons with chronic heart failure; intervention methods to influence behavioral change.	Intervention effectiveness trials; prospective cohort design, secondary data analysis; mixed quantitative and qualitative designs; instrument development, psychometric	Relationship between excessive daytime sleepiness and health failure self-care and other smaller ongoing projects.	Data collection, literature review, chart abstraction, budgeting.	Volunteer position, independent study for course credit. Possibility of a funded position.
Rogers, Ann E. aerogers@nursing.upenn.edu	Staff nurse fatigue and patient safety, extended work shifts, and sleep patterns.	Survey methodology, activity log books, and analysis of large datasets.	National sample of full time hospital staff nurses, logbook of activity including work, fatigue and sleep.	Secondary data analysis of caffeine usage, drowsy driving, sleep quality, napping, and other variables	Volunteer or work-study position.
Sommers, Marilyn S. ssommer@nursing.upenn.edu	People's response to injury: Measurement of injuries, digital image analysis, consequences of injury, risk taking.	Quantitative methods and analysis, randomized controlled trials. More specifically, digital image analysis, physiologic measurement.	Testing differences in Injury after sexual assault versus injuries after consensual sexual intercourse. Analyzing data from a randomized controlled trial testing an intervention to reduce risky driving.	Digital image analysis, data entry, storage, and cleaning, assistance with participant enrollment, assistance with IRB.	Work study, volunteer, independent study.

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Stringer, Marilyn stringer@nursing.upenn.edu	Promotion of healthy pregnancies and prevention of low birthweight infants.	Surveys, qualitative and quantitative descriptive and comparative designs.	Focus groups with women residing in shelters in West Philadelphia; evaluation of study abroad programs; quality assurance projects in women's health.	Literature reviews, data collection, data analysis, data dissemination.	Volunteer or work-study position.
Sullivan-Marx, Eileen marx@nursing.upenn.edu	Community-based participatory research; health disparities; older adults; health promotion; exercise	Pre-test, post-test design, regression analysis; instrument validity to determine relative effects exercise program for nursing home eligible African American women enrolled in a PACE. Compare relative effects of exercise program for nursing home eligible African American women enrolled in a PACE between women of normal cognitive function and those		Data entry and cleaning; data analysis; interviewing clients; protocol activities	Volunteer position, independent study for course credit, work-study position.
Teitelman, Anne teitelm@nursing.upenn.edu	Adolescent HIV/STD and unintended pregnancy risk reduction; sexual decision making; intimate partner violence; interpersonal dynamics in adolescent partner relationships; intervention to reduce sexual risk and partner violence in adolescents and their	Surveys, secondary data analysis, qualitative methodologies including grounded theory and narrative analysis.	Development of an intervention to present HIV/STI and partner violence in adolescent relationships. Mixed methods research project. Human Papillomavirus vaccine behavior research.	Literature reviews; assisting in data collection and data analysis.	Volunteer position, independent study for course credit, or work-study position.
Tkacs, Nancy tkacs@nursing.upenn.edu	Basic mechanisms of "Hypoglycemia Unawareness".	Laboratory science methods to investigate problems of clinical significance including physiological measurements in humans and rats, endocrine measures, neural tracing and	Use of a rat model to investigate hypoglycemia unawareness.	Animal care of rats with chronic indwelling central venous catheters; assistance in running protocols, including blood sampling and running the glucose/lactate analyzer.	Volunteer position, independent study with course credit, or work-study position.

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Tulman, Lorraine tulman@nursing.upenn.edu	Functional status in women with ovarian cancer.	Quantitative longitudinal designs; instrument development.	Identification of treatment-related symptom clustering and functional status in women with ovarian cancer.	Grant proposal and manuscript development: literature review, data analysis.	Volunteer position or work-study position.
Ulrich, Connie culrich@nursing.upenn.edu	Ethical decision making; research and clinical ethics.	Mixed methods.	Respondent Burden and Retention in Cancer Clinical Trials; Data analysis on provider surveys of ethical issues.	Developing survey for burden grant; literature reviews, data analysis; assistance with manuscript development.	Work study; independent study or volunteer.
Volpe, Stella svolpe@nursing.upenn.edu	Obesity prevention, environment, nutrition, physical activity, diabetes prevention.	Laboratory methods including blood analyses, metabolic and energy expenditure, survey questionnaires, diet histories, intervention methods. Many clinical methods will be used, within the CTTC (Clinical and Translational Research Center) at Penn.	A weight loss exercise intervention in overweight and obese elderly individuals. A study using magnesium supplementation to prevent the metabolic syndrome.	24 hour dietary recall analyses, physiological measures, diet intake assessment.	Independent study for course credit, or work-study position.
Wall, Barbra wallbm@nursing.upenn.edu	History of nursing, history of health care institutions in the United States, the intersection among religion, gender, ethnicity and the state, and the history of disaster nursing.	Social and cultural history, oral histories, textual analysis, and archival research.	A Comparative History of 20th Century Catholic Hospitals, the importance of religious institutions for American secular society and the inevitable awkwardness when those institutions attempt to directly shape social policies in a diverse milieu. "When Disaster Strikes: Nurses on the Front Line, 1900-2005." (book for Springer Publishing Co.)	Archival work on primary sources; oral history transcriptions; library searches.	Independent study with course credit, senior inquiry, compensation available from grants.

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Weaver, Terri tew@nursing.upenn.edu	Clinical research on outcomes of sleep disorders or situations creating excessive daytime sleepiness. The evaluation of treatment efficacy. Assessment of functional status, quality of life, and neurobehavioral assessment. Mechanisms of daytime sleepiness and obstructive sleep apnea.	Actigraphy; neurobehavioral assessment; functional status and quality of life measures. Phase IV and V clinical trials; outcome and intervention effectiveness research; quantitative research	Multisite study of the efficacy and effectiveness of treatments for sleep apnea.	Data cleaning and data entry; equipment management.	Volunteer or work-study position.

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Requirements
Experience with pipettes, mixing of buffer solutions. Freshmen are eligible in 2nd semester with a grade in N40 of B or higher.
Good communication skill, a positive attitude, attention to detail, knowledge of medical terminology.
Proficient in MS Word, Excel. Excellent writing skills. Dependable.
Experience with data entry using spread sheet programs, conducting literature review searches.
Open to undergraduate and graduate students in fall term. Compher on sabbatical in spring term.

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Requirements
Good library and data base search skills; prefer students interested in pediatric nursing..
Graduate students preferred.
Experience in Intensive Care (pediatric, neonatal or adult).
Good library and data base search skills.
Interest in research and childhood chronic illness or cancer.

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Requirements
Good writing skills, experience conducting Medline searches and working with Endnote databases.
Good computer skills, expert knowledge of library system, Endnote capability.

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Requirements
Interested in the measurement and/or theoretical basis of understanding health behavior.
At least 5 hours per week, proficiency in Microsoft office, will complete assignments, must be dependable.
Willingness to learn and commitment to science.
Freshman eligible, work from home possibility

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Requirements
Good communication skill, interest in research and child development. Graduate student preferred.
Interest in public health policy/law; excellent writing skills; familiar with library and database search skills.
Interest in families and infants.
At least 10 hours per week, good writing, communication, and computer skills; interest in care for complex chronically ill older adults.

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Requirements
GPA of 3.0 or higher, skillful in database literature searches, comfort in working in a diverse community.
Sufficient clinical experience to gather reliable and valid information from charts or patients. Sophomores are eligible for companion positions.
Comfortable with learning computer programs and Adobe Photoshop, reliable, willingness to work some weekends with advanced notice, writing skills, ability to manage confidential information.

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Requirements
Interest in promotion of best practices in women's health.
Freshmen are eligible; completion of sophomore first semester clinical modules preferred for some activities
Interest in area of research; familiarity with psychometrics or qualitative coding.
Possible weekend work, no history of animal allergies or asthma, pet owners preferred, gentle with animals. Freshmen eligible.

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Requirements
Interest in research in this area.
Good communication skills, some knowledge of SPSS; attention to detail.
Freshmen eligible. Prefer individuals who can work 5-7 hours per week.
Good computer skills; library search skills; interest in nursing history.

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