

School of Nursing
Killebrew-Laporte Center for
Admissions and Student Affairs
Claire M. Fagin Hall, Room M05
418 Curie Boulevard
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6020

March 2009

Dear N657 Students:

Welcome to N657, Clinical Decision Making in Advanced Practice Nursing. This course marks the beginning of your advanced practice nursing clinical experience. The faculty and I are looking forward to working with you during this exciting and challenging year!

The first class of N657 will be held on **Wednesday May 27th from 1-4pm** in the Auditorium of Fagin Hall (Nursing Building). The class orientation will be held on **May 20th from 4:30-6pm in the Fagin Hall Auditorium. The lab component will start Wednesday May 27th at 9am. Students who have signed up for the Monday lab will not meet on May 25th due to the holiday but will meet on Friday May 29th from 5-8pm for that first week of lab.** You are required to attend the orientation sessions and to obtain your PENN ID and Nursing email account so you can get access the course materials, blackboard and the videos prior to your first lab session. You will be expected to view the Bates films and read the materials in the Bickley textbook prior to your first lab session. This information is included with a separate attachment. If you have a question about this schedule, please email Deborah Cross (cross@nursing.upenn.edu) or call the Office of Student Services (215-898-6687) and speak to Andrea Allmayer.

The School of Nursing will have an Orientation Day that we encourage new students to attend on May 20, 2009 from 10 am – 3:30 pm. The Women's Health Care programs (including Midwifery) will have an additional mandatory program orientation starting at 9:30AM on May 19th. The Nurse Anesthesia courses also start on Tuesday May 26th at 8:30AM (with a program orientation as well). The orientations will cover services that you can receive from Penn and the School of Nursing as well as provide you with important computer orientation for email and Blackboard (Penn's online course system). N657 uses Blackboard extensively so it is recommended that you attend these sessions in addition to the orientation for N657. If you have questions, please contact Andrea Allmayer, Associate Director of Graduate Academic Affairs, at advisor@nuring.upenn.edu.

The focus of this course is clinical decision making based on mastery of skills in interviewing, history taking, physical examination, and hypothesis formulation. Lectures and seminars are held on Wednesdays from 1-4PM. During the laboratory sessions, held on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, you will learn, practice, and demonstrate physical examination techniques with class partners under faculty supervision. This means that you will perform examinations on a classmate and be examined by a classmate in a private space in our Mathias J. Brunner Instructional Technology Center. The interactive and application teaching techniques used in this course have been highly rated by students for many years. Following this course, you are well-prepared for clinical experience in the clinical practice regardless of your area of concentration.

The female and male genitalia examinations are considered a critical component of a complete physical examination and are taught during Week 9. Students learn the technique of these examinations with faculty and the use of a standardized patient model service. You will not be performing this aspect of the exam on each other.

Many students in the past have found it helpful to review anatomy and physiology prior to the course, as mastery of a great deal of new material is required. We strongly urge you to do so. Texts that have been useful include normal anatomy and physiology textbooks such as *Essential Clinical Anatomy* (3rd Ed.) by Keith Moore and Anne Agur (2006, Lippincott, Williams, and Wilkins).

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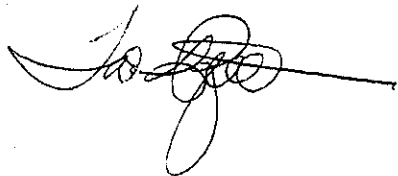
www.nursing.upenn.edu

Enclosed is a list of textbooks and equipment that are required for the course. You will need to use the Bickley text edition listed with a special access code for the web based component of the course. If you use someone else's textbook you will not have this access. It is given to only the original purchaser of the textbook. The textbook and equipment will be available at Dolbey's Bookstore located at 3734 Spruce Street. We were able to arrange a group rate price at Dolbey's for the oto-ophthalmoscopes; however, ***you must present this letter at the time of purchase in order to receive the group rate price.*** We were also able to arrange a group rate price for stethoscopes that can be purchased at Dolbey's. In addition to the above equipment you must also purchase a 6-inch/mm ruler and erasable markers. Some students like to have their own tuning forks and reflex hammers as well. Equipment must be brought to class for your first lab session, starting the week of May 26th including a fully charged oto-ophthalmoscope that meets the course specifications. **Used or borrowed equipment is permitted if it meets the standards necessary and is in good working order.** Students are strongly discouraged from sharing equipment as each student needs time with the equipment for practice during and after class.

Please view the Bates Physical Examination films for the Skin, Head, Eyes Ears Nose Throat and Cranial Nerves. You can access this by going to: <http://www.nursing.upenn.edu/students/labs/brunner/media/> Use the 4th edition. You will need to have a Penn Id in order to access this site. You should read the corresponding chapters in the Bickley textbook which are chapters 6, 7 cranial nerves p.672-678.

We eagerly look forward to working with you in your first clinical course in advanced practice nursing. Enjoy the rest of your Spring!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tamara Zurakowski', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Tamara Zurakowski, PhD, CRNP
Course Director

Deborah Cross, MPH, ANP-BC
Co- Course Director

Enclosures

TEXTBOOKS AND EQUIPMENT

AVAILABLE AT DOLBEY'S

Required Texts

Bickely, L. S. (2009). *Bates' guide to physical examination and history taking* (10th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. ISBN: 9780781780582 (includes interactive component)

Recommended Text

Billings, J. A & Stoeckle, J. D. (1999). *The clinical encounter: A guide to the medical interview and case presentation* (2nd Ed.). St. Louis, Mo: Mosby-Year Book, Inc. (this is a classic)

Bickley, L. S. & Szilagyi, P. G. (2007). *Bates' pocket guide to physical examination and history taking* (5th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Required Equipment (prices subject to change, contract Dolbey's for the up to date price list)

- Welch Allyn #97200-MC 3.5V Co-axial Diagnostic Set (Oto-ophthalmoscope)

List Price	\$701.25
Student Price	489.95

- Reflex Hammer 5.95
- 512 Hz Tuning Fork 7.00
- 128 Hz Tuning Fork 9.50
- Snellen Handheld Eye Chart 5.95

- Stethoscopes can also be purchased at Dolbey's
We require a stethoscope with both a bell and a diaphragm, or the Littmann tunable diaphragm. For students who may work with both children and adults, we recommend the Littmann Classic II basic diagnostic scope.

Other supplies not available at Dolbey's

- 6 inch millimeter ruler
- Erasable markers

The textbooks and above equipment will be available at Dolbey's beginning May 1, 2009. **You must present a copy of this mailing (verification of enrollment in N657) at the time of purchase in order to get the student buy price.** Master Card, VISA, Discover, and personal checks are accepted.

Dolbey's Medical Book Store
3734 Spruce Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104
(215) 222-6020