



UNIVERSITY OF INDIANAPOLIS SCHOOL OF NURSING

IN COLLABORATION WITH AORN

Clinical Educator Certificate

The University of Indianapolis Graduate Nursing Program offers an online educational Certificate in Nursing, with a focus on education of nurses and health care professionals in the clinical area. Eligible candidates for the certificate should have a bachelor's degree (may be in nursing or another field). (Note: Nurses who do not have a college degree should contact Dr. Mary McHugh at (317) 788-3206 or via email at mchughm@uindy.edu to discuss an exception to the degree requirement). In collaboration with AORN, this all-online program is offered at a substantial discount from standard graduate rates.

This 9-credit-hour certificate is completed in 12 months; one 3 credit graduate course is taken each semester. The courses may be taken in any order; therefore, students may begin the Certificate program at the beginning of any semester. Semesters at the University of Indianapolis begin in the months of August, January, and May.

All courses are offered online and carry graduate credit that, for students with a BSN degree, may be applied to the University of Indianapolis' Masters Degree in Nursing with a specialty in Education. (Note: Academic courses typically provide 15 CEU equivalents per credit hour for those wishing to use these courses as part of their continuing ed requirement for state licensure or national certification).

The courses are not self-paced; there are weekly assignments, due dates throughout the semester for papers and projects, and the courses will finish at the usual end of each semester. Students should plan to spend approximately 4 hours per week per credit hour on their readings, learning exercises, team projects, class discussion and library work. Therefore, for a 3 credit hour course, the student should budget 12 hours per week for work on the course.

Students are required to complete assigned readings, to participate in distance work teams, to complete learning projects in clinical education, to work collaboratively with other students and with a preceptor, and to exhibit active learning through virtual class discussions that are designed to enhance learning about real-world problems faced by nurse clinical educators in health care organizations.

The University of Indianapolis uses Blackboard as the course support software. This password-protected program will contain the syllabus, all the student's learning modules (similar to lectures), internal email to be used for course communications with the instructor and other

students, a discussion board that supports discussions among the students and instructor, a grade-book and a system for students to submit papers and other work. It also has online examination capability although the approach in this program generally follows a variant of the Harvard Business School Case Study method rather than relying on examinations for student achievement assessment.

Students are expected to be self-directed, active learners. Instructors function in the roles of coach and mentor to students rather than in a traditional lecturer role. Faculty are very active in the course; most faculty check in at least 4 or 5 days a week to maintain close contact with the students, to ensure that questions are answered in a timely fashion and that all students are progressing well in the course. The University of Indianapolis Help-Desk and Information Technology (IT) support personnel offer help to students who need assistance with using the course software. The School of Nursing also provides a full time Graduate Advisor to assist students with enrollment, registration and advising. Graduate faculty are also available to students via email, phone or personal visit for personal advising.

Educational Objectives

The Clinical Educator Certificate will prepare the graduates to:

- use principles of adult learning in clinical education programs;
- prepare and present clinical education programs that are culturally sensitive and use best educational practices in order to upgrade clinical expertise in patient care settings;
- plan, budget for and deliver educational programs, conferences and symposia designed to improve nursing knowledge in the clinical area;
- identify and analyze significant issues arising between clinical nursing practice and nursing education, and provide leadership that incorporates caring attributes in the pragmatic resolution of any differences; and
- develop measurable behavioral objectives and competency statements for clinical education programs.

Minimum Computer Requirements

- Windows: XP or higher operating system and minimum of 500 MB main memory and 1 GB of free hard disk space.
- Macintosh Computers: Mac Operating System OSX Version 10.4 or higher
- Internet access at home (many hospital firewalls block online courses). High speed Internet (e.g. via cable modem, DSL, etc.) is highly recommended although access through a telephone modem is acceptable.
- Microsoft Office Professional, including the following programs: Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Access (student may purchase this through UIndy for approximately \$73.00)
 - For Windows systems, you need Microsoft Office Professional 2007 (for the Windows XP or Vista operating systems)
 - For Macintosh computers you need Microsoft Office Professional 2008 for the Mac

Curriculum

Course ID	Course Title	Hours
NUGR-540	Principles of Teaching and Learning	3
NUGR-541	Business Issues in Clinical Education	3
NUGR-542	Program Development and Evaluation	3
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS		9

You may download a registration form by clicking [here](#). Please mail your registration along with a check for your course to:

Tondra Crum, Graduate Advisor
University of Indianapolis
School of Nursing, MH303
1400 East Hanna Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46227

If you prefer to pay by credit card, return your registration form to Tondra Crum and instructions will be sent to you.

Additional information about the University of Indianapolis may be found on the University of Indianapolis Graduate Web Pages at: <http://nursing.uindy.edu/msn/index.php> or you may contact the Graduate Advisor, Ms. Tondra Crum by phone at (317) 788-2128 or by email at tcrum@uindy.edu.