

# HUNTER

The City University of New York

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## HUNTER-BELLEVUE SCHOOL OF NURSING

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# 2024-2025

## Student Handbook

[www.hunter.cuny.edu/nursing](http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/nursing)

## Message from the Dean

**Ann Marie P. Mauro, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAHA, FNAP, FAAN**  
Joan Hansen Grabe Dean and Professor  
Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing  
Hunter College of the City University of New York



Thank you for choosing the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing at Hunter College of the City University of New York (CUNY) to advance your professional nursing education and career. Our School's history spans over 60 years of preparing nurses for practice in urban environments with diverse populations. Our students, faculty, and staff embrace excellence in education, research, and service. Our outstanding alumni are leaders impacting the health of communities across the nation and the globe. At Hunter, we provide an excellent, accessible education shaping diverse nurse leaders to create a thriving, healthier world.

Our exceptional undergraduate programs include the [generic](#) and [accelerated second-degree](#) BS in nursing, and the [RN-to-BS](#) in nursing. Our top-notch [Master's degree \(MS\) program](#) offers specialties in Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist, Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Community/Public Health Nursing, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, Nursing Administration/Urban Policy and Leadership (dual MS degree), and a post-graduate Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner advanced certificate. We also have a new, fully online Master's degree and advanced certificate in Nursing Education. Our groundbreaking [Evelyn Lauder Community Care Nurse Practitioner Program](#) offers advanced clinical training and graduate-level education focused on critical aspects of care, from diagnosis to ordering and interpreting tests to prescribing medication. The [Doctor of Nursing Practice \(DNP\) program](#) prepares nurses for advanced practice and leadership positions in health care. We are excited to launch our pioneering [Nurse Anesthesia Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner DNP program](#) that is accepting applications for our first cohort in summer 2024. Our excellent [post-Master's PhD in nursing program](#) prepares nurse scientists to conduct research that champions health equity in diverse local and global communities.

On behalf of our outstanding faculty, staff, and alumni, I applaud you for choosing to be a Hunter nurse! We are here to support your success. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

*Dean Ann Marie Mauro*

Ann Marie P. Mauro, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAHA, FNAP, FAAN  
Joan Hansen Grabe Dean and Professor

**MISSION of the HUNTER-BELLEVUE SCHOOL of NURSING**

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing mission is to prepare collaborative nurse leaders to promote wellness and champion health equity in diverse local and global communities through excellence in education, research, scholarship, and advocacy.

**VISION of the HUNTER-BELLEVUE SCHOOL of NURSING**

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing aspires to be a beacon of transformative nursing education, shaping leaders who advance health equity for a thriving, healthier world.

**VALUES of the HUNTER-BELLEVUE SCHOOL of NURSING**

Excellence, Collaboration, Equity, Belonging

HUNTER COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK  
HUNTER-BELLEVUE SCHOOL OF NURSING STUDENT HANDBOOK

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# I. HUNTER COLLEGE POLICIES

## A. Non-Discrimination

Hunter is committed to a policy of equal employment and equal access in its educational programs and activities. Diversity, inclusion, and an environment free from discrimination are central to our mission.

It is the policy of Hunter to recruit, employ, retain, promote, and provide benefits to employees (including paid and unpaid interns) and to admit and provide services for students without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, age, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth and related conditions), sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, partnership status, disability, genetic information, alienage, citizenship, military or veteran status, status as a victim of domestic violence/stalking/sex offenses, unemployment status, or any other legally prohibited basis in accordance with federal, state and city laws.

It is also the Hunter's policy to provide reasonable accommodations when appropriate to individuals with disabilities, individuals observing religious practices, employees who have pregnancy or childbirth-related medical conditions, or employees who are victims of domestic violence/stalking/sex offenses.

This Policy also prohibits retaliation for reporting or opposing discrimination or cooperating with an investigation of a discrimination complaint.

<https://hunter.cuny.edu/diversity-and-compliance/>

## B. Academic Integrity

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the [City University of New York Policy on Academic Integrity](#).

*Hunter's policy on academic integrity includes the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) systems such as ChatGPT, LaMDA, etc. The roles these systems play in communication is evolving quickly but the core issue remains: Falsely presenting another's work (including the work of such systems) as one's own is plagiarism.*

### CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty is prohibited in [The City University of New York](#). Penalties for academic dishonesty include academic sanctions, such as failing or otherwise reduced grades, and/or disciplinary sanctions, including suspension or expulsion.

### Definitions and Examples of Academic Dishonesty

1. **Cheating** is the unauthorized use or attempted use of material, information, notes, study aids, devices, artificial intelligence (AI) systems, or communication during an academic exercise. Examples of cheating include:

- Copying from another person or from a generative AI system or allowing others to copy work submitted for credit or a grade. This includes uploading work or submitting class

assignments or exams to third party platforms and websites beyond those assigned for the class, such as commercial homework aggregators, without the proper authorization of a professor. Any use of generative AI tools must be in line with the usage policy for specific assignments as defined in the course of the syllabus and/or communicated by the course instructor.

- Using artificial intelligence tools to generate content for assignments or exams, including but not limited to language models or code generators, without written authorization from the instructor.
- Unauthorized collaboration on assignments or examinations.
- Taking an examination or completing an assignment for another person or asking or allowing someone else to take an examination or complete an assignment for you, including exams taken on a home computer.
- Submitting content generated by another person or an AI tool or any other source as solely your own work as your own, including, but not limited to, material obtained in whole or in part from commercial study or homework help websites, or content generated or altered by AI or digital paraphrasing tools without proper citation.
- Fabricating and/or falsifying data (in whole or in part).
- Giving assistance to acts of academic misconduct/dishonesty.
- Altering a response on a previously graded exam or assignment and then attempting to return it for more credit or a higher grade without permission from the instructor.
- Submitting substantial portions of a paper or assignment to more than one course for credit without permission from each instructor.
- Unauthorized use during an examination of notes, prepared answers, or any electronic devices such as cell phones, computers, smart watches, or other technologies to copy, retrieve, generate or send information.

**2. Plagiarism** is the act of presenting another person's ideas, research or writing as your own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Copying another person's or an AI tool's actual words or images without the use of quotation marks and citations attributing the words to their source.
- Presenting another person's ideas or theories in your own words without acknowledging the source.
- Failing to acknowledge collaborators on homework and laboratory assignments.
- Internet plagiarism, including submitting downloaded term papers or parts of term papers, paraphrasing or copying information from the internet without citing the source, or "cutting & pasting" from various sources without proper attribution.
- Unauthorized use of AI-generated content; or use of AI-generated content, whether in whole or in part, even when paraphrased, without citing the AI as the source.

**3. Obtaining Unfair Advantage** is any action taken by a student that gives that student an unfair advantage in his/her academic work over another student, or an action taken by a student through which a student attempts to gain an unfair advantage in his or her academic work over another student. Examples of obtaining unfair advantage include, but are not limited to:

- Stealing, reproducing, circulating or otherwise gaining advance access to examination materials.
- Depriving other students of access to library materials by stealing, destroying, defacing, or concealing them.
- Retaining, using or circulating examination materials which clearly indicate that they should be returned at the end of the exam.
- Intentionally obstructing or interfering with another student's work.

**4. Falsification of Records and Official Documents.** Examples of falsification include, but are not limited to:

- Forging signatures of authorization.
- Falsifying information on an official academic record.
- Falsifying information on an official document such as a grade report, letter of permission, drop/add form, ID card, or other college document.
- Falsifying medical documentation that has a bearing on campus access or the excuse of absences or missed examinations and assignments.

### **C. Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (ADA)**

In compliance with the ADA and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Hunter is committed to ensuring educational access and accommodations for all its registered students. Hunter College's students with disabilities and medical conditions are encouraged to register with the [Office of AccessABILITY](#) for assistance and accommodation. For information and appointment contact the Office of AccessABILITY, 68<sup>th</sup> Street campus Room E1214, or call (212) 772-4857 /or VRS (646) 755-3129.

### **D. Alcohol and Drug-Free Campuses and Schools**

Hunter College complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 101-226). Details of Hunter's [drug-free policy](#) may be found in the current undergraduate and graduate catalogs. For details of this policy, visit <https://hunter.cuny.edu/public-safety/policies/alcohol-and-drugs/>.

### **E. Tobacco-Free Policy**

Smoking and tobacco use, including the use of electronic cigarettes, is strictly prohibited in all areas, including indoor, outdoor, and vehicles that are owned, leased, operated, or maintained by Hunter College. There is no sale of cigarettes, cigars, chewing, or pipe tobacco at any facility, location, or vending machine owned, leased, operated, or maintained by Hunter College or its contractors.

### **F. Student Counseling and Wellness Services**

The Hunter College counseling and wellness center offers the free and confidential counseling services to Hunter College students who experience difficulties such as adjustment to college in general, conflict with others, grief and loss, personal and/or family crises, emotional distress, sexual identity/orientation, or sexual harassment/assault. For details of counseling and wellness services, visit <https://hunter.cuny.edu/students/health-wellness/counseling-and-wellness-services/>.

**Dr. Perry D. Hoffman Counseling Welcome Center**  
Room 1119B, East Building  
695 Park Ave, New York, NY 10065  
[212-772-4931](tel:212-772-4931) | [personalcounseling@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:personalcounseling@hunter.cuny.edu)

## **G. Hunter Policy on Sexual Misconduct**

In compliance with the [CUNY Policy on Sexual Misconduct](#), Hunter College reaffirms the prohibition of any sexual misconduct, which includes sexual violence, sexual harassment, and gender-based harassment retaliation against students, employees, or visitors, as well as certain intimate relationships. Students who have experienced any form of sexual violence on or off campus (including CUNY-sponsored trips and events) are entitled to the rights outlined in the Bill of Rights for Hunter College.

- 1. Sexual Violence:** Students are strongly encouraged to immediately report the incident by calling 911, contacting NYPD Special Victims Division Hotline (646-610-7272) or their local police precinct, or contacting the College's Public Safety Office (212-772-4444).
- 2. All Other Forms of Sexual Misconduct:** Students are also encouraged to contact the College's Title IX Campus Coordinator, Dean John Rose ([John.Rose@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:John.Rose@hunter.cuny.edu) or 212-772-4242) or Colleen Barry ([colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:colleen.barry@hunter.cuny.edu) or 212-772-4534) and seek complimentary services through the Counseling and Wellness Services Office, Hunter East 1119B.

## **II. POLICIES APPLICABLE TO STUDENTS IN ALL PROGRAMS OF THE HUNTER-BELLEVUE SCHOOL OF NURSING**

### **A. Professionalism**

HBSON is dedicated to the preparation of deeply thoughtful, knowledgeable, and highly effective nurses. Our commitment is to educate these candidates — future professionals who will make a significant impact on the health and well-being of their patients and communities. As such, HBSON values professionalism among its students, professors, and staff. In this section, you will find the standards of professionalism that you are expected to follow while a student at Hunter College.

#### **Professionalism at Hunter College**

As part of students' professional development, and to nurture a safe and supportive learning environment for professors and students alike, all members of the HBSON community are expected to adhere to the codes of professionalism outlined below. As a student at Hunter College, whether you are in class or at your clinical experience, you are a representative of Hunter College, not an employee of the organization where you are placed, and are expected to adhere to these codes. Below, you will find the description of the various aspects of professionalism that are expected of HBSON students, both while at Hunter and as a guest in a clinical site, during coursework and during your clinical experiences.

#### **1. Professional Behavior**

*Interpersonal Relationships:* As a member of the HBSON community, you shall be courteous to and respectful of faculty, staff, other students, and any other members of the education/clinical

community irrespective of race, political ideals, belief systems, and gender or sexual identification, so that all may feel at ease in a learning environment where everyone is free to participate in an open exchange of ideas. Throughout your professional career you will be in contact with people from diverse cultural perspectives, and it is important to be sensitive to these differences. Therefore, you shall make every effort to respect cultural diversity both at Hunter and when you are a guest in an off-campus site and shall discourage any prejudice or discrimination in your own classroom. You shall at all times respect multiple points of view from your teachers, peers and patients, and willingly accept constructive feedback from your professors, supervisors, preceptors and clinical instructors.

*Punctuality and Attentiveness/Attendance:* Hunter students shall arrive promptly and be attentive in class, without engaging in private conversations, texting, or other activities that may be distracting to you or to other students. As professionals, you are expected to be on time for class, clinicals, and other appointments. Nursing faculty believe that class attendance is vital for the success of nursing students. Attending class regularly increases the acquisition of knowledge, increases the opportunities for content clarification, and contributes to learning the professional role. Because this is a professional nursing program, students are expected to attend all classes, labs, and clinical experiences. It is not acceptable to arrive late or leave early without permission. For any absence, students are required to notify all faculty members. Students absent from clinical will be required to make up the time.

Classroom and clinical attendance is the responsibility of each student and may be monitored by the faculty member who is teaching the course/section. The method for monitoring attendance is at the discretion of each faculty member. Attendance will be monitored in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, taking roll at any time during the class session, administering unannounced quizzes, administering in-class assignments, or having a percentage of the course grade for class participation. Specifics regarding clinical and lab absence can be found on the syllabus. Class absences that are not excused by the faculty member may affect the student's final course grade. Vacations and social events do not constitute excused absences.

If a student is late to class, it is at the faculty member's discretion whether or not to let the student sign the attendance sheet, take the quiz, or complete the in-class assignment. The faculty member has the freedom to require students who are late to wait until a scheduled break in the class before allowing them to enter the classroom. Lateness to class that is not excused by the faculty member may affect the student's final course grade.

*Professional Attire:* As a Hunter College nursing student, you are a representative of HBSON. As such, Hunter College expects that you dress in a professional manner when working in professional settings where you will be conducting your clinical experiences. See [page 20](#) regarding specific examples of uniforms, dress, etc.

## **2. Professional Integrity**

HBSON students are expected to conduct themselves ethically and with integrity, according to the expectations of the professions of nursing. You shall interact with your peers, faculty, administrators, agency staff, and patients, with respect and fairness, as well as follow the rules of confidentiality for your patients and peers (see the Hunter College Disclosure Policy and the rights and protections of privacy afforded to Hunter students by FERPA ([Family Education Rights and Privacy Act](#)) and HIPAA ([Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act](#))). All work you

complete shall be your own, and you shall familiarize yourself with Hunter College's policy on Academic Integrity.

### **3. Professional Communication**

*Email Address:* You are expected to use your Hunter College email address for all electronic communications relating to your work at Hunter or in the field.

*Email Etiquette:* You shall also follow basic rules of email etiquette such as always including a clear and direct subject line, being clear and concise in the body of the email, obeying standard rules of grammar and style, writing in full sentences, and avoiding being overly familiar. Students should avoid humor and be aware that written communication is different from face to face communication since social cues such as facial expressions and tone are lost when writing, and something meant as a harmless joke could be taken as an offense by the recipient.

*Communicating with Your Professor:* When writing to a professor, be sure to indicate your full name, course and section number and follow the basic rules of email etiquette discussed above. Language should be respectful; if you have an issue of some concern such as a grade, for example, wait to send the email until you are feeling less emotional about it or make an appointment to meet with the professor in person.

### **4. Social Media**

Social Media (sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, WhatsApp, LinkedIn, etc., or any other sites that encourage interactivity with the use of text or multimedia "sharing") is a powerful tool for communication and networking with the potential for useful teaching and learning opportunities. Use of social media must adhere to FERPA and HIPAA regulations. We encourage you to maintain professional standards of behavior when using these platforms. Please refer to the [American Nurses Association's Principles for Social Media Networking](#). Students are cautioned to use common sense with online interactions, and to adhere to the same behavior as described in the section under "Interpersonal Relationships." The privacy of others in the community must be respected according to the college's FERPA policy, and in the case of clinical placements, HIPAA, which includes the posting of information about, or photos and/or videos that depict your peers, patients, or clinical facility. In addition to the above standards, you should be prepared to adhere to the standards of professionalism that will apply to your future employment as a nurse.

*Responsible and Ethical Use of Technology.* This includes using social media in accordance with the [American Nurses Association's Principles for Social Media Networking](#). It is recommended that you take the time to familiarize yourself with these standards, which offer a common framework that will most likely be applicable in some form in any institution where you will be employed in the future.

### **5. Responsibility to the Profession**

This includes upholding the rules, policies, and regulations of the profession, maintaining mental and physical health, professional competence through continuing education, and engaging with professional associations.

## **B. Academic Advising**

Each HBSON student is assigned to a faculty member who serves as the student's academic advisor. **Every student must meet with his or her academic advisor prior to registering for classes or more frequently if necessary.**

1. **Generic undergraduate, RN-BS and Accelerated Second-Degree:** Each student will be notified of his or her advisor's name and contact information soon after entering the program. This information can be found posted on the Blackboard site.
2. **Master of Science and Post-Graduate certificate:** The graduate coordinator for each specialty serves as advisor for those students. Students will be informed of their primary contact for advisement at new student orientation.
3. **Doctor of Nursing Practice:** The coordinator of the DNP program serves as advisor for DNP students.

### C. Simulation Letter of Understanding and Confidentiality Statement

Students entering any clinical experience that involves the use of simulation, a method for clinical teaching will be given the following statement to acknowledge:

1. Simulation has been shown to be an effective teaching tool that promotes positive clinical interactions, judgment, and clinical reasoning. Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing (HBSON) is excited about our opportunity to provide our students with access to the latest technologies, which include high-fidelity simulators.
2. I understand that during my participation in activities at HBSON simulation experience, I may observe individuals managing simulated medical events under conditions that may exacerbate the likelihood of errors. Furthermore, I understand that the effectiveness of the training may be greatly diminished, and the individuals may be subjected to unwarranted criticism and judgment should information about their performance be disclosed outside the training sessions. Therefore, as a condition of my participation in the activities, I agree to maintain and hold strictly confidential all information regarding the performance by such individuals and details of the exercises performed and the simulation scenarios presented.
3. I understand that I will be videotaped during the simulation experience for the sole purpose of education.

## III. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION RESOURCES

### A. Hunter Email

Each student is assigned a Hunter email address (on the myhunter.cuny.edu domain). Students must use their Hunter email for all communications related to the College or School—e.g., when communicating with faculty, staff or with outside clinical agencies. Students are also responsible for checking their Hunter email on a regular basis.

### B. CUNYfirst

[CUNYfirst](#) is used for course registration and related functions. All students are assigned a CUNYfirst identification number (also referred to as the EMPL ID).

### C. Blackboard

Each Hunter course has a course [Blackboard](#) site. Students are responsible for checking each course site regularly (Access requires a [CUNYfirst](#) account and [CUNY Login](#)).

### D. Other Electronic Resources

Applications and services offered by Hunter College (i.e., not CUNY-wide) are accessed using a [Hunter NetID](#). Students use their NetID to access electronic resources such as the Hunter College library website, which includes a wide range of journals, databases, and other resources.

## IV. GRADING

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing follows the Hunter College grading system.

### A. Undergraduate Programs

Grade	Grade Definition (See <a href="#">Undergraduate Catalog</a> for more information)	Quality Points (GPA Index)
A+	97.5 - 100%	4.0
A	92.5 - 97.4%	4.0
A-	90.0 - 92.4%	3.7
B+	87.5 - 89.9%	3.3
B	82.5 - 87.4%	3.0
B-	80.0 - 82.4%	2.7
C+	77.5 - 79.9%	2.3
C	70.0 - 77.4%	2.0
D	60.0 - 69.9%	1.0
F	0.0 - 59.9%	0.0
P	Pass (equivalent to A, B, C, D) for courses taken on a Pass/No Credit basis [formerly CR]	-
NC	No credit granted (equivalent to F) for courses taken on a Pass/No Credit basis.	-
W	Official withdrawal. Student initiated (cannot be assigned by instructor).	-
WA	Administrative withdrawal - Proof of immunization not provided	-
WD	Withdraw Drop (Dropped after Financial Aid Certification date during the second or third week of classes. Indicates that student has attended at least one class session)	-
WU	Unofficial withdrawal (assigned by instructor) (counts as F)	0.0
INC	Term's work incomplete. This may include absence from final examination.	-
FIN	F from incomplete; an administrative grade used when INC reverts to F; this occurs if grade is not made up by the end of the following semester.	0.0

AUD	Auditor - No Credit (Undergraduate students only)	-
PEN	A placeholder grade submitted by the Office of Student Conduct during a pending investigation and resolution of an alleged violation of the Policy on Academic Integrity.	-
Y	Year's course of study - must complete entire year of study. Students cannot graduate with a Y grade on record. See the instructor for department chair for a change of grade.	-
Z	No grade submitted by instructor (an administrative grade which cannot be assigned by the instructor). Students cannot graduate with a Z grade on record. see the instructor or department chair for a change of grade.	-
&	(Preceding a letter grade): authorized course was repeated [discontinued]	

## B. Graduate Programs

Grade	Definition (see <a href="#">Graduate Catalog</a> for more information)	Quality Points (GPA Index)
A+	97.5 – 100%	4.0
A	92.5 – 97.4%	4.0
A-	90.0 – 92.4%	3.7
B+	87.5 – 89.9%	3.3
B	82.5 – 87.4%	3.0
B-	80.0 – 82.4%	2.7
C+	77.5 – 79.9%	2.3
C	70.0 – 77.4%	2.0
F	0 – 69.9%	0
P	Satisfactory completion. Used only for the thesis research or equivalent course where required in the particular graduate program.	
INC	Incomplete	
SP	Satisfactory progress – restricted to thesis and research courses requiring more than one semester for completion.	
W	Official withdrawal (without prejudice)	
WU	Unofficial withdrawal (counts as failure)	
WA	Administrative withdrawal	
Y	Y = Year's course of study – must continue to completion	
PEN	A placeholder grade submitted by the Office of Student Conduct during a pending investigation and resolution of an alleged violation of the Policy on Academic Integrity.	

## C. Letter Grades and Incomplete Coursework

All HBSON students must take all required courses for a letter grade; no required course may be taken on a Pass/No-Credit basis.

If a student is unable to complete coursework by the end of a term, the instructor may assign a grade of “INC” (Incomplete) if (1) the student provides a reason for not completing the coursework; (2) the

instructor believes that the reason is valid; and (3) the instructor believes that the student has a reasonable chance of achieving a passing grade in the course. If an undergraduate student fails to complete the coursework by the end of the following semester (or an earlier deadline, if the instructor provides one), the “INC” grade becomes a “FIN”.

For graduate courses, instructors may assign the grade “INC”, meaning that course work (examinations, assignments, classwork, lab work) was not completed. For an “INC” grade to be changed to a letter grade, all required coursework must be completed within one year after the “INC” grade is entered. If not changed to a letter grade within one year, the “INC” grade will become permanent. Penalties for lateness that were previously established for the course will remain in effect.

Students will have a maximum of one year to complete required course work, whether or not they are in attendance.

Assigning an “INC” grade is at the discretion of the instructor. Further details are available in the Hunter College [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) catalogs.

## V. HBSON STANDARD FOR SCHOLARLY WRITING

All written assignments are expected to be in the current American Psychological Association (APA) style unless otherwise specified in the course syllabus.

## VI. APPEAL PROCEDURES

### A. Grade Appeal

**\*Please also see [Grade Appeal Process Flowchart](#) on page 19.**

#### I. Appeal at the Department/Program (or School) Level

Step 1: Student-Initiated Discussion with Instructor. When a student believes that a final grade was not graded correctly, they must first email the instructor to request a meeting in person (or via Zoom), regarding the accuracy of the grade received. This conference should be held within the first three weeks of the semester following receipt of the grade. At this time errors may be corrected. If the grade is not an error, the student and instructor must review together all class material pertinent to the grade.

Step 2: Student Request for Department/Program/School Grade Appeal. If the student is not satisfied, or if the instructor does not meet with the student within the first three weeks of the semester, the student should promptly contact the Department Chair/Program Director (or School Dean in units with no departments) by submitting a written appeal, a statement that presents the basis for the grade appeal. This appeal must be submitted within the first five weeks of the semester following receipt of the grade.\* The Department Chair/Program Director/School Dean shall be responsible for giving the student a copy of the Hunter College Grade Appeals Procedures and the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing Grade Appeals Procedures as set forth in this document.

\*A student who is appealing a failing course grade, particularly in a nursing course with a clinical component, should file an appeal immediately on receipt of final course grade, because registration and progression in the program are dependent on the outcome of the appeal.

Step 3: Department/School Grade Appeals Committee and Hearing. The Department Chair/Program Director/School Dean shall convene a Department/School Grade Appeal Committee of three members within two weeks of receiving the appeal. The student has the right to request in writing that the Chair appoint a student as a member of the Department/Program/School Grade Appeals Committee. The Committee (if not otherwise specified in the By-laws) shall consist of three full time members of the Department/School faculty, unless the student has requested that a student be appointed as the third member of the committee. The Department Chair shall designate one faculty member of the Committee as Chair, who will be responsible for gathering the pertinent materials from the student and instructor for review by the Committee. This should include the relevant work submitted by the student, the instructor's grading criteria for this course (including the course syllabus), course assignments, and the instructor's evaluation of the work submitted as well as any other pertinent evidence. All materials shall be shared with the other members of the committee. The Department Grade Appeals Committee must notify the student and the instructor, in writing, that they have the right to appear, separately, before the committee. Within three weeks of its appointment, the Department Grade Appeals Committee will convene a closed hearing where both parties have the opportunity to testify separately.

NOTE: As pursuant with the HBSON policy on grade appeal note the following is true:

Upon receiving the grade appeal, the DEAN shall forward a copy to the Chair of the Policy & Student Affairs Committee. The Dean and Chairperson will appoint members to an appeals committee. Within one week of receiving the grade appeal, the Grade Appeal's Committee will convene with three members who are familiar with the course in question. The purpose of the School Grade Appeals Committee is to consider all of the evidence within the grading standards previously established by the instructor of the course, and on this basis render a decision either to sustain or to change the original grade.

At least two members of the School Grade Appeals Committee shall be members of the School of Nursing Faculty. At least one shall also be a member of the Policy & Student Affairs Committee, who shall serve as Chair of the School Grade Appeals Committee. The third member shall be a faculty member unless the student has requested that a student be appointed to the committee.

Within three weeks of its appointment, after considering all the evidence, the School Grade Appeals Committee will meet in closed session, render its decision, prepare a written report of its findings, and submit it to the Dean. All proceedings are confidential. The Dean shall immediately inform the student and instructor in writing of the committee's decision. The Dean shall also inform the relevant Associate Dean, who shall submit a change of grade if recommended.

Step 4: Written Report of Decision After the hearing the committee will render its judgment and prepare a brief written report, written by the chair of the committee with the support of a majority of the

committee, explaining the reasons for its ruling, and whether the decision was unanimous, without mentioning any names or details that might violate confidentiality. The committee chair will submit the report to the department chairperson within two weeks of the hearing. The Department Chair will send it to the parties involved within two weeks of receipt. This will allow the losing party to make an informed decision as to whether to appeal to the Senate Grade Appeal Committee. If neither party appeals to the Senate Grade Appeals Committee within the designated time frame (see below), the department chair will ensure, if required, that a change of grade was submitted to the registrar.

**Senate grade appeal link:**

<https://www.hunter.cuny.edu/senate/repository/files/documents/ApplicationforSenateGradeAppeal.pdf>

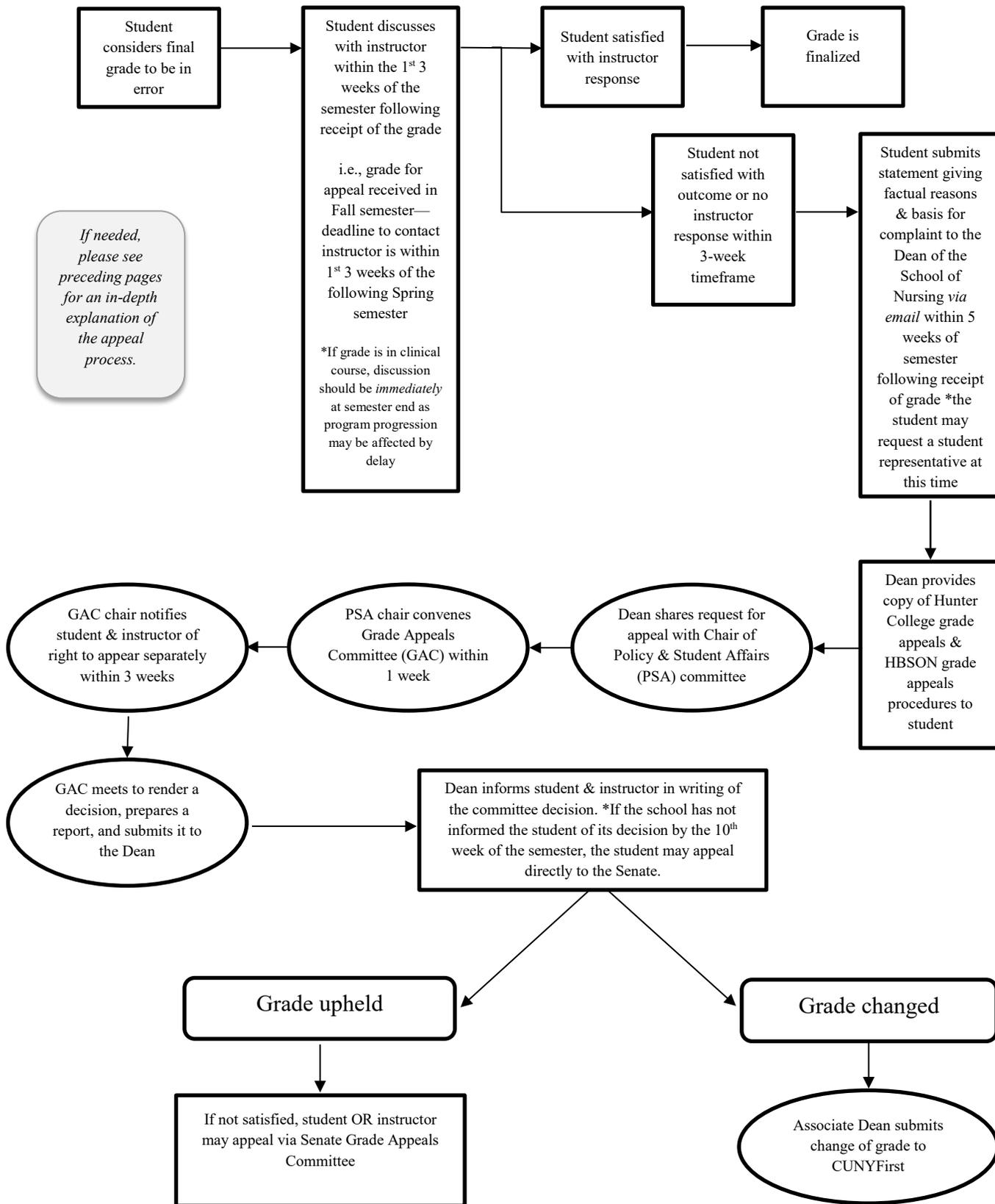
**Notes Regarding Department/School Appeals:**

- a. No grade changes can be made after a degree has been officially conferred.
- b. If the instructor of the course in question is presently a Department Chair or the Director of a program, that person will designate another senior faculty member to form the department/program grade appeal committee and perform the duties otherwise assigned here to the chair/program director.
- c. A letter grade may not be changed to Pass/No Credit unless a student has requested it before the end of the semester.
- d. If a student is appealing a grade from an instructor who is absent the next semester, the chair will endeavor to be in contact with the instructor and gather all the relevant documentation as specified above. The instructor will also be invited to testify remotely.

**Appeal of Graduate Students on Probation/Academic Dismissal**

HBSON Graduate students who are academically dismissed may follow the “Hunter College Appeals Procedure for Students on Probation” as found in the [Hunter College Graduate Catalog](#).

### Grade Appeal Process Flowchart



## VII. STUDENT USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- A. The student use of any video recording devices (including cameras) in any classroom (whether remote or in-person), laboratory or clinical setting is strictly prohibited. (The only exception is when the use of such equipment is expressly authorized by the instructor as part of a class assignment or other assigned class activity).
- B. The student use of audio recording devices in any classroom or laboratory is allowed only with the permission of the faculty member, which may be granted or denied at the faculty member's discretion. Student use of audio recording devices in the clinical setting is allowed with the permission of the instructor and only if it is consistent with facility policy.
- C. This policy applies both to stand-alone video and audio recording devices and to use of video or audio recording functions on other devices, including but not limited to cell phones and other hand-held devices.
- D. The use of 'smart-phones' etc. during class or clinical shall be used only for clinical reference, not for personal communication.

## VIII. ABSENCE DUE TO RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

The School of Nursing complies with New York State Education Law, Sec. 224-a, "[Students unable because of religious beliefs to register or attend classes on certain days.](#)"

## IX. PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE AND APPEARANCE IN THE CLINICAL SETTING

Students in all HBSON academic programs, undergraduate and graduate, are expected to dress appropriately in all instructional settings – classroom, laboratory and clinical. The guidelines below reflect the particular importance that the HBSON places on maintaining a professional appearance in the clinical setting. Even beyond the specific requirements listed below, however, each student should be governed by his or her own sense of professionalism in representing the HBSON to other health care professionals, patients, and families.

- A. **The following guidelines apply in all clinical and laboratory settings:**
  - 1. **Clothing** should be neat, clean, and pressed.
  - 2. **Shoes:** Closed shoes are to be worn at all times. Sneakers, pumps, and clogs are not acceptable footwear.
  - 3. **Hair** should be neat, clean and must be worn off the collar. Male students should be clean shaven

or have a neatly trimmed beard and/or mustache. NOTE: If FIT testing is required for your clinical agency, men must be clean shaven for a proper, safe fit.

4. **Body jewelry**: No body jewelry or piercings including studs or rings may be worn in the eyebrows, lips, nose, or tongue.
5. **Tattoos**: Body art of any kind must be covered while in the lab/clinical area.
6. **Scents**: Students should avoid wearing any detectable odors or fragrances in the clinical area.
7. **Face Coverings**: Any covering that restricts a face and complete view of the face is unacceptable (exceptions: use of PPE and those used for religious/cultural reasons).

**B. The following guidelines (in addition to Section A, above) apply in settings in which a uniform is required:**

1. **Uniform**: Students must wear the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing uniform made of specified fabric specified by the HBSON and purchased from an authorized uniform company.
  - a) The lab and clinical uniform consist of purple scrub shirts and pants or skirt (may be white)
  - b) The uniform should be neat, clean, wrinkle-free, and properly altered so that pants are not dragging on the floor.
2. **Name pin**: A name pin bearing the student's first initial and last name is to be worn on the uniform at all times.
3. **Shoes**: In addition to the requirements noted above, shoes should be white leather (not cloth) nursing shoes. Footwear must not bear colored trade names or logos.
4. **Hosiery**: Men and women are to wear white hosiery (socks or stockings) with no ornamentation (no decorations, textures, colored stripes, etc.).
5. **Undergarments**: must be solid white (this includes long sleeve shirts under the uniform top). Women wearing a dress/skirt are to wear a white slip under the skirt. Males are to wear a solid white crew neck T-shirt under their uniform top.
6. **Outer garments**: (for warmth) i.e., short lab coat must be solid white in color; NO hoodies/sweatshirts in lab/clinical areas.
7. No hats/scarves or other head garments (except those worn for religious or cultural reasons).
8. **Nails**: must be short. If nails are polished, only clear polish may be worn.
9. **Jewelry**: No dangling earrings may be worn; stud earrings may be worn. No rings with stones (other than wedding rings), bracelets, or visible chains are to be worn.
10. **Supplies**: Each student must wear a watch with a second hand and have his or her own stethoscope, bandage scissors, and penlight. Smart watches are not acceptable.
11. **Exceptions**: Instructors will inform students of any exceptions, modifications, or additional requirements applicable in a specific site or placement.

Students who fail to adhere to the dress code will be asked to leave the laboratory/clinical area.

**C. The following guidelines (in addition to Section A, above) apply in settings in which a uniform is *not* required:**

1. Students must follow instructions regarding any specific requirements (such as wearing a white lab coat) and follow all applicable agency policies for health professional personnel.
2. Women should wear a dress or a combination of a skirt or trousers and a top (such as a blouse or dress shirt). Dresses and skirts should be of reasonable length.
3. Men should wear a collared shirt and trousers with a belt.
4. Jeans are unacceptable attire in the clinical setting. Other unacceptable attire includes shorts, ripped or soiled clothing, T-shirts (except when worn as undershirts), visible undergarments, miniskirts, low-cut tops, tops with exposed midriffs, or other revealing clothing.
5. Any covering that restricts a full and complete view of the face is unacceptable (exceptions: use of PPE and those used for religious/cultural reasons).

**D. Performance in clinical/lab courses:** In order to pass a nursing course with a clinical and/or lab component, the student must pass the clinical and/or lab component of that course. Student clinical performance is evaluated based on achieving identified clinical objectives, including demonstration of professional conduct. Student lab performance is evaluated based on achieving identified lab objectives, including return demonstration of assigned skills.

Students are NEVER permitted to administer medications without direct observation by their clinical instructor. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in program dismissal.

**Professional misconduct.** Professional misconduct is grounds for failing a clinical specialization course. Such conduct shall include, but not be limited to:

- falsifying documents,
- unauthorized access of clinical information,
- unauthorized ordering, administering, or prescribing of medications,
- unauthorized use of the placement site's electronic resources for personal business,
- sleeping while in the clinical placement site,
- presenting to clinical setting while chemically impaired,
- use of abusive or inappropriate language in the placement site,
- excessive unauthorized lateness or absenteeism.

## **X. HEALTH REQUIREMENTS AND CLINICAL PRACTICE CLEARANCE**

- A. The HBSON (and CUNY) use [CastleBranch](#) to monitor and maintain student health clearance requirements. All students are required to have a current [CastleBranch account](#). Prior to beginning

any clinical placements, all students must submit required health and professional clinical practice clearance documents by the deadlines announced by the HBSON. Students should make a copy of each document and keep a set with them while in the clinical setting. A satisfactory background check and annual drug screen also is required. The student is responsible for submitting updated clearance documents with any health status changes that may impact patient safety. These can include, but are not limited to, mental health changes or taking medications that may impact alertness. Faculty advisors or administrators may also request updated clearance documents from students in whom they assess a health status change that may impact patient safety.

- B. Clearance forms are available on the HBSON website. Students should follow instructions posted on the website and sent via email regarding where and when to submit required documents. Students will not be permitted to begin any course with a clinical component if these materials are not filed by the required date.
- C. All documents are to be submitted through CastleBranch. Students must submit:
  - 1. Background check and annual drug screen;
  - 2. Documentation of health history and physical examination;
  - 3. All laboratory test results, immunizations and titer records listed in the HBSON health clearance form;
  - 4. Documentation of health insurance;
  - 5. Current certification in Basic Cardiac Life Support (BLS) for health care workers (Note: only American Heart Association certification is accepted);
  - 6. HIPAA Certificate of Completion;
  - 7. For RN to BS and graduate students: Current New York State RN registration;
  - 8. Documentation of seasonal influenza vaccine; documentation of COVID-19 vaccination as required as per current governmental/CUNY guidelines;
  - 9. Students must submit any additional documentation required by the clinical placement setting/agency and comply with any additional clearance requirements per agency.
  - 10. Please note that clinical clearance compliance also includes your signing off on both your mid and final evaluations on InPlace within one week of their availability.

Note: Clinical placement is based upon the availability of clinical facilities. Students can be placed in any of the five boroughs and/or Long Island. Travel expenses are not provided.

## **XI. AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING GRADUATING STUDENTS**

At the graduation convocations, the HBSON recognizes the accomplishments of several graduating students. The Dean confers the Dean's Prize for Outstanding Student to the valedictorians of the BS programs, and to the Master's and DNP Program graduates with the highest GPAs. The faculty of the School of Nursing confers awards for excellence in clinical practice, school leadership, community leadership, professional leadership and service learning. Upon recommendation of the faculty, the

Alumni Association confers the Ann Dillon Award for Caring and the Alpha Phi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau (also upon the recommendation of the faculty) confers the Award for Creative or Scholarly Project.

The Policy & Student Affairs Committee will solicit nominations from students and faculty for the awards listed and described below. The faculty then selects the award recipients. The awards are conferred at the School of Nursing Spring Convocation with the exception of second-degree accelerated graduate awards, which are conferred in January.

AWARD	RECIPIENTS	CRITERIA
Dean's Prize for Outstanding Student in Each Program	One student graduating from each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN-BS program</li> <li>• Accelerated second degree program</li> <li>• Master's program (excluding certificate program)</li> <li>• DNP program</li> </ul>	Presented to the student in each program who is graduating with the highest cumulative grade point average.
Undergraduate Associate Dean's Award for Excellence	One student graduating from each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN-BS program</li> <li>• Accelerated second degree program</li> </ul>	Presented to the student who has excelled in classroom to clinical and lab application of knowledge.
Excellence in Clinical Practice	One student graduating from each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN to BS program</li> <li>• Each graduate specialization</li> <li>• DNP program</li> </ul>	Presented to an outstanding student who consistently demonstrates outstanding commitment to nursing practice. The nominee must possess a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA for undergraduate students and a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA for graduate students.
Excellence in School Leadership	One student graduating from each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN to BS program</li> <li>• Each graduate specialization</li> <li>• DNP program</li> </ul>	Presented to an outstanding student who consistently demonstrates excellence by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acting as liaison between administration, faculty, and students.</li> <li>2. Holding class offices, committee membership, engaging in fundraising activities, and problem resolution</li> <li>3. Participating in debate on social and ethical issues in the school and college.</li> <li>4. Contributes to the positive, social milieu of the School through participation in orientations and social activities.</li> </ol>
Excellence in Community Leadership	One student graduating from each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN to BS program</li> <li>• Each graduate specialization</li> <li>• DNP program</li> </ul>	Presented to an outstanding student who consistently demonstrates excellence by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Volunteering services to community-based groups and organizations:</li> <li>2. Serving as a community advocate.</li> <li>3. Participating in public advocacy.</li> </ol>

Excellence in Professional Leadership	<p>One student graduating from each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN to BS program</li> <li>• Each graduate specialization</li> <li>• DNP program</li> </ul>	<p>Presented to an outstanding student who consistently demonstrates excellence by</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participating and contributing to nursing and interdisciplinary professional groups and activities at the local, state, national and/or global levels.</li> <li>2. Disseminating ideas through publications and professional presentations.</li> </ol>
Service-Learning Leadership	<p>One award to a student graduating from any program.</p>	<p>Presented to a student for work within a community-campus partnership:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participates in reducing health, social, and/or economic challenges facing society.</li> <li>2. Builds capacity of communities and higher educational institutions to engage each other in authentic partnerships that balance and share power.</li> <li>3. Ensures that community-driven social justice is central to service-learning.</li> </ol>
Creative and Scholarly Project Award (Alpha Phi Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau)	<p>One student graduating from each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN to BS program</li> <li>• Each graduate specialization</li> <li>• DNP program</li> </ul>	<p>Presented to the student or group of students who has developed an outstanding creative or scholarly project significant to nursing or health care in its impact on the target population and its potential usefulness in a clinical setting. Awardees must be Sigma Theta Tau members.</p> <p>NOTE – Self-nominations are not accepted.</p>
HBSON Alumni Association Ann Dillon Award for Caring (Conferred by Alumni Association)	<p>One student graduating from each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN to BS program</li> <li>• Each graduate specialization</li> <li>• DNP program</li> </ul>	<p>Presented to the individual in each program who best demonstrates caring in the classroom, community, and clinical setting.</p>
Perseverance Award	<p>One student from each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generic undergraduate program</li> <li>• RN to BS program</li> <li>• Each graduate specialization</li> <li>• DNP program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successfully completing the enrolled Nursing Program through extraordinary effort and sheer determination while under extreme personal difficulties (e.g., Physical, financial, or family hardship)</li> <li>• Developing and demonstrating resilience while maintaining open communication and continued follow up to meet academic goals and objectives.</li> </ul>

## **XII. ACADEMIC POLICIES APPLICABLE TO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN THE HUNTER-BELLEVUE SCHOOL OF NURSING**

### **A. Academic Programs**

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing offers three programs leading to the Bachelor of Science degree. Admission requirements for each program are described in the [Hunter College undergraduate catalog](#) and

on the [HBSON website](#).

Students in all three programs must meet Hunter College's Core Requirements (HCR) in addition to completing required nursing courses. For a description of HCR requirements, refer to the current undergraduate catalog.

Elective offerings vary from semester to semester. Information on course offerings is distributed prior to registration for each semester. Selected graduate nursing elective courses are open to generic undergraduate students. Permission to enroll in graduate electives must be obtained from the Associate Dean of Graduate Programs (please note that graduate courses that are used to satisfy bachelor's degree requirements cannot also be counted for graduate credit).

Course titles and descriptions for HBSON undergraduate courses are listed in the Hunter College undergraduate catalog.

1. Generic undergraduate program – The generic program is a six-semester course of study that begins in the admitted student's sophomore year. Students must complete the following required nursing major courses: NURS 200, 210, 220, 240, 331, 332, 339, 343, 349, 352, 360, 380, 422, 455, 460, 470, 490, 492, and 2 credits of nursing electives.
2. Accelerated Second-degree undergraduate program – The accelerated second-degree program is a 16-month upper-division program designed for students who already possess a bachelor's degree in another field. Required nursing major courses are: NURS 200, 210, 220, 331, 339, 343, 352, 360, 380, 420, 455, 460, 470, 490, and 492.
3. RN to BS undergraduate program – The RN to BS undergraduate program is for students who possess an associate degree in nursing and who wish to obtain a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. Students complete NURS 200, 240, 334, 379, 380, 381, 423, 480, 482, and 491. All students in the program must possess and maintain an unencumbered New York State RN license and current registration. This is a requirement for continued matriculation. RN to BS students must obtain a license to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse by the completion of the first semester. A student who is seeking re-admission whose license has previously been encumbered or suspended must submit a full application for admission to be reviewed by the faculty and be accepted before being permitted to register for nursing courses.

## **B. BS Academic Program Outcomes**

1. Synthesize knowledge from nursing and the arts and sciences to provide a theoretical framework for a humanistic, caring, and comprehensive approach to promotion of wellness, prevention of illness, and holistic management of health problems across the life span.
2. Use the nursing process as a guide in providing the range of health promotion, maintenance, and restoration activities needed to assist clients in achieving optimal wellness.
3. Use appropriate teaching strategies in educating clients for knowing participation in their own health and wellness.
4. Students will demonstrate computer and information literacy, beginning proficiency in the use

of electronic health records.

5. Use nursing research as a basis for improving nursing care and advocating for changes in health policy.
6. Participate in inter-disciplinary activities to plan, implement, and evaluate health care for all client systems.
7. Demonstrate personal and professional accountability in providing global health care to people from diverse backgrounds.
8. Evaluate management and leadership processes with individuals, families, groups, and communities in a comprehensive approach to health promotion and holistic management of health problems (across the life span).
9. Demonstrate activism and advocacy in health care and health care policy on behalf of human and environmental health.
10. Continually demonstrate commitment to personal growth and lifelong learning through the active pursuit of knowledge and diverse life experiences.

### **C. Satisfactory Performance and Progression**

Satisfactory performance in the undergraduate nursing major requires that each student earn a grade of “C” (2.0) or above in all required nursing courses and maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0. This requirement is inclusive of the required science courses within the nursing program of study.

A student who receives less than a “C” (2.0) in a required nursing or science course must repeat that course before progressing to the next required course. However, a student may repeat only one course and may repeat that course only one time. Any student who earns more than one course grade below a “C” (2.0) will not be permitted to continue in the nursing major.

Note that the use of E-permit for any sciences is not permitted in the School of Nursing.

### **D. Review of Examination Results**

A student who scores below 70% on an examination must meet with the course instructor to review the questions the student answered incorrectly. This should be done within one week after the examination grades have been posted in order for the student to understand the correct answers, and also to help the student better prepare for the next examination. The course instructor should be available for any student, no matter the grade, who wishes to review an examination.

### **E. Absence from and Late Arrival to Clinical and Laboratory Sessions**

**Absence:** Students must attend all scheduled clinical and laboratory assignments. In the event of a clinical absence due to an emergency or personal illness, the student must notify the instructor as soon as possible and must submit a written explanation. The instructor may also request that the student submit appropriate documentation.

**Late arrival** to clinical and laboratory sessions is not permitted. In the event that a student arrives late, the instructor may—at his/ her discretion—send the student home. If this occurs, the student may be

considered absent from that day's clinical or laboratory session.

#### **F. Academic Honors**

Hunter College policies regarding the Dean's List, Graduation with General College Honors and Graduation with Departmental Honors are contained in the [undergraduate catalog](#) section on academic honors.

#### **G. Undergraduate Student 'Pause' in Enrollment and Progression**

Leaves of absence are not granted for undergraduate students. Circumstances such as illness, pregnancy, military service, and other extenuating conditions may delay a student's progression in the program. In such cases, a student should submit a letter explaining the circumstances to the Dean and request a 'pause' in their progression in the program. The Dean may grant a readmission after a 'pause' of up to one year. The student must provide documentation of fitness to complete the nursing program as appropriate, and file for readmission.

#### **Course Withdrawal**

**\*\*Undergraduate Nursing Program students who wish to withdraw from a nursing course, in accordance with the HSBON deadlines, may do so with the understanding that nursing course withdrawal signifies withdrawal from the nursing program with limited exception. Please refer to section XII, letter G for details regarding a "pause" in Undergraduate education.**

### **XIII. ACADEMIC POLICIES APPLICABLE TO GRADUATE STUDENTS IN THE HUNTER-BELLEVUE SCHOOL OF NURSING**

#### **A. Programs of Study**

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing offers graduate programs leading to the Master of Science, post-graduate certificate, and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP). Admissions criteria for each program are listed in the Hunter College graduate catalog. Information describing each program, admission requirements and curricula are available on the [HBSON website](#).

Graduates of the AGPCNP and AGNP-DNP programs meet the educational requirements for specialty certification by the American Nurses Credentialing Center or The American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. Graduates of the PMHNP, PMHNP-DNP, and Post Graduate Certificate PMHNP programs meet the educational requirements for specialty certification by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Graduates of the Adult-Gerontology CNS program meet the educational requirements for specialty certification by the American Nurses Credentialing Center or The American Association of Critical Care Nurses. Graduates of the nurse practitioner and CNS programs are eligible for APRN licensure by the [New York State Education Department](#).

Course titles, descriptions, and prerequisites for HBSON graduate courses are listed in the Hunter College [Graduate Catalog](#).

## 1. Master's Degree Programs

- a) Program specializations in Adult/Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, Community/Public Health, and Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist require completion of an approved plan of study with a minimum of 42 credits. The Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specialty requires completion of 48 credits. The dual-degree MS in Nursing Administration/Urban Policy & Leadership requires completion of 52 credits.
- b) All Master's students complete four core courses: NURS 700, 702, 704, and 749.
- c) Advanced practice core and specialization courses are:
  - Adult/Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner**: NURS 717, 750, 751, 755, 757, 768, and three elective credits.
  - Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist**: NURS 717, 750, 751, 761, 766, 767, and six elective credits.
  - Community/Public Health Nursing**: (Public Health - PH) PH 750, PH 752, PH 754, NURS 771, 772, 773, and six elective credits.
  - Nursing Administration/Urban Policy & Leadership** (dual-degree with the Department of Urban Policy & Planning – School of Arts & Sciences): URBG 701, 790, 792, 706, one of 709, 710, 713, 702 or 758, NURS 740, 745, three elective credits in Nursing and six elective credits in Urban Policy & Leadership.
  - Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner**: NURS 717, 719, 737, 746, 747, 748, 750, 751, 777, 778, 779, 781, 782, 783, and 784.

## 2. Post-Graduate Certificate Program

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing offers a post-graduate certificate program in Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner for students who already possess a master's degree in Nursing. Students in this program complete NURS 717\*, 719, 737, 746, 747, 750\*, 751\*, 777, 778, 779, 781, 782, 783, and 784 (Courses marked with \* may be waived).

### Master's Academic Program Outcomes

- 1) Synthesize knowledge from nursing and the arts and sciences to provide a theoretical framework for advanced practice.
- 2) Generate a philosophy and definition of advanced practice that emphasizes the right to the full range of health services for all members of society, affirms the worth and dignity of every human being, and demonstrates a humanistic caring approach that values diversity.
- 3) Collaborate with clients in managing their health-illness status through the advanced practice-nursing role.
- 4) Foster client participation and shared decision-making in health care and health care policy to maximize health and wellness for humans and the environment.
- 5) Evaluate specialized knowledge and skills needed to deliver care to clients and design programs to meet the health care needs of specific groups and communities.

- 6) Identify appropriate nursing science phenomena for nursing research to enhance practice.
- 7) Describe the nature of scientific inquiry in nursing as the basis for nursing practice.
- 8) Demonstrate activism, advocacy, and leadership in the health care environment and in the nursing profession.
- 9) Identify a nursing practice issue needing change and/or problem solving and use techniques for research utilization to translate and systematically use research findings and other credible information and data sources to facilitate evidence-based nursing practice.
- 10) Use the research process to systematically investigate ways to enhance nursing practice, improve delivery of health care services, and recommend innovative health policy initiatives.

### 3. Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing offers programs in three specializations leading to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree, each requiring completion of 90 credits and 1000 clinical hours. [Descriptions](#) are available at the HBSON website. The School currently offers Adult/Gerontology NP-DNP, Psychiatric-Mental Health NP-DNP, and the FNP-DNP for board-certified, master's-prepared FNPs.

Graduates of these programs meet the educational requirements for specialty certification by the [American Nurses Credentialing Center](#) and/or other nursing certification bodies.

Graduates of the programs are eligible to be licensed as NPs by the [New York State Education Department](#). Students who have already earned a master's degree in nursing and are board certified as Primary Care Gerontological/Adult NP, a PMHNP or an FNP may be granted advanced standing in the DNP Program. Advanced standing, as granted by the program coordinator, allows for up to 42 credits and 500 clinical hours to be waived based on previous education.

- a) Core courses. All DNP students complete the following core courses: NURS 700, 702, 704, 716, 717, 749, 750, 751, 780, 800, 801, 802, 810, 850 and Public Health (PH) 750 and 752.
- b) Advanced practice core and clinical courses:
  - Students in the Adult/Gerontology Nurse Practitioner specialization take NURS 755, 757, and 768.
  - Students in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner specialization take NURS 719, 737, 746, 747, 748, 777, 778, 779, 781, 782, 783, and 784.
  - Students in the Family Nurse Practitioner specialization: clinical courses are not currently offered. (Admission to the FNP-DNP track is open only to those with a master's in FNP and board certification.)
- c) Capstone and elective. All DNP students take four DNP Capstone courses (NURS 90001, 90002, 90003, and 90004) and nine credits of electives.

### DNP Academic Program Outcomes

- 1) Demonstrate advanced levels of clinical practice, judgment, and scholarship in nursing based on scientific knowledge underpinning practice;

- 2) Implement analytical methodologies for the evaluation and formulation of health care policies and practices for the clinical situations, practice environment, and the health care delivery system;
- 3) Evaluate and translate research to support evidence-based practice to improve health care of medically, socially, culturally diverse underserved populations;
- 4) Analyze the scientific, social, ethical, moral, economic, political, legal and policy components of health care systems which impact health care planning, access, and delivery;
- 5) Access, utilize, manage, and safeguard state-of-the-science information technology and health care informatics systems for care delivery, systems operations, and quality improvement;
- 6) Collaborate effectively in interdisciplinary teams in the delivery, evaluation, and quality improvement of health care, health promotion, practice models and health policy for individuals, families, and populations;
- 7) Integrate the application of scientific evidence, professional values, ethical, and moral decision-making in advanced nursing practice and health care delivery;
- 8) Assume leadership roles in the development of excellence in clinical care and health care delivery systems through advanced nursing roles in various settings.

#### **B. Advisement and Registration**

It is important that all graduate students confer with their advisors about course selection and program progression prior to registering for courses. This is to ensure that students are taking courses in proper sequence and that they are aware of planning and scheduling of clinical courses.

#### **C. Graduate Transfer of Credit**

Students may apply to transfer up to 12 credits of prior graduate coursework completed within the previous five years, and for which a grade of “B” or better was earned. Courses used as part of a previously completed bachelor's degree may not be transferred. The Program Coordinator will determine whether specific prior graduate courses are equivalent to any required or elective HBSON courses. Conditions and procedures for transferring graduate credit, along with a Graduate Transfer of Credit Approval Form, may be found under [Transfer of Credit](#) on the Graduate Admissions website.

#### **D. Course Waivers – Master’s Students**

In some instances, a master’s student may have previously completed graduate-level coursework as part of their undergraduate program. Course credits that were included as part of an undergraduate degree cannot also be included as part of a student’s graduate degree. However, if the course is determined by the Associate Dean to be equivalent to a required Hunter course, the course may be waived. This means that the student will not be required to take the course but will need to take additional elective credits to complete the required number of credits for their program. A [Course Waiver Request Form](#) is available on the HBSON website.

#### **E. Admission into a Different Specialization**

A currently enrolled master’s student who wishes to be admitted into a different master’s specialization must first meet with the specialization coordinator into which he or she wishes to be admitted. The

student must submit a new application for admission by the application deadline announced by the College. All applicants, including current students, are considered on the same basis; current enrollment does not guarantee admission into another specialty. A student who applies for admission into another specialization and is not admitted does not lose her or his seat in the student's current specialization.

#### **F. Satisfactory Performance, Progression, Academic Probation, Dismissal, and Appeal**

1. **Minimum GPA.** All students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0. A student whose cumulative GPA falls below this standard is required to raise it to at least 3.0 within one semester.
2. **Academic probation and dismissal.** A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 is placed on academic probation for the following semester and must raise his or her cumulative GPA to at least 3.0 by the end of that semester. Students who fail to do so will be academically dismissed.
3. **Appeal of academic dismissal.** A graduate student who faces dismissal after a semester of academic probation may submit an appeal to the Dean (Hunter College policy regarding appeal of academic dismissal, "Appeals Procedure for Students on Probation," may be found in the [Hunter College Graduate Catalog](#)). The appeal should explain the student's plan for successfully raising his or her GPA to at least 3.0 by the end of the semester. The Dean will convene a faculty committee to consider the student's appeal. The committee may invite the student to meet with it before deciding on the appeal. The decision of the committee is final. If the appeal is successful, the Dean shall send official notification to the Registrar that the student will be retained on probation and allowed to register.

The student's appeal must be submitted in writing to the Dean prior to the first day of the new semester. However, students are strongly encouraged to file appeals as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to register if the appeal is successful.

4. **Minimum Passing Grade.** The minimum passing grade for all courses is a "C". As explained above, however, a student must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average to remain in good academic standing.

#### **G. Performance and Progression in Clinical Specialization Courses**

1. **Performance in clinical courses:** In order to pass a clinical specialization course, the student must pass the clinical component of that course. Student clinical performance is evaluated based on achieving identified clinical objectives, including demonstration of professional conduct.
  - a) **Professional misconduct.** Professional misconduct is grounds for failing a clinical specialization course. Such conduct shall include, but not be limited to:
    - falsifying documents
    - unauthorized access of clinical information
    - unauthorized ordering, administering, or prescribing of medications
    - unauthorized use of the placement site's electronic resources for personal business
    - sleeping while in the clinical placement site
    - presenting to clinical setting while chemically impaired

- use of abusive or inappropriate language in the placement site
- excessive unauthorized lateness or absenteeism
- other conduct described by Rule 29 of the NYS Board of Regents, “Unprofessional conduct.”

As registered professional nurses, graduate students should also be aware that professional misconduct may also be reported to the Office of Professional Discipline of the New York State Education Department.

2. **Withdrawing from Clinical Specialization Courses.** Graduate Nursing students who choose to withdraw from a course in accordance with Hunter College deadlines may do so. However, a student withdrawing from a clinical specialization course may re-register for the course only once in the graduate nursing program. A second course withdrawal from a clinical specialization course will result in dismissal from the program. Please note this includes withdrawing from the course mid-semester due to taking a leave of absence. Students are permitted one opportunity to repeat a graduate clinical specialization course from which they withdrew.
3. **Failing a Clinical Specialization Course.** A student who fails a clinical specialization course may not repeat that course and may not continue in the program.
4. **Repeating Courses other than Clinical Specialization Courses.** A student who receives a failing grade in a required course other than a clinical specialization course must repeat that course. However, a student may repeat only one course and may repeat that course only one time. Any student who earns a failing grade more than once will not be permitted to continue in the program.

## H. Maintaining RN License in Good Standing

1. All students in the master’s, post-graduate certificate, and Doctor of Nursing Practice programs must possess and maintain an unencumbered New York State RN license and current registration. This is a requirement for admission and for continued matriculation.
2. A student who is seeking readmission whose license has previously been encumbered or suspended must submit a full application for admission to be reviewed by the faculty and be accepted before being permitted to register for nursing courses.
3. Students must promptly inform the Associate Dean for Graduate Programs of any change in licensure status.

## I. Professional Attire

Graduate students are expected to dress professionally. Guidelines for appropriate attire in the clinical area are included in [Section IX, Professional Attire and Appearance in the Clinical Setting](#) of this handbook.

## J. Leaves of Absence

A graduate student who wishes to take a leave of absence for a specific period should apply for approval to his or her graduate advisor after completing a [Graduate Leave of Absence Request](#). Leaves are approved only for documented disabling illness, maternity, military service, or other unusual circumstances. Leaves may be approved up to a maximum of any two semesters. The student should

prepare a brief letter or memo to the Dean explaining the reason for the leave. Prior to returning after an approved leave of absence, a student must file an [application for graduate readmission](#) with Graduate Admissions by the deadline posted.

## **K. Graduation**

All master's students must complete their program in five years. DNP students are expected to complete the program in a maximum of 7 years. Exceptions may be requested by completing an Application for Graduate Time Extension (Note that an approved leave of absence “stops the clock” on the five-year graduation requirement).

# **XIV. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

## **A. Health Professions Education Center (HPEC)**

The Health Professions Education Center (HPEC) supports student learning and faculty teaching by providing state-of-the-art instructional media and technologies, highly specialized computer learning modules, and NCLEX-RN/APRN certification support to enhance the curriculum of the HBSON.

The HPEC combines traditional approaches to teaching with new instructional technologies that reflect the dynamic nature of all health professions. Detailed information about the Center and its services can be found at <https://edcenter0.wixsite.com/website>.

## **B. Student Organizations**

### **1. Undergraduate Students**

There are two undergraduate nursing student organizations, each represented respectively by student-elected officials as follows: Executive President, Executive Vice President, Executive Treasurer, Executive Secretary, Community Health Director, Director of Professional Development, Communication Director, Director of Student Advocacy, and Director of Accelerated Student Advocacy.

***National Student Nurses Association (NSNA)***: With over 60,000 members nationwide, the NSNA mentors future registered nurses and facilitates their entrance into the profession by providing educational resources, leadership opportunities, and career guidance. All HBSON undergraduate students are required to be members of the NSNA. The Hunter Chapter of the NSNA hosts school and community events to foster collegiality among students and raise awareness of healthcare issues.

***Nursing Students' Press (NSP)***. The NSP publishes a newsletter each semester as well as the undergraduate student yearbook.

### **2. Graduate Students**

The HBSON Graduate Student Organization (GSO) is dedicated to enhancing graduate nursing students' experience at Hunter. There are no membership dues; all matriculated HBSON graduate students are members and are encouraged to participate in GSO events, activities, and service opportunities.

### C. Sigma Theta Tau International

Founded in 1922, the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, seeks to create a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world's people. The [Alpha Phi Chapter of STTI](#), based at HBSON, was established in 1970. New members are inducted annually. Information on eligibility and the application process is distributed to students each fall. Please consult the [chapter's web page](#) for further information.

### D. Contact Information

#### 1. Brookdale Campus:

- Public Safety—EMERGENCY: **212-772-4444** (or 1-4444 from a campus phone)
- Public Safety—Non-emergency: 212-772-4521
- Health Professions Library: 212-481-5117
- Health Professions Education Center: <https://edcenter0.wixsite.com/website>

#### 2. Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing:

- HBSON website: <https://www.hunter.cuny.edu/nursing>
- Undergraduate Program Office: 212-396-7204; [ugprogramoffice@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:ugprogramoffice@hunter.cuny.edu)
- Graduate Program Office: 212-481-4465
- Office of the Dean: 212-396-7151
- Nursing Skills Lab: 212-481-5162

#### 3. City University of New York:

- CUNY website: <https://www.cuny.edu>
- CUNY-wide IT services: <https://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/cis/technology-services/>
- CUNYfirst: <https://cunyfirst.cuny.edu/>

#### 4. Hunter College:

- Directory of Student Resources: <https://hunter.cuny.edu/students/>
- Learning Centers and Tutoring: <https://hunter.cuny.edu/students/academic-planning/learning-centers-and-tutoring/>
- Bursar's Office: <https://hunter.cuny.edu/students/tuition-and-payment/>
- Hunter College Libraries: <https://library.hunter.cuny.edu/>
- International Students Office: <https://www.hunter.cuny.edu/student-services/is>
- Office of AccessABILITY: <https://hunter.cuny.edu/students/health-wellness/accessibility/>
- Office of Financial Aid: <https://hunter.cuny.edu/students/financial-aid/>
- Office of Student Services: <https://hunter.cuny.edu/students/student-affairs/student-services/>
- Course Catalogs: [Undergraduate](#) and [Graduate](#)