SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS

Introduction

Welcome to the graduate program at the College of Nursing. For over one hundred years, the University of Iowa has held a leadership position in nursing education, producing the expert clinicians, educators, executives, and scientists who have shaped the nursing profession throughout the nation as well as the State of Iowa. Deans, faculty and staff are pleased that you have chosen to continue your education at Iowa and are eager to help facilitate your time with us as a student.

This handbook is designed to acquaint students with various aspects of the graduate program in nursing at The University of Iowa. It provides a statement of general and specific policies, procedures, and standards related to graduate education in the College of Nursing. Students should be aware that they also are subject to the policies and standards established by the Graduate College which is set forth in the Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College. Students can obtain an electronic version of Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College at:
http://www.grad.uiowa.edu/graduate-college-manual

Insofar as is reasonably possible, Graduate College regulations are not repeated in this handbook.

Content in this handbook is meant to serve as guidelines for graduate students. From time to time policies or requirements will change during the academic year. Please consult with the Office of Student Services for changes.

All Graduate Students are responsible for knowing the policies and procedures in this Handbook

Nondiscrimination Statement

The University of Iowa prohibits discrimination in employment, educational programs, and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or associational preference. The University also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to University facilities. For additional information contact the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, (319) 335-0705.

College of Nursing Philosophy Statement

We, as a community of nurse scholars, believe research, education, and service are the foundation for professional nursing practice. Professional nursing recognizes and addresses the health care needs of a global society, communities and their members. Professional nursing education encompasses a humanistic orientation and a dedication to basic ethical principles. Professional nursing practice is operationalized through diagnosis, intervention and outcome evaluation and the establishment of collaborative relationships with the goal of promoting the health of individuals, families, communities, and populations.
We, as a community of nurse scholars, believe that an expert faculty with varied areas of expertise is required to carry out the educational mission of the college. The faculty is committed to designing and implementing curricula in which students develop critical thinking, decision-making skills, clinical judgment, cultural sensitivity, and professional nursing values in an increasingly complex health care system. Professional nursing practice requires the application of knowledge from nursing science as well as the humanities, and the basic and social sciences.

We, as a community of nurse scholars, believe that communities are enriched by the diversity of human experiences. Our community is built on a foundation of mutual respect in which ideas are shared with civility, differences are celebrated, and actions are guided by decency. We continually strive to admit and educate a diverse student body – as well as to engage a diverse faculty believing that an atmosphere that embraces diversity enhances the educational experience and provides a richer understanding of our world.

We, as a community of nurse scholars, are committed to preparing our graduates to function in leadership roles and to address the political, social, ethical, economic, and policy issues that affect the design and delivery of health care in the state, the nation, and the world. In addition, we believe faculty members work in partnership with students to facilitate achievement of each student’s educational goals. The faculty is accountable to the students served and is responsible for creating an environment that promotes free inquiry and sensitivity to diversity in ideas. Students have a responsibility to be actively involved in the education process; to identify their learning goals, needs, and styles; to become knowledgeable and skilled; to question and propose new ideas; and to use peer, faculty, college and university resources to further their own learning. We believe that learning is a continuous process. Our formal and continuing education programs encourage self-directed learning for life-long professional development, enabling the assimilation of new knowledge and new technologies to create and maintain required skills, and promote understanding of the changing environments in which professional nursing is practiced.

We, as a community of nurse scholars, are committed to the development of nursing as an academic discipline through scholarly activities that advance the science of nursing. In our commitment to the science of nursing, we acknowledge the reciprocal relationships between practice, theory and research in knowledge development; value both naturalistic and controlled approaches to inquiry; support both basic and clinical research; encourage interdisciplinary and collaborative research efforts; and promote the translation and dissemination of research findings into practice. As a college within a public university, we are committed to faculty involvement in a wide range of service activities. Faculty members serve as role models for nursing practice, community service, collaborative practice, and health policy development. As members of the university community, faculty contribute to the operations and vitality of the college, the university and the profession.

I. College of Nursing Overview

A. College of Nursing Administrative Organization

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dean</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rita A. Frantz, PhD, RN, FAAN</td>
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<td>335-7009</td>
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<td><strong>Executive Associate Dean</strong></td>
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<td>Thad Wilson, PhD, RN, FAAN</td>
<td>101B</td>
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<td><strong>Associate Dean of Faculty Services</strong></td>
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<td>Keela Herr, PhD, RN, FAAN</td>
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<td>335-7080</td>
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<td><strong>Associate Dean Research and Scholarship</strong></td>
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<td>Ann Marie McCarthy, PhD, RN, FAAN</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Assistant Dean for Undergraduate and Prelicensure Programs</strong></td>
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<td>Ellen Cram, PhD, RN</td>
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### B. Mission and Goals

**Mission**

The mission of the College of Nursing is to prepare nurse leaders and to be a forerunner in the discovery, dissemination and application of nursing knowledge. As a state supported higher degree program in nursing, the college is committed to preparing nurse clinicians, scholars, and educators to meet the health needs of the people of Iowa. As part of a research intensive university, the College of Nursing supports its research mission through national and international leadership in innovative educational and practice programs and the generation of new knowledge.

**Mission Statement: Graduate Program**

Deans and staff of the Office of Student Services strive to assist students in the completion of their educational programs with advising and counseling. In this endeavor we actively undertake to assist and provide resources to faculty and students. Further, it is our goal to furnish the most current and accurate data to administration in the College of Nursing and The University.

### C. Standards of Excellence

Graduate students are an integral part of the College of Nursing and are instrumental in helping the College fulfill its mission and reach its goals. Each graduate student is expected to conform to reasonable standards of academic and professional conduct in all activities related to the teaching, research, and service functions of the department and University. Relevant standards include Section III-15 of the University Operations Manual, “Professional Ethics and Academic Responsibility.” We expect that students will represent themselves in a professional manner both within and outside of the College.

Students in graduate study are invited and encouraged to participate in enrichment activities at the College. Throughout the academic year, programs, national speakers and other events occur that contribute to professional development. A number of events of interest also occur outside of the College. Notification of these events is sent via AGNSnet.

All such activities, while a noted aspect of graduate training, are to be distinguished from all work for academic credit, i.e., regular course work, seminars, practice, research projects, thesis and dissertation research.

### II. Graduate College

**A. Overview**

Students admitted to the graduate programs in the College of Nursing have been admitted to the Graduate College as well, therefore, graduate students have accountability to the Graduate College as well as the College of Nursing. The Graduate College is located in Gilmore Hall on The University of Iowa campus.
B. Graduate College Policies

Manual of Rules and Regulation of the Graduate College

Graduate students are responsible for the Rules and Regulations established by the Graduate College as well as the protocols, policies, and rules of the College of Nursing. Information about the Graduate College Rules and Regulations is available in the Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College. Policies concerning academic standing, probation and dismissal are established by the Graduate College and are in the Manual. This manual is available online on the Graduate College website: http://www.grad.uiowa.edu/graduate-college-manual

Two of the most common policies affecting graduate students are as follows:

1. Academic Registration  Requirements for MSN, DNP and PhD students

MSN: Of the semester hours required for the MSN degree, at least 24 semester hours must be completed under the auspices of the University of Iowa after admission to the Graduate College. There is no on-campus requirement at the College of Nursing.

DNP: The PhD Registration Requirement will apply to BSN-DNP students. Post-APRN-DNP student’s plan of study requires the first three semesters be at minimum 6 credits, 8 credits and 3 credits. Post-Health Systems-DNP (both those with a MSN in administration and those with a MSN in a focus area other than administration) student’s plan of study requires the final three semesters be at minimum 4 credits, 6 credits, 6 credits or 3 credits, 6 credits, 6 credits.

All doctoral programs will contain a minimum of 72 semester hours of graduate work. Of those 72 semester hours, at least 39 must be earned while registered in The University of Iowa Graduate College. After completing 21 semester hours of graduate work under Graduate College registration and in compliance with the Graduate College policy for time limits on academic credit, i.e., courses ten years or older may not be counted toward the degree, students must complete an additional 18 semester hours to be taken as follows: (1) enrollment as a full-time student (9 semester hours minimum) in each of two semesters, or (2) enrollment for a minimum of 6 semester hours in each of three semesters.

2. Approval of transfer credits

Credit for courses taken outside the University of Iowa prior to admission to the graduate program, and/or during the course of the graduate program must be approved by the College of Nursing, the Dean of the Graduate College and the Office of Admissions.

III. Financial Assistance

Various sources for student support are available. Funds which are under the direct control of the College come from the College of Nursing, the Graduate College, and federally-supported training grants. Other student support may be available from project grants awarded to College of Nursing faculty members, from local agencies or other divisions of the university.

A. For all College of Nursing Graduate Students:

1. Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP):

The NFLP is a loan cancellation program. Depending on funds availability, this means that up to 85% of an NFLP loan can be canceled if, after graduation, the individual teaches full time in a school of nursing (20-25% is canceled for each year of teaching for up to 4 years).
To be eligible to apply for a NFLP loan you need to be a US citizen, full- or part-time student in good standing who plans to teach in a school of nursing. All graduate students who are contemplating a teaching career should apply.

2. Scholarships and Loans

Scholarships are available through the College of Nursing. Nominations and applications are screened through the Scholarship Committee. A detailed listing of available scholarships is located at the following web site http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/alumni-friends/scholarships. Please read through the list very carefully as there are many scholarships/fellowships/loans applicable to graduate students. Some are very specialized; such as, dissertation funding. Also, please check this site each semester as new scholarships/fellowships may become available. The applicable College of Nursing Student Services ICON site is another location for an accurate, up-date-listing of financial aid opportunities as well as the application form.

Fellowships and funding opportunities are available from the University of Iowa Graduate College. Please see the following web site for the current listing of Graduate College funding opportunities http://www.uiowa.edu/admissions/graduate/financial_assistance.html

Low interest loans are available to graduate and undergraduate students through the Office of Financial Aid. Small loans also are available through the College of Nursing.

Please see http://www.grad.uiowa.edu/financing-your-education for other University of Iowa Graduate College financial support.

3. Research Assistantships

Research Assistantships are available for PhD Students. Please see Section IV: Information Specifically for PhD Students.

IV. Graduate Student Policies and Responsibilities

A. Technology and Information Management Literacy Competency

Graduate students at The University of Iowa College of Nursing are expected to meet or exceed the following technology and information literacy competencies.

Technology and information literacy encompasses information, communication, and technology skills necessary to learn and function in a technological healthcare environment.
1. Literacy Goals:

- Computer literacy – To work more efficiently through the use of computer systems and representative application programs.

- Communications – To have efficient and timely access to nursing and healthcare information resources, interdisciplinary healthcare professionals, and patients.

- Information management – To effectively search, retrieve, organize and manage health information using computing and communication technologies.

- Patient-care Practice – To effectively and efficiently function in healthcare and nursing environments using the computer based patient record and electronic decision support resources.

- Computer based learning- To effectively use and evaluate computer-based learning and applications.

B. Statistics Course Required Prerequisite

An upper-level statistics course needs to be completed within five (5) years of the application deadline. Acceptable University of Iowa courses are as follows: STAT:3510, PSQF:4143, or BIOS:5110. Equivalent courses from other colleges will be accepted as well. Please use the Transfer Courses section of ISIS to find equivalents [https://isis.uiowa.edu/isis2/courses/search.page](https://isis.uiowa.edu/isis2/courses/search.page) A student must earn at least a C- in the course. It may not be taken on a Pass/Fail basis. Semester hour credit earned for the statistics course does not count toward the graduate degree objective.

C. Guidelines for Graduate Transfer Courses

PhD students: Also see the section specific to PhD students for transfer criteria and documentation. Graduate students should have all transfer courses approved by the Graduate Programs Office in consultation with the Executive Associate Dean prior to enrolling in transfer coursework. Course descriptions or syllabi may be submitted for review. (Please note that the syllabus should include: the name of the college or university, the name and number of the course, the name of the textbook which accompanies the course, a topical outline of the course content, objectives, and credit hours, any prerequisite courses, and the name of the instructor.) Transfer courses to be used for support credit should relate to the student's area of Nursing Specialization. Transfer courses to be used for specific nursing course requirements must be approved by the faculty member teaching that course.

Credit for courses taken outside the University of Iowa prior to admission to the graduate program, and/or during the course of the graduate program must also be approved by the University of Iowa Graduate Admission Office. Approval will be entered on the student’s permanent transcript and sent to the College of Nursing Office of Student Services.

The following guidelines apply to graduate transfer courses:

1. The course must be graduate-level according to the issuing institution's course-numbering system, and the institution must be accredited. The University will not accept transfer credits from a non-accredited institution.

2. The student must enroll as a graduate student and pay graduate tuition.
3. Upon completion of the course, the course number, name, credits, and grade must appear on an official graduate transcript from the issuing institution.

4. A course taken for undergraduate credit may not be applied to a graduate degree. Courses from 2-year and 4-year schools without graduate offerings may not be applied to a graduate degree.

5. Courses that are offered for undergraduate credit only (e.g. courses numbered 0000-2999 at the UIOWA) may not be counted as graduate credit.

6. Students must meet the Academic Registration Requirement for graduation from the Graduate College at The University of Iowa. Non-resident credit would include credit earned for transfer courses, correspondence courses, and credit earned under special student status.

D. Coursework Over 10 Years Old

No coursework over 10 years old may be counted towards the Master's degree. Doctoral students can request courses over 10 years old to be counted toward their final semester hours. The letter will be prepared by the Graduate Programs Office and submitted to the Dean of the Graduate College for approval.

E. Nursing Licensure

All graduate students in the College of Nursing must hold a current and valid nursing license and must provide proof of this license. Students admitted Fall 2011 or later will upload their license into the Certified Background system. Students admitted prior to Fall 2011 will need to submit a copy of their license to the Office of Student Services 37CNB.

A student will not be admitted to our program or permitted to engage in a clinical course if the student:
   a. Has been denied licensure by the board, and/or
   b. Whose license is currently suspended, surrendered or revoked in any United States jurisdiction, and/or
   c. Whose license/registration is currently suspended, surrendered or revoked in another country due to disciplinary action

1. International students:

   Special licensure for those licensed in another country may be granted by the Iowa Board of Nursing on an individual basis. The intent of the special license is to allow nurses licensed in another country that are not eligible for endorsement to practice in Iowa to provide care in a specialty area, to provide consultation or teaching where care is directed, to obtain clinically based continuing education, or to be a student in a graduate nursing education program.

   To obtain this special license students must satisfy the below requirements:
   a. Official verification of certificate-holder status submitted by the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS). Certification is required if the applicant has not been licensed as an RN in the United States following graduation from a nursing program and successful completion of a U.S. national licensure
examination. For information about the CGFNS Certificate Program, please contact:

Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools
ATTN: Certification Program (CP)
3600 Market Street, Suite 400
Philadelphia, PA 19104-2651 U.S.A.

Customer Service:
Telephone: 215.349.8767
Fax: 215.349.0026
E-mail: mailto:support@cgfns.org

CGFNS web site: http://www.cgfns.org/

Applicants should request that CGFNS submit verification of certificate status directly to the Iowa Board of Nursing.

b. Nursing Education Form: Certification Program submitted by CGFNS. Applicants should request that this form be submitted directly to the Iowa Board of Nursing.

Upon obtaining the Special Licensure from the Iowa Board of Nursing, student should provide a copy of this to the Graduate Program Office.

F. Insurance

All students, with the exception of those listed below, in the College of Nursing must show annual verification that they have obtained and currently hold professional liability insurance with coverage of at least $1,000,000 single occurrence limit, 3,000,000 aggregate. Students admitted Fall 2011 or later will upload their license into the Certified Background system. Students admitted prior to Fall 2011 will need to submit a copy of their license to the Clinical Coordinator in the Office of Student Services 37CNB. This requirement serves both as an act of professionalism and to protect students' personal assets. Professional liability insurance covers error, negligence, or omission that may occur during the practice of nursing. It pays for court costs and legal fees whether or not individuals are liable for the charges made against them.

Exception: Post-MSN-DNP and PhD students. Upon further council with the University of Iowa Legal Services and Risk Management, we have determined that personal professional liability insurance can be waived IF, as a student, you have NO clinical engagement. Please note that clinical engagement could include your capstone project. Please consult with your advisor prior to beginning any work on your project.

G. Mandatory Health Insurance

All students in the College of Nursing must show annual verification of valid health insurance coverage providing a $250,000 lifetime benefit and covering immunizations, hospitalization, surgery, maternity, emergency illness or injury and well-baby care (to age 7). The policy must be equivalent to the policy offered to students by the University of Iowa Student Insurance Office. Proof of insurance must be provided to the University of Iowa Benefits Office to avoid being charged for student insurance.

H. Health and Clinical Requirements

The University of Iowa requires all health science students to provide documentation of the following immunizations. In addition, College of Nursing students participate in many clinical experiences and must comply with the standards agreed upon by our clinical partners. Students are expected to provide documented proof of the following health requirements upon acceptance
into the College. Documented proof must be sent to Student Health as well as the College of Nursing. College of Nursing contracts with CertifiedBackground.com, a service that allows students to order their own background checks online and to store all requirement documentation. **Failure to have current information in the tracker system will result in blocking or voiding your registration.**

Criminal Background Check and Abuse Registry Checks
Ordered by student upon acceptance into the program

**MMR**
Proof of 2 vaccination dates or 3 positive titers showing immunity of each of the following: measles, mumps and rubella.

**Varicella**
Varicella vaccination series OR titer showing positive immunity OR document history of disease.

**Td/Tdap (tetanus/diphtheria)**
Td or Tdap booster within the past 10 years.

**Hepatitis B Titer**
3 vaccination dates AND A POSITIVE ANTIBODY TITER. The titer is not traditionally a part of your series.

**TB Skin Test or Chest X-Ray or IGRA Gold Blood Test**
Documentation of 1-step PPD testing within past year. Results must include date administered, date read, results. If results are positive, student must submit a clear chest X-ray and maintain annual symptom assessments. Skin test and/or assessment must be provided annually.

**CPR Certification**
(Note: Post-MSN-DNP and PhD students are exempt from this requirement)
Current certification in American Heart Association (Healthcare Provider) or Red Cross Professional Rescuer training including one and two person adult and child. Must be current.

**RN License**
Current RN License, including expiration date

**Nurse Practitioner Certification**
Certain DNP programs require proof of NP certification.

**Liability/Malpractice Insurance**—not required for Post-MSN-DNP and PhD students
Minimum of $1,000,000 coverage/single incident and $3,000,000/aggregate

**Compliance Training**
Online training provided by the College of Nursing to be completed previous to matriculation.

**Health Screening Form**
Must be completed and submitted to Student Health as well as Certified Background

For any questions regarding clinical requirements, please contact our Clinical Coordinator, at 319-335-7069.

I. **Requirements for Human Subjects Research**

All externally funded research projects by Iowa faculty and staff and **all student research projects** are reviewed for protection of human subjects by the appropriate University of Iowa Institutional Review Board (IRB 01) and are certified as acceptable to NIH under
Each funded or non-funded project receives an IRB Review number or is designated as exempt, after appropriate IRB screening. This IRB approval must be received prior to initiation of data collection.

The College of Nursing requires that all graduate students submit the IRB Tracking Form prior to beginning portfolio, project, thesis, or dissertation process. This form will help you determine whether or not you will need to obtain IRB approval. The form is to be submitted to the Graduate Program Office.

See Human Subjects Review Guidelines and the IRB Tracking Information Form on the following pages. If you have any questions regarding the human subjects approval process, please contact Nancy Goldsmith in the Office for Nursing Research.

1. HUMAN SUBJECTS REVIEW GUIDELINES

These guidelines apply to both faculty and graduate students. Approval of the appropriate Institutional Review Board (IRB) MUST be obtained for each faculty research project, master's student thesis or project, or doctoral dissertation BEFORE beginning data collection. Even if the proposed work will qualify as "exempt," only the chair of the appropriate IRB has the legal authority to make this determination.

Federal Regulations

Federal regulations define a human subject as: a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information.

Exempt Status

Exempt from IRB review does not mean exempt from application or initial review. All research involving the use of human subjects must receive initial review. Exempt research is exempt only from continuing/annual IRB review. Federal regulations require that the IRB rather than the investigator make this determination. Therefore, an application requesting exempt status must still be filed and approved. All of the rights and protections afforded to human subjects in research are required in exempt status projects.

Human Subjects Committees (IRB)

There are two (2) Human Subjects Committees with which College of Nursing researchers must concern themselves. The committee to which you apply for approval is determined by the category into which your project falls.

a) All FUNDED nursing research (includes grant proposal pending)

b) All research involving humans conducted by College of Nursing faculty and students, whether funded or non-funded

c) All research based at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC), whether funded or non-funded

• If physically invasive procedures are to be used, proposals are submitted to IRB 01
• If procedures are NOT physically invasive, proposals are submitted to IRB 02

All proposals are submitted to the Human Subjects Office using the Hawk IRB tool, which can be found on the HSO website at http://research.uiowa.edu/hs/.

NOTE: Graduate students must have their proposals approved by their thesis or dissertation committee before submitting a HawkIRB application.

Agency Approval
For each research project, the appropriate agency approval must be obtained.

- If research is based at the University of Iowa hospitals, agency approval must be obtained from the UIHC Nursing Service, through its Nursing Research Committee (NRC). NRC approval must be granted before Committee A will give final approval.
- If funded or non-funded research is conducted off-campus, agency approval must be obtained before Committees 01 or 02 will grant final Human Subjects approval. An agency approval form may be used or this can be indicated by an agency letter.

**Special Situations**

- **VAMC (Iowa City):** Approval for research involving nursing service and/or nursing care delivery must be obtained from the Associate Director, Patient Care Services, 338-0581, Ext. 6104, or VAMC Patient Care Services 002.
- **Students from the College of Nursing as research subjects:** The College of Nursing is considered the agency and an agency approval form must be submitted to and signed by the Dean before final approval is granted. College policies regarding students as subjects can be found in the Faculty Handbook and the Graduate Student Handbook.
- **School systems:** If research is to be conducted in Iowa public/private schools (K-12), consent must be obtained from the Cooperating Schools Program before final IRB approval. More information at CSP website at http://www.uiowa.edu/~csp.

All necessary forms for submissions to Committees 01 or 02, NRC, and VA R&D Office are available on the Human Subjects Office website at [http://research.uiowa.edu/hso/](http://research.uiowa.edu/hso/). If you have any questions, feel free to talk to the Research Office staff.

2. Refer to the Clinical Leadership Project (NURS:6825) course site for directions and appropriate forms.

**J. English as a Second Language (ESL) Requirement for all Foreign Students**

English as a Second Language (ESL) credit classes are available to students whose first language is not English--U.S. students as well as international students. All international students will be required to take the on campus English Proficiency Evaluation. If a student is found to need more than 2 courses in English as a Second Language, he/she will be required to enroll in, and successfully complete, the Iowa Intensive English Program. Concurrently with the Iowa Intensive English Program, the student will be allowed to register for one course within their program of study. More information related to the Iowa Intensive English Program is found at the following link [http://clas.uiowa.edu/esl/iiep](http://clas.uiowa.edu/esl/iiep)

Students are required to complete any English as a Second Language coursework specified as a result of the English Proficiency Evaluation. Courses are offered in conversation skills, pronunciation, grammar, reading and writing. Students must be enrolled in The University of Iowa in order to take ESL credit classes.

All international students are required to complete the English evaluation as soon as they arrive on campus. The evaluation is the basis for English as a Second Language recommendations for Intensive English or other course work to improve English proficiency.

Students will be expected to enroll in courses recommended by ESL during their first semester and to continue enrollment until satisfactory grades are earned or until subsequent evaluation indicates that the required level of English proficiency has been achieved.
This policy may preclude some students from enrolling in ANY graduate level course work during their first semester, and may limit the amount of graduate course work they may take in subsequent semesters if ESL determines that additional English preparation is required. Failure to enroll in required ESL course work will prohibit future registration in the graduate program until requirements are fulfilled.

K. Guidelines for Taking Exams for ESL Students

Students with English as a Second Language (ESL):

1. Students may request and be given up to 1 1/2 times the scheduled exam time to complete the exam (e.g., 3 hour for a 2 hour exam). Requests for additional time need to be made in writing to the instructor during the first two weeks of the semester.

2. Native language dictionaries may be used during the exam with prior approval of the instructor.

V. Student Performance and Progress

A. Evaluation & Grading

1. Regular Courses/Seminars and Practice
   a. These courses are letter-graded with A = 4 points, B = 3 points, C = 2 points, and D = no graduate credit. At the discretion of the instructor, plus and minus marks may be used.
   b. All graduate courses must be taken for a letter grade, except for the Master's Project, Master's Thesis, Master’s Portfolio, Research Practicum, Dissertation Research Seminar, Dissertations Research, Dissertation Research, Advance Practice Clinical Practicums, and the Clinical Leadership Project. Courses with 1 or more semester hours registration will be graded with a grade of S or U; courses with 0 semester hour registration will be graded with a R or W.
   c. Students who receive the mark of I must remove that mark within the first session of registration after the closing date of the session for which it is given; otherwise the grade becomes F, except that students with I’s from the spring semester are exempt from completing the course during the succeeding summer session. Courses may not be repeated to remove incompletes. Grades of incomplete must be approved by the Executive Associate Dean and must meet federal financial aid guidelines.

2. Individual Instruction
   This category includes Master's Thesis, Master's Project, Master’s Portfolio, Research Practicums, Dissertation Research hours, and Independent Study Courses. See 1b above for grading information.

B. Good Standing

1. A graduate student is in good standing if, in the collective judgment of the faculty, the student has exhibited "satisfactory performance," "normal progress," and "appropriate professional conduct."

2. Satisfactory Performance: Graduate College policies concerning academic standing, probation, and dismissal are in the Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College, Section IV.

   a. Doctoral (PhD and DNP) Programs:
      1) A cumulative College of Nursing and Graduate College grade-point average of at least 3.0.
2) A minimum grade of C is required in the advanced core and specialization courses for all students in practitioner programs.
3) For clinical courses, demonstration of safe practice and satisfactory clinical progress.
4) Generally good or excellent performance in individualized instruction registrations, as reflected in ‘R’ or ‘S’ marks and written reports.
5) Generally good or excellent performance in assistantship activities, as reflected in written reports.

b. MSN Program:
1) A cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.75.
2) Generally fair or better performance in individual instruction registrations, as reflected in ‘R’ or ‘S’ marks and written reports.
3) Generally fair or better performance in assistantship activities, as reflected in written reports.

C. Writing Guidelines and Resources

1. Writing Guidelines, APA style

The College of Nursing has minimum writing competencies for all nursing students. It is expected that graduate students at the College of Nursing will write at a level that meets or exceeds these minimum competencies.

The College of Nursing asks that you write in “APA style.” This refers to the editorial style that many of the social and behavioral sciences have adopted to present written material in the field. Editorial style consists of rules or guidelines that a publisher observes to ensure clear and consistent presentation of written material. Editorial style concerns uniform use of such elements as:

- punctuation and abbreviations
- construction of tables
- selection of headings
- citation of references
- presentation of statistics
- as well as many other elements that are a part of every manuscript

APA’s style rules and guidelines are set out in a reference book called The Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. The APA Publication manual and website also provides style guidelines pertaining to citing electronic media, including URLs, general format for electronic reference, reference examples for electronic source materials, and citations in text of electronic material.

2. Writing Resources

a. The University of Iowa Writing Center

The Writing Center helps all in the University community improve their writing, including attitudes and self-confidence about writing. They also assist with reading.

http://writingcenter.uiowa.edu/

b. The University of Iowa Graduate College Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Program:

http://www.grad.uiowa.edu/theses-and-dissertations
D. Recognizing and Avoiding Plagiarism in the University of Iowa College of Nursing

1. What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism involves the use of other people's intellectual material and/or efforts in place of your own work, and representing these materials/efforts as being your own work. In other words, “plagiarism occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other original (not common knowledge) material without acknowledging the source” (From “Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism”, by the Council of Writing Program Administrators, obtainable at the Internet from http://www.wpacouncil.org/positions/WPAplagiarism.pdf)

2. Examples of plagiarism

a. Presenting part or all of another student's lab report or other written assignment as your own.

b. Use of an essay, review, report, or other material purchased or obtained free from any kind of 'writing service' or database (such as are found on the Web) to complete a class assignment.

c. Copying from an unpublished or published source, including your textbook, lab manual, or other class material.

Comments:

(a) A source does not have to be copied verbatim (word for word) to be plagiarized. The use of small sections of a source, stitched together with bits of your own prose without scholarly or peer attribution, is plagiarism. Likewise, using material that has been modified by substituting synonyms, altering punctuation, or changing rhetoric in ways that do not alter the original passage in any substantial way, particularly paraphrasing, without attribution to the source, is also plagiarism.

(b) The basis of, and evidence for, plagiarism is the illegal use of material, not your intent. A charge of plagiarism is not automatically nullified by claims such as “I didn't know I was copying", or "I didn't know I couldn't copy that material." or "I didn't intend to plagiarize."

(c) Increasingly, our information comes from the Internet. It is important to realize that the concept of plagiarism is exactly the same when applied to material from the Internet as it is for printed material. “I got it from the Web” is never a valid excuse for failing to appropriately cite material and attribute the original thinking of another as such.

(d) A person who supplies an exercise that is illegally copied is as guilty as the copier. The argument "I just let so-and-so look at my paper as an example of how they are written" is not accepted as a defense in a case in which two papers are so similar that they are judged to share a common source, unless it can be clearly demonstrated that a fellow student has purloined another student’s original work by copying, downloading, or pilfering materials without the student’s knowledge.

(e) Materials which are prepared for an assignment in one class may not be used in their entirety to fulfill the requirements of an assignment in another class.
3. What are the penalties for plagiarism?

Plagiarism is bad for two reasons.

Firstly, plagiarism is cheating. You are here to learn a particular body of skills and materials, and to be assessed on how well you have learned. Any form of cheating impedes your learning and misrepresents your capacity to perform. There may be a short-term gain from cheating (better grades) but in the long term it benefits no one. Cheating—including plagiarism—cannot be tolerated if the University is to fulfill its educational mission.

The second reason is that the products of intellectual work are property, just as other products of work are property. To use another person's work without crediting that person is intellectual theft. This is a major issue in the academic and commercial worlds, where ideas and the presentation of ideas are used for professional credit and/or material benefit.

4. What are the penalties for plagiarism?

Penalties for first offenses of plagiarism, or any other form of cheating, can include reduction in grade (up to an F in the course) at the instructor's discretion, and disciplinary probation. A second offense can result in suspension from the College, also resulting in simultaneous expulsion from the Graduate College. (See the updated Graduate College Manual of Rules and Regulations Part 1, Section IV.F.)

5. Is any use of other people's language or work plagiarism?

No. Here are some major exceptions.

   a. Technical terms and language: No matter how specialized a term is, once it has been coined to describe a particular situation, it becomes common property.

   b. “Common knowledge”: repeating “boilerplate” phrases such as “The purpose of this report is to analyze heredity in Drosophila” would not ordinarily be counted as plagiarism, since such sentences may turn up repeatedly in reports written independently. However, statements expressing scientific ideas, data, or conclusions do not fall under this exception.

   c. Quotations: It is legitimate to cite another person's work verbatim if it is presented as a direct quotation. To do so, you must—

      (1) Enclose the material in quotation marks;
      (2) Cite the author and source.

For example, here is a correctly presented quotation from your text:
"...the biological species concept hinges on reproductive isolation, with each species isolated by factors (barriers) that prevent interbreeding, thereby blocking genetic mixing with other species."

Realize that we use quotations only occasionally, to 'dress up' a report, not to form the main body of a report. A report, essay, or other assignment that consists largely of quotations shows a capacity to read, but it does not necessarily show a good understanding of the material at hand.
6. If I use a lot of notes from source material when I prepare an assignment, how can I make sure I don't plagiarize?

Many people inadvertently (but still illegally!) plagiarize by the following poor work habits. They copy notes verbatim from a source as they read, put the notes aside, and later compile the assignment by reading and typing directly off those notes.

Avoid this error by studying material to understand it. Follow these steps:

a. As you read your source material, condense it in your own words and write those as notes. Do this paragraph by paragraph if the material is difficult. Acknowledge the influences of secondary sources in shaping your own original thinking (analysis).

b. Write commentaries on the material as you read it. Does it make sense? Do other sources agree or disagree with it? Can you think of better ideas or interpretations? And so on. Use it as you go. Review notes frequently to determine why you agree or disagree with the sources and where your original conclusions depart from the analyses of others.

c. Make an outline of your assignment, and then write a rough draft without consulting your sources.

d. Go back to the source material to check facts and to make sure that you've expressed major ideas correctly. This procedure is a guarantee against plagiarism. Even more important, you will know your subject material when you are done, you will have had practice in writing, and your assignment will be easier for your audience to follow.

e. Finally, when in doubt, check with your instructor. You can never go wrong taking this simple step.

7. Is recycling of my own earlier writing a form of plagiarism?

Technically, it is not. However, if you quote your own earlier writing it is considered proper to place it in quotation marks and cite its source. Furthermore, “Submitting the same paper in more than one course without the knowledge and approval of the instructors involved” is considered a form of cheating (see Chapter IX of the CLAS Student Academic Handbook, cited above). If you are taking this course a second time and are assigned to do a report on the same lab exercise that you had written on before and wish to incorporate material from your own earlier report, consult your lab instructor before you prepare the report.

8. Is miss-citing material a form of plagiarism?

An incomplete reference or one with a typo (e.g. in page numbers) is not an offense. However, deliberately citing the wrong sources is a serious offense, because it makes it harder for the reader to check up on the accuracy of the information that you present. Thus you may lose points on a paper for careless attribution of sources. If (as once happened) the sources cited bear no relation to the material quoted in the text, the paper will get a zero.

E. Academic Misconduct and Code of Student Life

All students in the College of Nursing are expected to comply with professional and ethical standards in all aspects of student life – in classes, clinical experiences, as advisees, toward their peers, and toward faculty, staff and administration. Students are also responsible for complying with policies related to student life that may be found on line at the following site:

F. Grievance Procedure

Student complaints concerning actions of faculty members are pursued first through appropriate communication channels as outlined or with the assistance of the University Ombudsperson.

1. Informal Complaint Mechanism – Communication Channels
   
   a. The student should first attempt to resolve the issue with the faculty member involved.
   
   b. Lacking a satisfactory outcome with the faculty member, the student may take the matter to the appropriate Program Director.
   
   c. If a satisfactory outcome is not obtained, the student may take the matter directly to the Executive Associate Dean.
   
   d. Lacking a satisfactory outcome with the Executive Associate Dean, the student may take the matter to the Council on Student Affairs, Admission & Progression.
   
   e. When a satisfactory outcome has not yet been obtained, the student may take the matter to the Dean of the College of Nursing.

2. Formal Complaint Mechanism

   If a student complaint concerning faculty actions cannot be resolved through the informal mechanism available, the student may file a formal complaint which will be handled under the procedures established for dealing with alleged violations described in the statement on Professional Ethics and Academic Responsibilities as specified in section III-15 of the University Operations Manual. If a complaint cannot be resolved at the departmental and/or collegiate level, students may file a formal complaint utilizing the procedure specified in II-29.7.

   If your complaint involves sexual harassment, please see this link http://opsmanual.uiowa.edu/community-policies/sexual-harassment.

   The Office of the University Ombudsperson (C108 Seashore Hall 319-335-3608) responds to problems and disputes brought forward by all members of the University community--students, staff, and faculty--that appear irresolvable through existing channels. Before consulting the ombudsperson, ordinarily an attempt should be made to resolve problems by following the procedures described above. http://www.uiowa.edu/ombuds/

G. Honor Code

   Honesty, integrity and high ethical standards are central to the practice of professional nursing. Professional nursing recognizes and addresses the health care needs of a global society, communities and their members. Professional nursing education encompasses a humanistic orientation and a dedication to basic ethical principles. Nursing education requires immersion in the values of nursing; caring, compassion, confidentiality, collaboration, discipline, evidence-based practice, critical thinking, respect, and dedication to the highest standards of ethical behavior. As a professional nurse, standards of behavior are expressed in the American Nurses Association Code for Nurses with Interpretive Statements, 2001. These values are central to patient-centeredness, patient advocacy, and providing care that leads to the best patient outcomes.

   Participation in the Honor Code provides evidence to the University of Iowa College of Nursing community that the integrity of its members is unquestioned and accepted by those in the academic, clinical, and research communities. Participation in the Honor Code confers upon graduate students
the responsibility to respect and protect the integrity of the University of Iowa College of Nursing. It also provides evidence that the learning environment is safe and equitable regardless of the graduate student’s gender, race, religion, or sexual orientation. Graduate students and faculty together establish and maintain and protect trust in these beliefs.

When you study at the College of Nursing, you join a conversation among scholars, professors and other graduate students, one that helps sustain both the intellectual community here and in the larger world of nurse-scholars. The tests you take, the papers you write, the clinical experiences you participate in—all these are ways in which you contribute to this conversation.

The College of Nursing presumes that your work for any course or any experience is your own contribution to that scholarly conversation and it expects you to take responsibility for that contribution. This means that you should only present ideas that are your own, or, if you present the ideas of others, that they are properly attributed. Failure to do so constitutes academic dishonesty.

Graduate students at the University of Iowa College of Nursing are expected to demonstrate honesty and integrity in the preparation of academic work, and to behave in a manner consistent with that of a professional nurse.

H. Code of Ethics (signed and submitted upon acceptance of admission)

It is expected that students in the College of Nursing at The University of Iowa represent themselves, the College, the University, and the nursing profession in an ethical and professional manner. The various units to communicate what is expected as a student/representative of each entity have outlined several guidelines, policies, and regulations.

It is my responsibility to know and adhere to the policies. **My signature below indicates that I have read all documents outlining the policies, procedures, and regulations. In addition, as long as I am a student in The University of Iowa College of Nursing I will abide by all policies, procedures, and regulations as outlined.**

- The University of Iowa Policies and Regulations Affecting Students. This document is available electronically at [http://dos.uiowa.edu/](http://dos.uiowa.edu/)
- The College of Nursing Graduate Student Handbook [http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/current-students/handbooks](http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/current-students/handbooks)

NAME (please print)___________________________________ DATE______________

SIGNATURE ____________________________________________________________
I. Guiding Principles for Nursing Students in the Use of Social Media

Internet social networks: Internet sites such as Facebook, MySpace, Friendster.com, Twitter and others enable students to interact with an extensive number of people and to connect with friends and family. Postings by students on their profiles, groups and chat rooms, and their communications to others are in the public domain and are easily accessible by anyone including reporters, parents, faculty members, law enforcement, predators, potential employers and graduate school admissions officers. Even after it has been deleted, information once posted on a web site can sometimes be retrieved by persons with sufficient technical computer skills.

College of Nursing Policy: Attendance at the University of Iowa College of Nursing and participation in the care of others is a privilege that imposes certain obligations on students, including the responsibility of behaving in a professional and ethical manner. This means students must present a professional and positive image of the profession, the College and themselves. Nursing students are expected to conduct themselves with honesty, dignity and professionalism. The College of Nursing believes in protecting the students’ rights of freedom of speech, expression and association, including their right to use internet social networks. The College of Nursing also believes in protecting the rights of patients with whom students interact, the rights of faculty members (particularly to their intellectual property), the rights of other students, and the public at large. Students are expected to monitor their own internet use and post only statements and images that appropriately represent them, the College and the profession to the public.

The College of Nursing reserves the right, under the Student Code of Conduct, to investigate and take disciplinary action, against any student whose posting of material on an internet site violates University policies, College of Nursing policies or the Honor Code, HIPAA rules, or state or federal statutes. Internet postings that violate these principles include, but are not limited to, sharing of confidential information, images or language that represent partial or total nudity, sexual activity or misconduct, underage alcohol consumption, illegal acts, use of illegal drugs or other controlled substances, hazing activities, tobacco use, obscene gestures, cheating. Also prohibited is information about peers, faculty or other professionals, or clinical sites, that is insulting, derogatory, negative or any posting that could be construed as “bullying”.

Recommended Action: It is recommended that students review and monitor internet sites on which they have posted to ensure that inappropriate material does not appear. Students are encouraged to monitor their preferred sites/postings and assist their classmates/colleagues in monitoring their sites/postings in order to prevent personal or professional damage to themselves, other students and the College of Nursing, the University of Iowa and the profession of nursing.

For reasons of safety and privacy, it is recommended that students refrain from posting and remove any personally identifiable information such as telephone number, address, class schedule, and places frequented. Students should check tagged photos and monitor electronic photo albums to avoid posted photos that would be considered inappropriate.

Students should be cautious in joining social networking groups and be sure they want to be associated with each group they join. Students should refrain from creating or joining a group that is obviously inappropriate for nursing students or is malicious. Students should also understand that, once they become group members, they are linked to the on-line discussion that takes place within that group and only the group’s administrator will be able to remove them from group membership or remove postings made to the group site.

Students should alert the University Compliance Office (384-5897) if they discover the existence of any site created by others that falsely appears to represent their identity. The creation of such a site may constitute identity theft and the University will provide assistance in their efforts to have the offensive sites removed.
By my signature below, I affirm that I have read and understand the University of Iowa College of Nursing “Guiding Principles for Nursing Students in the Use of Social Media”. I understand that failure to abide by these principles by posting inappropriate material that violate this, other College of Nursing, University of Iowa, or UIHC policies may result in sanctions under Category II Misconduct as outlined in the College of Nursing Student Code of Conduct. Students may also refer to the University of Iowa Policy on Social Media Use on the Internet for further information: http://www.uiowa.edu/hr/administrative/social_media.html

VI. College of Nursing Office of Student Services

A. Dual Advisement Program

1. Faculty Advisor, Program Staff Advisor

Each graduate student in the College of Nursing has a faculty advisor to guide their scholarly inquiry and role development in their area of study. In addition, each graduate student is supported by an advisor in the Office of Student Services. The role of the faculty advisor is to serve as a mentor, provide career guidance, and guide the student’s program synthesis toward a successful endpoint. Advisors typically lead the capstone and or dissertation project that serves as a culmination of the student’s graduate program. Student Services staff support the student in navigating the University processes, meeting the Graduate College requirements and important deadlines, and complying with College requirements such as licensure, HIPAA, or criminal background check.

2. Changing a Faculty Advisor

From time to time it may be necessary to change a faculty advisor; this change is made through the Office of Student Services who will facilitate the change in consultation with the Executive Associate.

B. Association of Graduate Nursing Students (AGNS)

Graduate students have the opportunity to participate in the College of Nursing Association of Graduate Nursing Students (AGNS). AGNS meetings and events are held throughout the academic year to discuss issues and provide mentoring and share ideas. AGNS nominates student representatives to serve on the College of Nursing Academic Council and on the University Graduate Student Senate. Students are also eligible for membership in a variety of professional and specialty nursing organizations at the state and national level.

C. Communication

1. E-Mail

Every student at The University of Iowa is provided with an email account. This UIOWA account must be activated through ISIS. Students are required to activate the UIOWA account and to check this account regularly. You are assigned an "alias" address of the form "jane-doe@uiowa.edu". The alias address is typically your first and last names, separated by a hyphen, and followed by "@uiowa.edu". The alias address is much easier to remember and is the address you should share with others. All university-wide and departmental mass mailings are sent to your alias address, so you must have a valid routing address in order to receive the mailings. Also, if you change your routing address for some reason, you do not need to notify your e-mail correspondents because your alias address remains the same. If you already have a non-university e-mail account and would like to continue to use your Hotmail, AOL, or another account, then you should register your existing account as your "routing" address in ISIS. Give your e-mail correspondents your alias address.
2. Graduate Student listserv – agnsnet

College of Nursing Graduate Students have a listserv where announcements and discussions of various issues relating to graduate education take place. All students are added to this listserv by the Graduate Programs Office staff prior to their first semester of coursework. The Office of Student Services will only communicate information about courses, positions, graduation, etc., through agnsnet. **This is the communication method used to disseminate e-mails to the graduate student body so it is imperative that students look for messages sent to AGNS. Note also that students are subscribed to AGNS using their UI e-mail addresses.**


The Office of Student Services creates and maintains ICON sites with information that is helpful to students as they progress through their degree programs. All graduate nursing students are subscribed and may access the site by clicking on the Student Services course in their “ongoing” courses. The site contains information about the programs, announcements, forms, and scholarship information.

**D. Electronic Based Resources**

1. On-line Courses.

On-line courses fall into the following categories:

- **Web-based Courses** (generally defined as requiring no or minimal on-campus attendance, with all learning experiences managed through a course website)

- **Web-Assisted Courses**: (generally defined as requiring regularly-scheduled class attendance with course website providing access to course materials and assistance in organizing assignments and deadlines.)

2. College of Nursing Instructional Technology Center

The College of Nursing and ITS (Instructional Technology Services) maintain an ITC (Instructional Technology Center) in room 40NB. The Nursing ITC is typically open Monday – Friday. Students who require additional access can go to any of the other campus wide ITCs. The ITS web page [http://its.uiowa.edu/](http://its.uiowa.edu/) provides access to ITC locations as well as information related to the services they offer.

**E. Resource Labs & Libraries**

1. Nursing Clinical Education Center

The Nursing Clinical Education Center is located on the fourth level of the General Hospital in University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. The center, a joint effort between the Department of Nursing Services and Patient Care at UI Hospitals and Clinics and the UI College of Nursing, provides a learning environment of the highest quality to enrich nursing clinical educational experiences and to improve patient care now and in the future [http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/excellence/ncec](http://www.nursing.uiowa.edu/excellence/ncec).
2. Morris Research Lab for Gerontological Nursing Research

The Morris Research Laboratory is located in the College of Nursing in Room 435 NB. The lab is typically open from 8 am to 4:30 pm year round and is available for students, faculty and staff who wish to do research, study, or use an IBM compatible computer. Contents of the lab include some of the latest research in the field of Gerontological Nursing and Instrument Assessments. The Morris Lab also offers a variety of journals that includes some of the more popular journals, such as *The American Journal of Nursing*, *The Journal of the American Geriatric Society*, *The Gerontologist*, the journals of *Gerontology* and *Gerontological Nursing*. The checkout policy is a maximum of two weeks for audio-visual materials and books, and a maximum of two hours for periodicals. For additional information, please see Bonnie Kinkead in room 492NB, or contact her at 335-7084. bonnie-kinkead@uiowa.edu

3. The Laboratory for Advanced Computing in Nursing

The Laboratory for Advanced Computing in Nursing (LACN) is located in the College of Nursing in Room 137. The Laboratory is designed to support specific research needs in bioinformatics and genetics, as well as the intersection of clinical specialties and informatics. It is specifically designed to support qualitative and quantitative methods, large database research, knowledge representation, and knowledge discovery. The Laboratory supports a mini-library of journals and tapes, as well as virtual presentations/discussions (individual PolyCom unit). The Laboratory has full access to all College of Nursing and University of Iowa network computer resources, including large data storage resources. Access includes but is not limited to a Microsoft SQL database server, University licensed software, email, and web servers. A magnetic ID card reader controls access to the Laboratory. To request access, please contact Nancy Goldsmith at nancy-goldsmith@uiowa.edu.

4. The Center for Nursing Classification and Clinical Effectiveness

The Center for Nursing Classification and Clinical Effectiveness facilitates the continued development and refinement of Nursing Interventions Classification (NIC) and Nursing Outcomes Classification (NOC) to enhance nursing’s visibility and contributions to health care. Such classification research is crucial to the documentation and study of nursing care and to the articulation of nursing care with that of other health care providers. The Center purposes are to: 1) conduct the review processes and procedures for expanding and updating Nursing Interventions Classification (NIC) and Nursing Outcomes Classification (NOC) to reflect current nursing practices; 2) produce and disseminate materials related to the Classifications; 3) provide office support to assist faculty investigators to obtain funding; 4) provide research and educational opportunities for students, fellows and visiting professors; and 5) assist with implementation and use of the Classifications in clinical practice and educational settings. The Center for Nursing Classification and Clinical Effectiveness is located in room 407 NB. For more information see Sharon Sweeney in 407A NB or contact her at 335-7051 or sharon-sweeney@uiowa.edu.

5. The Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence

The Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence (HCGNE) is located in offices 494 NB, 492 NB and 490 NB in the College of Nursing. The Center provides funding for education and outreach for faculty and student development. The goal of the HCGNE is to prepare geriatric nurse scientists and clinicians to ensure that “best geriatric practices" are produced and used "in the field". The HCGNE connects students and faculty with colleagues in the field, clinical agencies, policy-makers (who control resources and influence the environments where older persons live), and the lay public to increase the science and enhance geriatric care and care giving skills. The Center sponsors a Gerontological Nursing Special Interest Group (SIG) that meets monthly during the academic year for faculty, staff, and students interested in gerontological nursing. For additional information, please see Ryleigh Maas, Administrative Assistant in room 490 NB, or contact 335-7084 or ryleigh-
Effective January 1, 2016, the Center name will become The Csomay Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence, acknowledging donor support. A new Center Administrator will be hired in fall 2015.

6. The University of Iowa Libraries

Information regarding the University of Iowa Libraries including The Hardin Library for the Health Sciences can be found at this URL http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/

7. The University of Iowa Library Services for Distance Ed Students

The University of Iowa Libraries offers resources and services to all students enrolled in the distance-education courses directed by the Center for Credit Programs. This includes College of Nursing online courses delivered through the Center for Credit Programs.

This can be accessed with your HawkID online at: http://www.lib.uiowa.edu/disted/

F. Sigma Theta Tau International – Honor Society of Nursing

Sigma Theta Tau International provides leadership and scholarship in practice, education and research to enhance the professional development of our members, who strive to improve nursing care worldwide.

More than 300,000 nurse scholars have been inducted into Sigma Theta Tau. With 120,000 active members, it is the second largest nursing organization in the world. Members are active in more than 90 countries and territories, and the 424 chapters are located on 523 college and university campuses in the U.S. and countries including Canada, Hong Kong, Pakistan, South Korea, Australia, Taiwan, The Netherlands and Brazil.

Membership is by invitation to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students, who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, and to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing.

The Sigma Theta Tau chapter at The University of Iowa is Gamma. We induct new members into our organization annually during spring semester. Criteria for membership as a graduate student are:

1. enrollment in programs of graduate study in nursing (master, post-master, doctoral, and post-doctoral).

2. achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale

3. completed a minimum of one-quarter of the required graduate curriculum

4. demonstrate superior academic achievement, academic integrity, and professional leadership potential.

Gamma Chapter provides scholarships, grants and awards to recognize academic and clinical excellence as well as innovative research.

VII. College of Nursing Policies

A. Photo Identification Badges

College of Nursing photo identification badges are ordered by the Office of Student Services. Students must wear their photo identification badges at all times while engaged in direct or indirect patient/client care activities as a student of the College of Nursing. If the original badge is lost or name is changed requiring a new badge, a fee will be charged.
B. College of Nursing Smoking Policy

In April of 2007 the Health Science campus became a smoke free campus. Information about boundaries and policies can be found at the following web site:
http://www.uiowa.edu/homepage/smoking/smokingfaq.html

C. College of Nursing Policy on Academic Accommodations

Faculty in the College of Nursing are required to comply with University policies and procedures regarding the provision of academic accommodations to students with disabilities. This includes, but is not limited to, making an announcement at the beginning of each term and including similar language in the course syllabus inviting students seeking accommodations to contact the instructor directly. If a student identifies himself or herself as having a disability and requests accommodation, generally it is the instructor’s responsibility, in connection with the College of Nursing, to ensure that the learning environment is accessible and that appropriate accommodations are provided. Faculty members seeking guidance and assistance in determining appropriate accommodations should contact the Office of Student Services. Students are encouraged to register with the University Office of Student Disability Services. Faculty members may also contact the Office of Student Disability Services as to general questions about academic accommodations.

Faculty members who provide accommodations for students with a disability must refer the students to the either the Director of the DNP and CNL Programs or the Director of the PhD.

A student, who is dissatisfied with the outcome of either a formal or informal complaint filed under the College’s complaint procedure involving the accommodation of a disability, may file a complaint with the Office of Affirmative Action.

D. CDC Prevention of Blood-Borne Pathogens – Standard Precautions

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommend the following practices for the prevention of blood-borne pathogens. Training on these guidelines is mandated annually for all individuals who are identified as at-risk to occupational exposure for blood-borne pathogens.

Hand Care:

1. Wash hands with soap and water frequently.
2. If health science student, wash hands before and after all patient care. Wash hands immediately after exposure to blood and/or body fluids and after removing disposable gloves.
3. If working with heavy cleaning activities, each individual should have his/her own pair of utility gloves to wear during at-risk activities, and wash and disinfect gloves after each use.
4. Avoid chapped and cracked hands if possible. Use a water-based hand lotion frequently. Petroleum-based products and Vaseline break down latex.

Protective Barriers should be worn at all times when working with blood or blood products or body fluids or waste that may contain blood.

1. Protective eyewear should be worn whenever there is a risk of eye splash.
2. Gowns, boots, and masks should be worn when risk of contamination to clothes, feet or face.
Individuals with open or draining lesions should not work directly with other people (health care students, food serves) while lesion is open or draining.

Do Not Recap, shear, or break needles at any time.

Discard needles and sharp objects in protective containers immediately.

Sterilize or disinfect reusable equipment that is to be used for more than one person. Do Not share equipment between roommates or friends.

Place items that contain a lot of blood in a red biohazard plastic bag, which you can get from Student Health Service or Housekeeping. Return red bag to Student Health Service so that bag can be incinerated.

Do Not pick up broken glass with bare hands. Wear utility gloves or sweep it up. Dispose broken glass in container that does not allow others to be cut.

Resuscitation: Mouthpieces or resuscitator bags should be used whenever resuscitation is carried out.

Further information on Center for Disease Control guidelines on healthcare workers exposure to blood in the workplace is available at: http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/worker.html

E. Protocol for Students who are exposed to Blood or Body Fluids while enrolled at the University of Iowa.

The purpose of this policy is to delineate a clear mechanism by which all University of Iowa students can receive immediate evaluation, testing, initiation of necessary prophylaxis, and follow-up for exposures to blood and body fluids. This includes any exposure to blood/body fluids that may occur in such locations as residence halls, classrooms, and health care settings.

These recommendations were not developed to address sexual exposures. Certain sexual exposures may warrant individual consideration of this protocol.

Policy
The University of Iowa Student Health Service will provide initial screening, evaluation, testing, and initiation of necessary prophylaxis, follow-up, and referral when indicated for students who have had an exposure to blood or body fluids. In this process, Student Health Service will rely on the student’s supervisor for information on the source; will consult with other caregivers when the student chooses or is located off-campus; and will consult with the Division of Infectious Diseases (Internal Medicine) as needed and for annual program review.

Definition
Possible blood borne pathogen exposure: Any student having exposure to blood or other body fluid should check with Student Health Service. Possible exposure to a blood borne pathogen will include: needlestick, any sharps injury, exposure to an individual’s blood or other body fluids to non-intact skin, to eye, nose, mouth, or through a human bite that breaks the skin.

Procedure
Student will:
**Immediately**
- wash/irrigate area thoroughly.
- identify source (patient).
- inform supervisor or other responsible person in unit/agency.
• telephone Student Health Service (SHS) Triage Nurse or Physician - (319) 335-8392 - for screening and advice. If SHS is closed, telephone UIHC-ETC - (319) 356-2233, and ask to speak to the ETC Triage Nurse/Staff Physician.
• report to Student Health Service or other provider off-campus as advised by Triage Nurse.
• fill out Blood and Body Fluid Exposure Report, and, if applicable, Agency’s Incident Report, State of Iowa Employers Work Injury report (if forms not available at site, may be faxed by SHS).

Complete Follow-up
• send completed forms and completed treatment records back to SHS within one week.
• accept responsibility for follow-up needs of incident.

Student Health Service will:
• see student on priority basis.
• initiate additional wound care as needed.
• provide care and treatment whenever necessary according to policy as modified from UIHC Infection Control Policy 501 Protocol for Evaluation and Treatment of Hospital Staff Members Potentially Exposed to Bloodborne Pathogens in consultation with Division of Infectious Diseases.
• make appointments for all follow-up visits prior to the student leaving the clinic.
• complete and file forms as indicated.
• provide student with education regarding need for follow-up visits for testing, how to avoid future exposures, symptoms of possible infection, safer sex practices.
• review program yearly with Division of Infectious Diseases.

Student Health Service Triage Nurse or Physician/ETC/COD will:
• Evaluate incident to determine level of risk and referral level need.
• If source person is known HIV positive, or at high risk for HIV positive, refer student for immediate evaluation and follow-up (must be done within 3 hours).
• Communicate with student and supervisor regarding immediate care, referral and follow-up needs.
• Fax essential form(s) to student if student is off-campus or does not have forms.

Student’s Supervisor/Attending M.D./Preceptor will:
• Provide release time for student as necessary.
• Investigate source person.
• Communicate information on source person to student and Student Health Service.
• If off-campus, identify local treatment center to provide initial work-up and follow-up care following Student Health Service protocol.

If seen at ETC, ETC will:
• Follow the same protocol for immediate evaluation and care as used by Student Health Service.
• Access student immunization history through INFORMM.
• Send report to Triage Nurse, SHS, in the morning of the next SHS clinic day.
• Transfer the student to Student Health Service for follow-up care.
F. Any UI Health Science Student at Off-Site Locations Exposed to Blood or Body Fluids

The Student Will:

1. Wash/Irrigate Area
2. Identify Source Patient
3. Inform Preceptor

Preceptor will:
- Identify local treatment center for initial work-up (may be SHS).
- Provide immediate release time to go to local treatment center
- Investigate source patient (with primary MD) ASAP
- Inform SHS of results
- Inform local treatment center of source patient results

Inform Preceptor

Go immediately to Student Health Service when the clinic is open and request to see the triage nurse OR go to local treatment center health clinic (Mon-Fri 8-5). If at high risk, PEP to be started within 1-2 hours of exposure if possible but may be started within 72 hours.

SHS or Local Treatment Center will:
- Evaluate risk
- Initiate wound care
- Provide necessary care/Rx/Referral
- If high risk, start PEP ASAP

Fill Out Forms:
- BBP Exposure Report
- Agency Incident Report
- If applicable, State of IA Work Injury Report

BBP = Blood Borne Pathogen
PEP = Post-exposure Prophylaxis
SHS = Student Health Service
G. Any Nursing Student at UIHC Exposed to Blood or Body Fluids

The Student Will:

Wash/Irrigate Area

Identify Source Patient

Inform Preceptor

Preceptor will:
- Provide immediate release time to go to SHS
- Investigate source patient (with primary MD) ASAP
- Inform SHS of results

Go immediately to Student Health Service when clinic is open and request Triage Nurse OR go to UI ETC at any other time. If at high risk, PEP to be started within 1-2 hours of exposure if possible but may be started within 72 hours.

SHS MD/Triage Nurse/ETC will:
- Evaluate risk
- Initiate wound care
- Provide necessary care/Rx/Referral
- If high risk, start PEP ASAP

Fill Out Forms:
- BBP Exposure Report
- UIHC Incident Report
- If applicable, State of IA Work Injury Report

BBP = Blood Borne Pathogen
PEP = Post-exposure Prophylaxis
SHS = Student Health Service
VIII. University of Iowa Policies

A. University of Iowa Student Handbook on ISIS

The University of Iowa provides an online Student Handbook on ISIS. The site provides links to information on registration as well as to your rights and responsibilities as a registered student.

B. Registration Policies

Early registration for enrolled students begins each November and April. Students should refer to their individualized plan of study; MSN and DNP students will be coded into courses based on their plan of study. Information about enrollment status, grades and tuition as well as the full version of the academic calendar is available at the registrar’s website: http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/default.aspx

C. Affirmative Action Policy

The University of Iowa does not discriminate in employment or in its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or veteran status. The University also affirms its commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to University facilities without reference to affectional or associational preference. For additional information on nondiscrimination policies, contact the Coordinator of Title IX, Section 504, and the ADA in the Office of Affirmative Action, telephone 319/335-0705, 202 Jessup Hall, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1316.

D. Policies and Regulations Affecting Students

All students who enter the College of Nursing are responsible for obtaining a current copy of the University document entitled Policies and Regulations Affecting Students. This document is available on the University of Iowa website at: http://dos.uiowa.edu/policies/. Please refer to this document for questions regarding student rights, student responsibilities, and student organizations at The University of Iowa. Examples of policies that affect students are as follows:

1. Policy on Sexual Harassment and Consensual Relationships

   Outlined in each copy of the Policies and Regulations Affecting Students is The University of Iowa policy regarding Sexual Harassment and Consensual Relationships.

2. Student Records Policy

   The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a federal law, affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. They are: (1) the right to inspect and review education records within 45 days of the day the University receives a request for access; (2) the right to request the amendment of the education records that the student believes are inaccurate or misleading; (3) the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent; and (4) the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University of Iowa to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The address of the Family Policy Compliance Office, which administers FERPA, is 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC, 20202-4605.

   Under FERPA, the University defines the following categories as directory information: name; local address; telephone number; HawkID and electronic mail address; hometown; major fields of study; college enrolled in; dates of attendance, including the current class or year; full-time/part-time
status; degrees and awards received; height and weight of members of athletic teams; and information about participation in activities and sports. The University has authority under FERPA to release directory information regarding a current or former student to anyone without the consent of the student. Directory information not restricted from release by the student is subject to public release and inclusion in the University directory.

In early September, the University will release directory information to a designated publishing company for inclusion in the annual student, staff, and faculty directory. Information included in the published directory includes name; local address; telephone number; hometown; and college enrolled in and current class or year.

Students are entitled to restrict the release of directory information, and former students may restrict address and telephone number. To avoid publication of any or all of this information in the University directory, a request must be submitted no later than 14 calendar days following the first day of classes of fall semester to the Office of the Registrar, 1 Jessup Hall. After the date in which the directory information is released to the publisher, the Office of the Registrar will process requests to restrict the release of directory information but such requests cannot be effectuated with respect to the information sent to the publisher. A request to restrict directory information will remain in effect until revoked by the student in writing.

FERPA permits disclosure of education record information without the student’s consent to school officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the information. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. A school official is a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the University has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Regents; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

Not all information related to students is defined as education records under FERPA. For example, law enforcement records, medical records, and alumni records are not accessible as education records. Education record information may be released, moreover, under specified circumstances, and the University reserves the right to release student record information without the student’s prior permission as authorized by FERPA. For example, a student’s consent is not required prior to the release of unrestricted directory information or certain financial aid information, or in the case of a health or safety emergency.

Excerpted in part from: http://dos.uiowa.edu/policies/student-records-policy/

E. The University of Iowa Policy on Ethics in Research

Increasingly, cases dealing with academic misconduct have received attention within academic circles and from the press. There have been reports of scientific misconduct, plagiarism, and misuse and falsification of data occurring in some of the most prestigious laboratories and universities in the country. In order to help prevent such cases from occurring at Iowa, the Graduate Council believes that steps should be taken to increase the awareness of faculty and students to their responsibility toward academic integrity. The University of Iowa Operations Manual, available at: http://www.uiowa.edu/~our/opmanual/ii/27.htm#276 states:

F. Student Disability Policy and Services

http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/
The office of Student Disabilities Services maintains a very complete website. Students who wish to pursue services are advised to plan ahead for the necessary time involved in submitting the Request for Services and follow-up processing to match the individual’s disability with the documentation guidelines.

The mission of Student Disability Services (SDS) is to assure access through reasonable accommodations to qualified students who currently demonstrate a condition producing significant functional limitations in one or more major life activities. Equal access to education is achieved when barriers to learning are removed and students with disabilities are allowed to compete solely on the basis of their academic skills and abilities. In providing academic accommodations to qualified students with disabilities, SDS seeks to promote equal opportunity within the context of a diverse university community through practices that increasingly reflect the mission and values of The University of Iowa.

G. Summer Financial Aid
Beginning summer 2012, if a student has summer financial aid, they must notify the Office of Financial Aid in writing (email or by completing a form in our office) on the day of or prior to reducing their registration. Aid could be reduced or cancelled by a change in registration. Withdrawal calculations have always been performed for students withdrawing in the summer; the change is the need for students to notify the Office of Financial Aid in writing. In some cases, a withdrawal calculation may not be needed if they know the student is returning for a class that starts at a later date.

IX. Resources for Nursing Students (selected)

A. Office of Student Services - 37 Nursing Building, 319-335-7021

The Office of Student Services provides numerous services to College of Nursing students. Graduate Student Services staff is available to meet with students regarding academic affairs via e-mail, phone, or in person.

B. Ombuds Services – C108 Seashore Hall, 319-335-3608

The Office of the Ombudsperson serves students, faculty, and staff and offers informal resolution, mediation, and/or negotiation to constituents. The Ombudsperson explains and clarifies University policies and procedures and urges complainants to follow the regular policies and procedures of the University as outlined in University publications (Operations Manual, Policies & Regulations Affecting Students, staff and faculty handbooks, etc.).

C. Computing Resources - http://its.uiowa.edu/services-for-students

The College of Nursing and ITS (Instructional Technology Services) maintain an ITC (Instructional Technology Center) in room 40 on the ground floor of the Nursing Building. There are approximately 26 ITC sites on the Campus.

D. Student Health Service – 4189 Westlawn, 319-335-8370 - http://studenthealth.uiowa.edu/

The outpatient clinic at Student Health Service is available to all currently enrolled on-campus students. Visits are free, but charges are made for laboratory procedures, x-rays, accident examinations, and minor surgery. Student Health Service also houses the Health Iowa Program, which provides educational information to students regarding eating disorders, AIDS, and drug and alcohol consumption.
E. **University Counseling Service** - 3223 Westlawn, 319-335-7294 - http://counseling.studentlife.uiowa.edu/about/contact-us/

The University Counseling Service staff of professional psychologists, social workers, and advanced doctoral students offers educational (learning disability assessment), career, and personal counseling and therapy in individual, couple, or group sessions. It also offers programs, workshops, and consultation activities. Most services are available to students without cost. There is a minimal fee for psychological testing.

F. **Student Disability Services** – 3015 Burge Hall, 319-335-1462 - http://sds.studentlife.uiowa.edu/

The University of Iowa is committed to making its facilities, services, and programs fully accessible to people with disabilities. Student Disability Services (SDS), located in Burge Residence Hall, provides services to students with both visible and non-visible disabilities. People with a wide range of disabilities are served, including those with hearing and speech impairments, learning disabilities, mobility restrictions, visual impairments, and others. The goal of SDS is to help students with disabilities enjoy the same rights and assume the same responsibilities as do other students. SDS works closely with University faculty and staff to ensure that students receive the maximum benefit from their experience at The University of Iowa. Assistance is provided in the areas of admission, orientation, academic and career planning, academic support services, financial aid, housing, transportation and parking, aide and attendant care, and health services.

G. **Office of International Programs** – 1111 University Capitol Centre, 319-335-2700 - http://international.uiowa.edu/about

The Office of International Programs provides services and facilities and organizes extracurricular programs for both foreign and domestic students and faculty. It maintains a library with references on study, work, and travel in other countries, including information about foreign universities and study abroad programs open to UI students. It helps students select study abroad programs to complement their on-campus academic programs and helps assure that they receive the correct credit for such activities. Students also may obtain information and applications for the Presidential Awards for Study Abroad and the Fulbright, Marshall, and Tubingen awards at the Office of International Programs.

Foreign student advisers provide information, counseling, and services related to orientation, immigration regulations, financial aid, and liaison with foreign governments and sponsoring agencies, and help with problems and questions in most areas except academic advising. They sponsor or support educational programs, such as the Friends of International Students, the Conversational English Partners, and lunchtime discussions that foster constructive interaction between students and scholars from other countries and their domestic counterparts.


The Office of Veterans Services is part of the Office of the Registrar. It serves veterans, dependents of veterans, servicemen, and servicewomen in matters relating to Veterans Administration educational benefits, University registration, and study at the University.

I. **Cultural Centers**

Center for Student Involvement & Leadership - http://csil.uiowa.edu/multicultural/lgbtrc/

J. **Office of Student Financial Aid** - 208 Calvin Hall, 319-335-1450 http://financialaid.uiowa.edu/

The Office of Student Financial Aid is available to all University of Iowa students. The office is responsible for counseling students regarding eligibility for aid, for offering general information and
applications for financial aid, for processing financial aid applications, and for distributing aid. The office also provides information and listings of part-time employment and College Work Study. Students who have questions regarding financial aid should contact the Office of Student Financial Aid.

K. Office of the Registrar - http://registrar.uiowa.edu/contact

The Office of the Registrar determines the residence status of each student, issues University identification cards, supervises registration procedures, assesses fees, and maintains all students' academic records. It issues official transcripts and verifications and assists students in determining graduation requirements, processing applications for degrees, and interpreting college and University academic regulations. The office also provides assistance to students concerning Selective Service and military service matters, and helps student veterans with University application and enrollment procedures and receipt of Veterans Administration benefits.

Transcript Requests - 17 Calvin, 319-335-0229

Students who have completed work at The University of Iowa can obtain an official transcript of that work upon request to the Office of the Registrar. There are many options available with varying fees; all the options and fees are listed at this URL http://registrar.uiowa.edu/transcripts. An official transcript cannot be issued for a student who has a past-due University account.

L. Women's Resource and Action Center (WRAC) - 130 N. Madison, 319-335-1486 - http://wrac.uiowa.edu/about-wrac/

The WRAC provides services to meet educational, cultural, social, and personal needs of University and community women. WRAC advocates the removal of all barriers to equal access and self-determination, including barriers of racism and classism as well as those based on physical ability, sexual preference, and gender. Through its feminist programs and services, the WRAC staff is committed to empowering Iowa women through providing information, skills, and support.

The WRAC provides a resource for many women's organizations; sponsors a Brown Bag Luncheon program; offers evening and weekend workshops, lectures, films, and classes; provides a wide variety of support and discussion groups for women; offers one-to-one problem-solving sessions for women; and publishes a newsletter nine times a year.

The WRAC houses the Sojourner Truth Women's Resource Library of books and periodicals on a wide range of women's topics. For persons dealing with sexual harassment and other forms of discrimination, WRAC acts as an advocate and provides emotional and informational support. WRAC maintains an information and referral system, a speakers bureau, and an active volunteer program.

M. Rape Victim Advocacy Program (RVAP) – 332 S. Linn St., 319-335-6001 or 319-335-6000 – http://rvap.uiowa.edu/

The RVAP maintains a 24-hour emergency telephone line providing information, support, and advocacy for victims of sexual assault or abuse. RVAP works to educate the public about the causes and prevention of sex crimes.