Clinical education, under the supervision of skilled preceptors, provides students with the practical experience they need to develop as advanced practice nurses. Arguably, the most important responsibility of the preceptor is to socialize the student to the role of the nurse practitioner as health care provider through both formal and informal education. The preceptor guides the student’s clinical learning experience, facilitates student autonomy, and acts as a role model.

**ROLE OF THE PRECEPTOR AS CLINICIAN AND EDUCATOR**

- Directs overall goals and objectives for the practicum experience based on student outcome objectives provided by the College faculty.
- Assists the student in applying theory to practice.
- Evaluates the student’s identified learning objectives.
- Assesses the nature of particular patient-care encounters that will enable the student to meet his or her learning objectives at this level in the nurse practitioner curriculum.
- Utilizes appropriate teaching methods to help the student meet his or her learning objectives.
- Assists the student to develop and improve performance.
- Evaluates whether the student’s learning objectives have been achieved.
- Provides the student with feedback.
- Integrates the student into the role of the nurse practitioner.
- Demonstrates attitudes and qualities consistent with leadership and ethics in the health professions, including autonomy, civility, non-maleficence and justice.
- Provides ongoing and final evaluations of student performance.
- Assists the faculty in the evaluation of student performance.
PRECEPTOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Facilitate an informal, collaborative and mutually respectful environment in which to learn.
- Orient student to the clinical site and agency policies
- Discuss with the student the preferred method for communication with clinical preceptor and/or clinic site.
- Review with the student the site’s patient population, most frequent diagnoses, and procedures commonly performed.
- Discuss preceptor and agency expectations for the documentation of patient encounters.
- Review the objectives of the course and student’s clinical objectives to determine the type of learning opportunities that will enhance the student’s learning.
- Direct the student to resources and evidence-based readings.
- Discuss guidelines for student interactions and feedback on student performance.
- Listen and provide constructive feedback on student’s presentation of each patient seen.
- Provide daily feedback to improve the student’s assessment and management skills.
- Provide a variety of learning experiences with appropriate client populations. If appropriate, encourage participation in interdisciplinary team meetings.
- Facilitate student’s progressive independence in clinical knowledge and skills.
- Assume responsibility for providing a substitute preceptor in the event of an absence.
- Promptly communicate issues of concern or unsafe practice (student behavior, clinical skills, and/or student progression) regarding the student to the clinical faculty.
- Complete student’s midterm and final clinical evaluation and review with clinical faculty.
- Verify the student’s clinical hours.
- Complete Preceptor Information Form and complete abbreviated Curriculum Vitae Form prior to the student beginning the clinical experience.
- Provide copy of nursing license and specialty.
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Integrate personal learning objectives with course objectives.
- Contact clinical preceptor and determine the schedule for the clinical experience, including days of week and hours per day.
- Develop and share clinical learning needs and objectives with preceptor and discuss strategies to meet them.
- Adhere to professional attire that is in accordance with clinical site requirements and the Le Moyne College Department of Nursing professional dress code.
- Maintain professional behavior in the clinical setting at all times.
- Complete required clinical course paperwork and submit it on time.
- Collect and enter patient encounter data in electronic clinical log within 24 hours of the clinical experience.
- Demonstrate increasing competencies and progressive independence in clinical knowledge and skills.
- Take on the role of nurse practitioner under the supervision of the preceptor. Incorporate evidence-based practice guidelines and follow clinical site policies.
- Complete clinical preceptor and clinical site evaluations at the end of the clinical rotation.
- Attend all scheduled clinical experiences on time and prepared, completing all required clinical hours for each clinical course.
- Notify clinical preceptor and clinical faculty as soon as possible if unable to attend clinical as scheduled and arrange make-up clinical day.
CLINICAL FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Communicate with clinical preceptor regarding student's performance and requirements of specific clinical rotation at beginning of semester, mid-semester, and end of semester.
- Assist student and preceptor to optimize clinical learning environment.
- Regularly review clinical electronic log entries.
- Evaluate written assignments and provide feedback.
- Complete phone conference at midterm and at end of semester with preceptor to discuss student's clinical evaluation.
- Be available to clinical preceptor to answer questions or concerns regarding the student's clinical experience.
- Provide preceptor with preferred method of communication and be available to preceptor at all times.
- Award the student's final grade upon achievement of clinical competencies.
- Review the student's evaluation of the clinical preceptor and clinical site and make recommendations to clinical coordinator as appropriate for ongoing use.