

University of West Georgia
Tanner Health System School of Nursing
EdD in Nursing Education Comprehensive Examination: Policy & Procedure

I. Outcome

The student will demonstrate knowledge related to program outcomes in a professionally written document

II. Policy

A comprehensive examination is required of all School of Nursing EdD in Nursing Education doctoral candidates. It will require the student to perform a critical analysis on a specific topic in nursing education. The comprehensive exam is scheduled in the student's final semester of coursework and is evaluated by a panel of graduate faculty. Students will either pass or fail according to criteria set forth in the EdD in Nursing Education Comprehensive Examination: Comprehensive Exam Rubric form. Students will be notified via university email of their comprehensive exam results by the program director. Students unsuccessful on the first comprehensive exam will be required to retake the exam prior to continuing in the program. On no occasion may a student take the comprehensive examination a third time. An unsuccessful second comprehensive exam attempt will result in dismissal from the program.

III. Procedure

The comprehensive exam will consist of three questions. Based upon the questions, the student will write an APA style/20 page paper (excluding title page, references, and appendices). Students are expected to demonstrate a strong grasp of content salient to the topic including research findings and justification for the topic. Students are expected to demonstrate mastery of relevant literature. Papers should be well written with clarity, specificity, relevance, integration, and application of knowledge. Graduate faculty panel members will evaluate each paper with the use of an EdD in Nursing Education Comprehensive Examination: Comprehensive Exam Rubric form.

IV. Timeframe

Students will be given three questions in the first week of their final semester of coursework. Completed comprehensive examination papers will be submitted electronically to the EdD Program Director (swelch@westga.edu) by **August 1st**. No extensions will be allowed for the comprehensive examination papers and plagiarism is an automatic failure. Students who fail their first comprehensive exam will retake their second comprehensive exam within approximately twelve weeks of the first comprehensive failure with a due date of December 1st.

Rights clause of the SON Graduate handbook:

The Tanner Health System School of Nursing reserves the right to amend, modify, add to, or delete our rules, policies, and procedures.

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