

Experiential Learning Center

Student Handbook 2023-2024

Tanner Health System School of Nursing



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UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA TANNER HEALTH SYSTEM SCHOOL OF NURSING

Experiential Learning Center Student Handbook

Introduction

The Experiential Learning Center (ELC) is a state-of-the-art facility located at the University of West Georgia at the Carrollton campus in the School of Nursing building on the second floor and at the Newnan campus on the second floor of the facility. Nursing students in all semesters of the UWG Tanner Healthcare System School of Nursing (THS SON) undergraduate program participate in clinically focused experiences in the ELC. The active learning experiences in the ELC are in alignment with the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program goals (p.11 of the BSN handbook).

The mission and vision of the ELC are in direct alignment with the quality caring framework, and the mission and vision of the THS SON. The faculty and staff of the ELC embrace the core values of UWG: caring, achievement, inclusiveness, innovation, integrity, sustainability, and wisdom.

This handbook extends the THS SON Student Handbook and the UWG Student Handbook.

ELC Mission

The mission of the ELC is to exemplify academic excellence by providing authentic educational experiences to develop safe, knowledgeable, and skilled healthcare professionals ready to assist in addressing current and evolving healthcare needs across the lifespan of the global community.

Vision

The vision of the ELC is to be a highly regarded state-of-the-art simulation facility, leading in the scholarship of teaching and learning in the simulated clinical and practice laboratory environments.

Campus Clinical Courses

Students in the ELC must follow all *Clinical Attendance Guidelines* and the *Campus Clinical Dress code* as outlined in the **BSN Handbook**.

The following courses have integrated hours in the ELC. The specific skill and simulation requirements, activities and expectations are defined in each course syllabus.

- NURS 3000 Holistic Health Assessment
- NURS 3301 Clinical Practice 1
- NURS 3302 Clinical Practice 2
- NURS 4301 Clinical Practice 3
- NURS 4302 Clinical Practice 4

Definitions (Healthcare Simulation Dictionary, 2nd Edition)

Simulation:

- A technique that creates a situation or environment to allow persons to experience a representation of a real event for the purpose of practice, learning, evaluation, testing, or to gain understanding of systems or human actions (Gaba, 2004).
- An educational technique that replaces or amplifies real experiences with guided experiences that evoke or replicate substantial aspects of the real world in a fully interactive manner (Gaba, 2004).

Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice™

The ELC implements the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning's (INACSL) Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice, which are as follows:

1. **Professional Development:** Provides simulation-based education to stay current with new knowledge so high-quality simulation experiences can meet the educational needs of the learners.
2. **Prebriefing:** Prebriefing is a process that involves preparation and briefing. Pre briefing ensures that simulation learners are prepared for the educational content and know the ground rules for the simulation-based experience.
3. **Simulation Design:** Simulation-based experiences are purposefully designed to meet identified objectives and optimize achieving expected outcomes.
4. **Facilitation:** Facilitation methods are varied, and the use of a specific plan depends on the learner's learning needs and the expected outcomes. Facilitation provides the structure and process to guide participants to work cohesively, comprehend learning objectives and develop a plan to achieve desired outcomes.
5. **The Debriefing Process:** All simulation-based educational (SBE) activities must include a planned debriefing process. This debriefing process may include any of the activities of feedback, debriefing, and/or guided reflection.
6. **Operations:** All simulation-based education programs require systems and infrastructure to support and maintain operations.
7. **Outcomes & Objectives:** All simulation-based experiences (SBE) originate with the development of measurable objectives designed to achieve expected behaviors and outcomes.
8. **Professional Integrity:** Professional integrity refers to the ethical behaviors and conducts expected of all involved throughout simulation-based experiences (SBE); facilitators, learners, and participants.
9. **Simulation-Enhanced-IPE:** Simulation-enhanced interprofessional education (Sim-IPE) enables learners from different healthcare professions to engage in a simulation-based experience to achieve linked or shared objectives and outcomes.
10. **Evaluation of Learning and Performance:** Simulation-based experiences may include the assessment of the learner.

Please visit the following website for more information regarding the *INACSL Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice*: <https://www.inacsl.org/about-inacsl>

General Information

The ELC encompasses the nursing lab spaces in the THS SON building on the Carrollton campus and in the Joe Harless Simulation Center on the Newnan campus. Each campus has two sections which includes the skills lab and simulation lab. The skills lab is equipped with task trainers and low to medium fidelity manikins and includes a large teaching area with patient bays for psychomotor skill practice. The simulation lab is equipped with high fidelity human patient simulators. Both areas are realistic healthcare environments with authentic healthcare equipment, including medication dispensing systems and an electronic healthcare record system. The skills lab has manikins that the learner can control with an electronic device, the SimPad. The simulation lab is reserved for simulated learning experiences with clinical faculty and staff, including prebriefing, a patient report review, a healthcare scenario with learning objectives, feedback, debriefing, nursing documentation, video viewing, and reflection. Each site includes monitoring with audio/visual equipment.

Universal Precautions, Personal Safety and Security

ELC Lab users should follow universal precautions while participating in skill or simulation activities. The following are a list of general precautions or ensure the personal safety and security of users:

- All sharps must be disposed of in an appropriately labeled sharps container.
- Under no circumstances may any supplies be removed from the ELC without permission.
- The medical and disposable equipment within the ELC should never be used for clinical purposes. However, it should be treated with the same safety precautions employed with actual clinical equipment.
- Hand hygiene through hand washing or use of hand sanitizers shall be part of practice in the ELC.
- All injuries shall be handled in accordance with the School of Nursing guidelines. If an injury occurs with a needle or other sharp instrument, wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water as soon as possible.

ELC Professionalism Guidelines

1. Bring a positive and engaged attitude that is conducive to learning.
2. Consistently demonstrate caring and respectful behavior to all participants, including faculty, ELC staff, students, and lab assistants.
3. Arrive prepared with knowledge, resources, and nursing equipment (stethoscope, penlight, watch, skills bag, mask, and appropriate course materials)
4. Adhere to the dress code according to the UWG BSN Handbook.
5. Learning activities are to remain confidential and only to be discussed between faculty, staff and students within the ELC.
6. Electronic devices and Wi-Fi are to be used for learning purposes only.
7. The ELC should be left in the same condition as found upon arrival:
 - a. Beds in the lowest position with neat linens.
 - b. Manikins and SimPads powered off.
 - c. Put all equipment and supplies away.

8. Manikins and simulators should be treated as actual patients. Professional interaction, in a caring and compassionate manner, is expected.
9. Students may not remove supplies and equipment from the ELC.

ELC Safety Guidelines

1. No food or beverage allowed except for covered water bottles. The ELC is considered a patient care area.
2. Standard precautions should be used at all times.
3. Report equipment malfunction to the ELC staff.
4. Take care not to stain or damage the manikins with rough handling, pens, markers, and/or betadine.
5. Students are prohibited from practicing invasive techniques on themselves and other living beings.
6. All users who suffer from latex allergies or sensitivities should take precautions as some equipment and supplies contain latex. Please notify the ELC staff if you have a known sensitivity or allergy.
7. Utilize proper body mechanics when moving manikins or heavy equipment. Ask for assistance as needed. Wheelchairs, carts, stretchers, and other transport equipment are available.
8. In case of injury, acute illness, and/or a clean needle stick, notify staff immediately. If involved in a simulation, please excuse yourself and notify your course coordinator faculty member.
9. Participants will be required to sign:
 - ELC Confidentiality Agreement
 - ELC Consent to Audiovisual Record
 - Skills Lab Bag Content Policy
 - ELC Etiquette and Safety Guidelines

I attest that I have read, understand, and will abide by the ELC as mentioned above Etiquette and Safety Guidelines.

Name _____ Date _____

Instructor _____ Course _____

ELC Confidentiality Agreement Contract

As a student at the Tanner Health System School of Nursing, I understand that simulation experiences are part of the learning environment. I understand that I will participate in simulations in the Experiential Learning Center (ELC), in the classroom, and a virtual environment. I understand that the content of simulation experiences is confidential and is not to be shared among classmates and other students. I acknowledge that to maintain the integrity of the learning experience, the content of simulation scenarios and debriefings are to remain confidential, whether witnessed in real-time or through media. I also understand that I will work with my fellow students and witness their performance. It is unethical of me to share information in any format (verbal, written, electronic) regarding student performance with persons outside the ELC or classroom.

I acknowledge that I understand that the inappropriate exchange, unauthorized release, or mishandling of confidential information is prohibited, and serious consequences may occur if I violate the agreement. I will practice the standards of professional behavior and follow the UWG Honor Code.

I have read all of the above, understand, and agree to the terms of the Confidentiality Agreement Contract.

Name _____ Date _____

Instructor _____ Course _____

ELC Consent to Audiovisual Record

Audiovisual recording equipment is located throughout the ELC. Audiovisual recordings may ensure safety and confidentiality for staff, faculty, and students and purposes of debriefing, instructional review, education, and research.

By signing this document, I authorize UWG THS SON staff and instructors to audiovisual record myself within the ELC.

I have read all of the above, understand, and agree to the terms under the ELC consent to audiovisual record.

Name _____ Date _____

Instructor _____ Course _____

Skills Lab Bag Contents Guidelines

Upon receiving my Skills Lab Bag of practice items for use to learn new nursing skills, I promise I will not share the content with others, or use any needles, butterfly sets, or IV catheters on ANY person or other living beings. I understand using these items could seriously harm others and cause infections if not used properly. Therefore, I will ONLY use these items as mentioned above on practice arms, hands, or other non-living devices and understand that they are for instructional use only. I will only practice in non-public areas (home and skills lab).

I have read the above, and understand and agree to the terms of this statement.

Name _____

Date _____

Instructor _____

Course _____

References

Gaba DM. The future vision of simulation in health care. *Qual Saf Health Care*. 2004 Oct;13 Suppl 1(Suppl 1):i2-10. doi: 10.1136/qhc.13.suppl_1.i2. PMID: 15465951; PMCID: PMC1765792.

Lioce L. (Ed.), Lopreiato J. (Founding Ed.), Downing D., Chang T.P., Robertson J.M., Anderson M., Diaz D.A., and Spain A.E. (Assoc. Eds.) and the Terminology and Concepts Working Group (2020), *Healthcare Simulation Dictionary –Second Edition*. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; September 2020. AHRQ Publication No. 20-0019. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23970/simulationv2>.

INACSL Standards Committee. (2021). *Healthcare Simulation Standards of Best Practice™*. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2021.08.018>.