



**CONSOLIDATED PRACTICE EXPERIENCE (CPE)
TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER COURSE(S)**
University of Victoria, School of Nursing, BSN program

Background: Students at UVic who are enrolled in CPEs (NURS 370 & NURS 470 or NURS 475 & NURS 491) are discouraged from simultaneous enrolment in additional course work at the University of Victoria or elsewhere. There are several rationales for this practice that have implications for those of you considering simultaneous enrolment while in a CPE.

- As a practice discipline, our ultimate educational goal is for you to be safe, competent, ethical and responsible beginning nurses at the completion of your program of study. This means, that in taking a CPE course the bottom line (basis for determining pass/no pass) is whether you are making good progress toward this goal.
- Much of the learning that takes place in CPEs is driven by the situations that arise in practice. Although it is possible to do some advance preparation for these experiences, your learning will be stimulated by unexpected, unusual, demanding or unfamiliar scenarios that unfold. As such, you need to be in the position to respond quickly and with undivided attention to the necessary learning.

So, consider the following scenario . . . You are scheduled to care for a client with a health condition that you have never experienced before. There are unfamiliar treatments, new and unfamiliar medications, sensitive personal and family issues. In monitoring the person's physical status, you may have to use unfamiliar equipment. In making clinical judgements, you will be called upon to interpret findings of physical assessments that are unfamiliar to you. On top of this, you should be reading for your other course(s) . . . how will you spend your time? One instance of the scenario might be manageable. What if it happens time and again?

- ***CPE teachers and preceptors/CLU guides expect that you will give practice learning your undivided attention.*** For some of you, this will be the first time of learning to use the preceptor/faculty and/or CLU model. If these are unfamiliar to you, these models may also create new aspects of learning that will take time and adjustment. Meanwhile, your other instructor(s) assume that you will be able to meet the course assignments on time and are available to attend classes. ***There will be assignments due for your other class(es) during the time you will be taking a CPE.***
- For the above reasons, ***we do not recommend that you take courses that run during the time that you are taking a CPE.*** The decision to take a CPE and another course running simultaneously should be considered very carefully. ***If you decide to take these courses simultaneously, the following expectations apply.***
 - (1) You will meet all practice learning obligations as determined by you, your instructor and preceptor/CLU guide. This means matching your schedule to that of your preceptor, ongoing communication with instructor, submission of journals, etc.

(2) If you are taking a course on campus, you need to attend all classes and meet course assignment due dates (unless you have a verified reason that fits with the terms of "Academic Concession" as defined by the current UVic calendar, under Appeal Procedure).

(3) Maintain close communication with instructors of each course re: your progress and status.

Again, the School of Nursing cannot emphasize enough the need to consider this decision carefully. Failure in a CPE (or any practice course) means, at ***a minimum***, a delay in your program of study (please see the current UVic calendar, under BSN Program Requirements).

If you have questions or concerns about the recommendations, or would like to talk over these ideas, please contact the chair of the Progression Committee.