

Dear students

Everyone in the Faculty of Health Studies is impressed by how you have been handling the high level of challenge and uncertainty as you diligently work to complete your studies in the winter term. The recent decision of Brandon University senior administration to offer Pass and No Credit options for course work may provide reassurance for some of you. However, you may also have questions about how this affects your entry into or continuation in your professional program, and there are some important things to consider.

Pre-Nursing and Pre-Psychiatric Nursing students

Given the high standards and competitive entry-level requirements for the professional Nursing and Psychiatric Nursing programs, we want to ensure fair consideration and equitable treatment for all applicants. Subsequently, please note we require letter grades for all courses submitted for consideration in admission applications. You should not opt for a grade of Pass in these courses.

Year 2 and Year 3 Nursing and Psychiatric Nursing students

As a professional program, we are subject to the requirements of our regulatory bodies, the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba and the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Manitoba. To maintain accreditation and compliance with policies, all students must receive letter grades in theory classes, labs and clinicals (minimum requirement of a letter grade "C") and satisfy the specific clinical practice hours. You should not opt for a grade of Pass in these courses. If you fail a course this term, you will be permitted to opt for "No credit" with the expectation that you will retake and satisfactorily complete the course. Faculty and administration are working together to construct a plan for the coming year to ensure that you are prepared to meet these requirements and are ready to successfully face the challenges of this rewarding profession. Provided that you have satisfactorily met the relevant standards, you will be tentatively awarded a passing grade for this year's clinical practice courses, with the expectation that the remaining hours will be met at an appropriate time in the future. Your passing grade will then be replaced with the earned letter grade.

Year 4 Nursing and Psychiatric Nursing students

In keeping with regulatory body requirements, senior clinical contact hours must be completed as part of your professional program. Most of you have either completed or are well on your way to completing your senior practica. A few of you may be experiencing difficulties and/or extenuating circumstances, which may make it necessary to pause completion of your practica. In those instances, an incomplete grade will be awarded and clinical practice will resume after these issues have been resolved. The safety of our students and the public is paramount. There is no requirement for you to commit your time to volunteer activities. You are not expected to work in unsafe environments, nor are you allowed to report for clinical shifts while unwell. We are proud of our senior students and committed to provide the supports you require to ensure your graduation and successful transition into professional practice.

Finally

We want to thank you for your continued cooperation and kind support. Please know that your success is our success. Together, we can accomplish great things!

If you have any questions, please kindly contact the BN/BScPN Student Advisors. For the BN program, Tracey Collyer (CollyerT@BrandonU.CA) and for the BScPN program, Laura Irwin, Winnipeg site (IrwinL@BrandonU.CA) and Lorna Canada, Brandon site (CanadaL@BrandonU.CA). They do amazing work in support of our students and FHS programming.

Dr. John Moraros | MD, PhD, MPH
Dean and Professor | Faculty of Health Studies
Brandon University
270 - 18th Street | Brandon, MB, R7A 6A9
Tel: 204-727-7459 | Fax: 204-571-7878