**Clinical Attire**

Projecting a professional image is a responsibility of all students and faculty. Appearance reflects upon the individual, the UTHSCSA School of Nursing, and the nursing profession. The following are guidelines for clinical attire. Individual agencies may determine further dress code requirements at their discretion.

Attire should be the official burnt orange gel scrub top with embroidered logo on left chest area and black scrub pants. Plain white undershirts and turtle neck sweaters (no writing, pictures, graphics or logos on them) may be worn under the scrub top. Halter tops, tank tops, tube tops, T-shirts, muscle shirts, sheer or sleeveless tops, and tight sweaters are not acceptable. Undergarments should not be conspicuous. White or solid color cardigan sweaters or white lab coats may be worn over uniforms.

Shoes should be black, conservative and businesslike, comfortable and well-fitted, with good support and needed protection. Black leather athletic shoes may be worn. Shoes should be clean and in good condition, with clean black shoelaces without attachments.

Plain hose (natural or black); or plain black socks should be worn; decorative hosiery, pom-pom attachments, etc. are not acceptable.

Hair should be neat, clean, dry, and worn in a conservative style. Long hair must be restrained, so that the hair does not come into contact with patients. Mustaches and beards should be clean and trimmed.

Makeup should be conservative. Use of perfume and cologne is inappropriate since patients may have allergies or unpleasant reactions (e.g., nausea, difficulty breathing, etc.). Fingernail length should be moderate; brightly colored nail polish or nail designs are not acceptable. Acrylic nails are not acceptable due to infection control concerns.

Good personal hygiene is essential. An unclean, unkempt appearance and unpleasant body or breath odors are not acceptable. This includes the smell of tobacco products.

Jewelry should be conservative and limited to school or service pins, wedding bands or small rings, and small stud earrings (no more than one in each ear). Visible piercings in any other site while in clinical are unacceptable (including but not limited to tongue, lip, eyebrow, and nose). Additionally, all students are expected to have a watch with a second hand. Bracelets, large or dangling earrings, and large or long necklaces are not acceptable. Both professionalism and safety should be considered when selecting and wearing jewelry. Visible body art should be covered to the extent possible.

Street clothes (collared shirt) may be worn to clinical agencies in certain circumstances (e.g., Mental Health Nursing, data collection, etc.). Attire consistent with professional standards (no jeans or shorts) should be worn and covered with a lab coat.
A name badge will be provided, at a small cost, and should be worn at all times when the student is in the clinical setting. The UTHSCSA School of Nursing logo should be worn on the pocket of the lab coat. The logo should be sewed on so the edges do not curl; do not pin the logo on the pocket. The name badge and/or logo may not be worn at any time other than when the student is functioning as a UTHSCSA nursing student. The official school uniform should not be worn casually in public. It is recognized as a reflection on the student, the school and the profession.

Students arriving at a clinical agency inappropriately attired will forfeit that day’s clinical time and will not be provided alternate or make up experiences to compensate for the lost time. Students missing more than 15% in a course with 90 or more clinical hours will not be allowed to progress to complete the course the semester in which the time is missed.

Individual clinical agencies and sites may have additional requirements with which students are expected to conform.

**Data Collection Attire**

Students may wear either their clinical uniform with their lab coat or professional business casual attire with their lab coat for data collection. Name tags must be worn at all times while in the facility / at the site. Use of perfume and cologne in excess is inappropriate since others may have allergies or unpleasant reactions (e.g., nausea, difficulty breathing, etc.). Good personal hygiene is essential. An unclean, unkempt appearance and unpleasant body or breath odors are not acceptable. This includes the smell of tobacco products.

**Classroom Attire and Decorum**

Clothing worn to classes at the HSC may range from dressy to casual. It is recommended that fashion excesses and extremes be avoided. This is a professional school and development of appropriate professional presentation is a part of belonging to the profession. Over exposure, excessively tight clothing, hats, pajamas, offensive/obscene sayings on clothing, etc. are not appropriate. Use of perfume and cologne in excess is inappropriate since others may have allergies or unpleasant reactions (e.g., nausea, difficulty breathing, etc.). Good personal hygiene is essential. An unclean, unkempt appearance and unpleasant body or breath odors are not acceptable. This includes the smell of tobacco products.

Students are expected to observe the following guidelines for classroom behavior:

1. Neither children nor pets may be brought to classes. Children must not be left unattended in any area in the school.

2. Guests may be brought to class if permission is received from the faculty member in charge of the class.

3. Permission to tape record will be obtained from each person being recorded with each lecture.

4. No food, drinks, or smoking in classrooms or carpeted areas in the building is allowed.

5. Students are expected to be seated by the designated starting time for classes.

6. No audible beepers; cell phones place on mute or vibrate. Students will be located for emergencies via the undergraduate or graduate offices.
Clinical Skills Laboratory

The Nursing Skills Laboratory was designed as a specific area where psychomotor skills introduced in the curriculum could be demonstrated and practiced. This center is an extension of the lecture classroom and provides an area where students can put into practice principles and techniques essential for good nursing care. The students participating in Curriculum Resource Center activities are expected to come fully prepared to participate in each laboratory period. They are expected to have completed assigned readings, viewed assigned tapes, and answered all study guide questions. Students are expected to participate in the laboratory through practice and attendance of demonstration sessions. The School of Nursing anticipates that students will leave the laboratory with an understanding of principles underlying any given procedure and with a greater understanding of how to perform various techniques. Students will not, however, be expected to have perfected the techniques. Perfection may be achieved by repetitive practice, which students will perform on their own. Faculty Teaching Assistants and graduate assistants are available to supervise students’ learning in the simulated Learning Laboratory. Teaching Assistants can monitor skill activity, demonstrate skills, and provide faculty with information on student performance. The Teaching Assistants and graduate assistants are responsible to the Director of Nursing Skills and are accountable to that faculty member for their performance in the Learning Laboratory during regularly scheduled labs.

Learning Lab Attire

Non-clinical uniform scrubs are to be worn during clinical skills lab. Name tags are to be worn at all times while in the Skills Lab. Use of perfume and cologne in excess is inappropriate since others may have allergies or unpleasant reactions (e.g., nausea, difficulty breathing, etc.). Good personal hygiene is essential. An unclean, unkempt appearance and unpleasant body or breath odors are not acceptable. This includes the smell of tobacco products.