



NURS 5312.01: Nurse Practitioner Role COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2025

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Donna Calliccoat, DNP, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Office Location: NURS 234

Office Hours: By appointment

Office Phone: (903) 866-5315

Office Fax: (903) 886-5729

University Email Address: Donna.Calliccoat@tamuc.edu

Preferred Form of Communication: email

Communication Response Time: Two business days

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

Textbook(s) Required

Buppert, C. (2023). *Nurse practitioner's business practice and legal guide* (8th ed.).
Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett.

Stewart, J. & DeNisco, S. (2021). *Role development for the nurse practitioner* (3rd ed.).
Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett.

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

Course Description

Course Description (3 semester credit hours)

This course focuses on the role of the nurse practitioner in advanced practice. Concepts of professional development, scope of practice, peer review, legal and ethical parameters of practice, business management, and models of practice are included. Theoretical concepts related to role theory, change theory, empowerment, and socialization are emphasized. (This course requires 45 clinical experience hours.)

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student will have been given the opportunity to:

Class

1. Critically evaluate the role of the nurse practitioner as a member and leader of the interprofessional health care team. Essential II
2. Analyze information about quality initiatives recognizing the contributions of the individuals and interprofessional health care teams to improve health outcomes across the continuum of care. Essential VII
3. Utilize standards of practice, legal guidelines, and research findings in protocol development as the foundation for practice. Essential VI, IV

Clinical

1. Analyze the impact of social, economic, political, ethical, legal, and research issues on the role of the nurse practitioner. Essential IV
2. Explicate principles of marketing and negotiation strategies designed to promote acceptance of the nurse practitioner role by colleagues, consumers, and policy makers. Essential II
3. Integrate an evolving personal philosophy of nursing and health care into one's nursing practice. Essential VI

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the learning management system, using Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint.

Instructional Methods

This is a blended course requiring students to complete reading assignments, online activities and independent study to be successful. Course objectives may be met through individual study using suggested resources, active involvement in classroom activities, formal, and informal exchange of ideas with classmates and colleagues regarding specific topics as well as utilizing critical thinking skills. Teaching methods include lecture, seminar, discussion, small group work, independent study of texts and library resources, computer-assisted instruction, audio-visual aids, and assignments. While the professor will provide guidance and consultation, the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-direction, seeking consultation, and demonstration of course objectives.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

- Logging into the course website and email regularly for faculty communication (especially the night before class/clinical)
- Updating semester calendar with communicated changes
- Regular study (recommend a minimum 2-3 hours study/course credit hour per week). For example 3-credit course = 6 to 9 hours study time/week.
- Attendance at all class meetings, clinical, seminars and simulations
- Review and remediation of examinations.

Advising Statement

Before being accepted and entering the nursing program, undergraduate students may have been advised by a pre-nursing advisor. However, once admitted into nursing, the nursing faculty become the student's advisor. The nursing department subscribes firmly to the chain of command because, as nurses, that is how most employers will require you to resolve issues. If you have a problem with a course, you should contact your instructor, then the course coordinator, then the department head for nursing. Therefore, any advisement questions or any other concerns you have should first be discussed with your clinical or course instructor. She/he is your advisor for that semester.

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GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%

B = 80%-89%

C = 75%-79%

D = 60%-74%

F = Below 60%

ASSESSMENTS

Assignments	Weight
Learning Team Presentation	25%
Evidence Based Protocol Development	25%
Personal Portfolio	25%
Role Analysis Assignment	25%
Clinical P/F	P/F

A minimum grade of 80 is required to pass the course. Students must achieve a minimum average of 80% on all exams in order to pass the course. Other graded assignments will not be added to the final grade unless exam grade average is 80% or higher.

All students with an exam grade of less than 80 must review their exam. It is the student's responsibility to contact their clinical instructor or course coordinator by email to set up an appointment to review the exam. The current exam must be reviewed before the next scheduled exam. Only the most current exam may be reviewed. Do not wait until the last minute to request a review. Of course, all students are welcome to review their exams but should follow the same procedure.

Successful completion of the examinations and other required assignments will enable the student to meet the student learning outcomes.

For Clinical Courses:

The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.

The clinical component is PASS/FAIL and must be passed in order to pass the course. To receive a passing grade in clinical you must achieve 80% or better on each of the clinical assignments and receive a satisfactory clinical evaluation. You may redo any assignments one time that are less than 80% but 80% is the maximum grade you will receive for the redone assignment.

Clinical is graded Pass/Fail. If the student fails the clinical component, the entire course must be repeated.

You must also adhere to the expected clinical behaviors. Any instance of violation of any of the objectives listed in the Student Performance and Behaviors Evaluation Form may result in clinical suspension, receipt of a Student Performance and Behaviors Evaluation form, failure of clinical, failure of the course, and/or removal from the nursing program. See Student Guide for more information.

Late Submissions:

It is expected that you will submit all class and clinical assignments on time. If you need an extension, it should be requested before the due date/time and may or may not be approved at the discretion of the course coordinator. Unexcused late assignments will be penalized 10% per day for each of the first two days overdue; on the 3rd day, the grade will be assigned as 0%. Communication on these matters is the student's responsibility.

Multiple instances of late clinical assignments will result in receipt of a Student Performance and Behaviors Evaluation Form and, possibly, failure of clinical/course.

Paper Submissions:

All documents submitted online are to be in .docx, .rtf, or .pdf format. No other formats will be accepted (JPEG, GIF, etc.). Assignments need to be submitted in a maximum of one document per assignment. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a grade of "0" on the assignment.

Submitting assignments: Upload all completed assignments to the appropriate area in D2L. Before uploading any assignment, name the file with the course number, your name, last, first, the assignment or document name submitted. Preceptor agreements for example would be- 5622 Calliccoat, Donna, Preceptor Agreement Hanko.

Group Work:

All members of the group will receive the same grade on any group work. However, a student can be removed from his/her team if the other students in the group come to the instructor and report that a student is not doing his/her fair share of the work. If that happens, the instructor will notify the student in writing. The student will then be responsible for doing the assignment on his/her own. It is expected that the group will make the attempt to resolve the situation within the group before instructor intervention.

Assessments

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Class

Learning Team Presentation: This will be a presentation and paper on an assigned topic relevant to the nurse practitioner role.

EBP Protocol Development: This will be an assignment to develop a protocol to treat a chief complaint commonly occurring in primary care practice. Clinical practice guidelines are recommendations for practice developed by experts in their field based on available evidence. The development of these clinical guidelines was stimulated by awareness of the limited use of research in practice, large variations in practice, the need to prevent significant rates of inappropriate care and to achieve positive health outcomes at the lowest possible cost.

Personal Portfolio: The personal professional portfolio is a collection documenting the NP student's education, training and experience, designed to prepare the student for negotiation of advanced practice nurse employment.

Role Analysis Assignment: This is an assignment which will analyze the role of the nurse practitioner.

Clinical

Clinical laboratory component: Pass/Fail. Clinical laboratory experiences are to provide the student with opportunities to integrate advance nursing practice with concepts, theories, and strategies for health care. Completion of this course component will require 45 clinical hours (no more than 8 hours/day) under the guidance of a master's prepared nurse practitioner. Clinical arrangements can be made by the student after consultation with the faculty. The student will focus on the role of the nurse practitioner while participating in health care activities.

Also, you will be required to attend a TNP or local NP meeting for 1 clinical hour, up to 2 clinical hours, depending on the time of the meeting. You will write a one page paper, stating the date/time and where you attended and what you learned from the meeting and the purpose of the meeting.

Please update your flu shot in the Assignment Tab by the end of October.

ACLS certification due 11/15.

TYPHON: Throughout the NP program, you will be asked to keep track of your clinical hours in a system called Typhon. Through this site, you will not only keep track of clinical hours. A listing of all patients you have cared for during the course and during your NP clinical experiences and your clinical schedule of hours worked is to be recorded using Typhon. Typhon requires demographic data and diagnoses for each patient. Entries using Typhon should be posted within one week of the clinical experience. Typhon will be evaluated by your instructors at midterm, at the end of the course, and as needed throughout the course. Each student should keep a printout or file of your clinical logs. These logs may be requested by the Board of Nursing if you move to another state and request approval as an APN there. It is the responsibility of the student to keep these logs—THEY WILL NOT BE KEPT BY THE UNIVERSITY.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

LMS

All course sections offered by Texas A&M University-Commerce have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:

<https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements>

LMS Browser Support:

https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

YouSeeU Virtual Classroom Requirements:

<https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

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Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

<https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport>

Interaction with Instructor Statement

It is expected that you will check your D2L course and email regularly for communication from the instructor(s). Be sure to check the night before class/clinical. A response to any email or message will occur within two (2) business days.

Communication between faculty and students is primary and taken seriously. Preferred communication methods are individualized office hours, email, or via cell-phone. If a phone call is not answered, please leave a message and send an e-mail using the direct e-mail link on the course home page. You will be treated with collegial respect and you are expected to communicate likewise in a professional manner.

Faculty will make every effort to return class assignments within two weeks of submission and feedback on clinical work before subsequent work is due.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures/Policies

Nursing Student Guide

Specific information for the nursing student regarding the nursing program and current policies and procedures can be found in the MSN Student Guide located here: <https://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/educationHumanServices/department/s/nursing/documents/MSN%20Student%20Guide%202019.pdf>

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It is the student's responsibility to review and understand the policies and procedures provided in the student guidebook as all students are held to the statutes and policies therein.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor(s) to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

AI Use Policy

Texas A&M University-Commerce acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

13.99.99.R0.10 Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty

Class

1. Exam dates are listed in each course syllabus, and the student is expected to be present for exams. In the event that the student will be absent, the course coordinator must be notified in advance. Failure to do so may result in the student receiving a zero for the missed exam or quiz. Review the MSN Student Guide for the exam absence process.

Clinical

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1. Clinical attendance is mandatory. Refer to the MSN Student Guide for clinical attendance policy information. Violation of the clinical attendance policy may result in the student receiving a Student Performance and Behaviors Evaluation Form and may lead to failure of the clinical portion of the course.
2. Immunizations, CPR, and TB status must be current for students to be able to attend clinical experience at the assigned clinical location. Suspension from clinical for failure to maintain required immunizations will be considered an absence.
3. Students are expected to meet clinical expectations outlined in the clinical evaluation tool.
4. Based on student learning needs, the faculty will determine the appropriate amount of time and clinical assignments needed to assess student growth. Faculty may require additional assignments and clinical work to ensure students have met clinical objectives. Students are expected to comply with any additional assignments or clinical hours assigned.
5. Students are expected to prepare for clinical practice in order to provide safe, competent care.
6. Clinical assignments must be completed on time and submitted to the clinical instructor as directed. No exceptions without prior permission from the instructor.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

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Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

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Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

A&M-Commerce Supports Students' Mental Health

The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Week/Date	Content	Readings
1 8/28/25 Zoom 10:15am- 11:15am	Introduction/Orientation Group formulation for learning group/EBP protocol History of the Nurse Practitioner role in the United States Typhon orientation	Buppert: Chap 1 Stewart: Chap 1

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2 9/4/25	Definitions of advanced nursing practice Certification as a family nurse practitioner	Buppert: Chap 5
3 9/11/25	Cultural/clinical education Learning Team Paper and power point due 2359 PM 9/11	Stewart: Chap 5-7
4 9/18/25	Role transition Reimbursement	Buppert: Chap 9,17 Stewart: Chap 7,12
5 9/25/25	Collaboration and Consultation	Buppert: Chap 11 Stewart: Chap 6, 16
6 10/2/25	Legal/Ethical Issues Evidenced-Based Protocol paper and power point due 2359 PM 10/2	Buppert: Chap 7, 12, 16 Stewart: Chap 11
7 10/9/25	Healthcare practice settings/environment	Buppert: Chap 6, 10 Stewart: Chap 2
8 10/16/25	Quality improvement	Buppert: Chap 8, 14-15 Stewart: Chap 10
9 10/23/25	Student Presentations-online peer discussion-due 2359 on 10/23	
10 10/30/25	Rules and regulations	Buppert: Chap 2-4 Stewart: Chap 13 Woolbert: Guide

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11 11/6/25	Vulnerable populations/mental health	Stewart: Chap 3,4
12 11/13/25	Information Management (Telehealth/telemedicine) Role Analysis due 2359 on 11/13 11/15-ACLS cert due	Buppert: page 281 Stewart: Chap 9
13 11/20/25	Billing and coding TNP/NP meeting paper due 2359	Buppert: Chap 9 Stewart: Chap 15
14 11/27/25	Thanksgiving break	
15 12/4/25	Clinical Assignment/Logs due 2359 12/4 Evaluations	
16 12/11/25	Portfolio due 2359 on 12/8	

Rubrics

Learning Team Presentations and Paper: Grading Criteria

One of the following topics/issues will be assigned to each group. The Learning Team Presentation includes a PowerPoint presentation (30 minute voiceover) along with a 5-7 page scholarly paper (not including title and reference pages). A group grade (or individual depending on class size) will be given to each of the participants. The topics are:

1. Education and Preparation of the NP
2. The NP Credentialing Process
3. Malpractice issues and insurance
4. Reimbursement for NP Services
5. Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report
6. Entrepreneurship for the NP

Criteria	Possible Points	Score	Comments
Description of topic/issue	20		
Analysis of issue Address historical, social, economic, political, ethical, legal aspects	30		
Significance of issue to advanced practice nursing Identify relevant research related to this issue	30		
Correct APA format for headings, sub-headings, citations, and references Correct spelling and use of grammar	10		
Powerpoint presentation (with voiceover) for peers/discussion thread (upload Powerpoint)	10		
Total	100		

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Evidence-Based Practice Protocol Development: Grading Criteria

This will be a group assignment (or individual depending on class size) using one of the complaints listed below. Students will be assigned to a group and write a 2-3 page paper describing the chief complaint definition, incidence (as it relates to the lifespan), pathophysiology, and the presenting symptoms. The SOAP format will be used for the protocol including an algorithm. Given the chief complaint, you may follow your algorithm and select the three most probable diagnoses. You need to work up your #1 diagnosis only. A reference page and a copy of any articles you use must be included with your paper.

Chief Complaints:

1. Acute abdominal pain in a 16 y/o female
2. Acute dysphagia in a 4y/o with a fever
3. Conjunctivitis in an adult
4. Arm immobility in a 3y/o
5. Hematuria in a 5y/o female

Criteria	Possible Points	Score	Comments
Chief complaint defined; incidence, pathophysiology & presenting symptoms appropriately taking into account the lifespan considerations	20		
Subjective and objective diagnostic points are clearly defined as to how the diagnosis was deduced. Include at least 3 differential diagnoses for the presenting symptom	20		
Specific treatment options are defined including EBP guidelines Algorithm-included	20		
Further assessment, referrals, medications and treatment are described/discussed.	10		
Client education and instructions are included. Appropriate follow-up is identified	10		
References reflect appropriate review of literature for the condition. APA format/Grammar	10		
Powerpoint presentation (voice over-20 min max)for peers/discussion thread (upload Powerpoint)	10		
Total	100		

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Professional Portfolio Guidelines: Grading Criteria

The professional portfolio should be a collection of the NP's education, training and experience documentation. (See pages 48-49 in your Buppert text).

Content:

1. Cover Letter (including current professional photo)
2. Resume (including APN philosophy, career objectives/goals)
3. Job Description (Performance Appraisal, technical skills, special abilities)
4. Brochures or copy of web page from previous practices (optional)
5. Any articles written about yourself, newspaper, etc.
6. Testimonials or letters of appreciation from patients
7. Letters of recommendation from former employers or coworkers

Applications and Forms (all forms that can be completed, do fictitiously):

1. BON Application, list/explain application process
2. AANP Application-form
3. Medicare/Medicaid/NPI/DEA list/explain application process/requirements
4. Physician Collaboration Agreement (see sample in APRN Guide/textbook)

Criteria	Possible Points	Score	Comments
Cover letter/resume	30		
Professional objectives/goals—specific to the job application/description. Include any example of previous job performances	20		
Completed applications	10		
Collaboration agreement	10		
Supporting Documentation/copies/explanation of application processes	20		
APA format/Grammar	10		
Total	100		

Role Analysis Assignment: Grading Criteria

Part I: Describe and evaluate the NP preceptor roles observed

1. Provider
2. Advocate
3. Consultant
4. Educator
5. Administrator
6. Researcher

Part II:

1. Describe the NP role that you performed
2. Describe your own self-evaluation of these roles
3. Identify the NP roles that could be implemented in the setting assigned.
4. Describe the NP's Family Theory assessment and applications of family interventions.
5. Articulate a plan for lifelong learning both in the formal and informal setting

Part III (use your textbook and/or clinical preceptor for this content):

1. Critique the clinical encounter form used in the clinical setting.
2. Describe contents of the following clinical/reference books used for billing and how they relate to the practice of the NP:
 - a. CPT Book
 - b. ICD Book
 - c. HCPCS Book
3. Describe the clinic's Medicare compliance plan and how it relates to the practice of the NP.
4. Describe the HIPAA regulations used at the practice site
5. Evaluate documentation, adequacy for billing at level
 - a. 99213
 - b. 99215
6. Describe modifiers to be used by NPs in billing and give an example of one.
7. Identify and describe counseling and consultation codes and give an example of one that your preceptor may have used in the clinical site.

Criteria	Possible Points	Score	Comments
Part I: Description of the NP Roles	30		
Part II: Description of student's role as NP & self-evaluations	30		
Part III: Questions 1-7	30		
APA format and grammar	10		
Total	100		

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