Nursing 4909: Practicum Experience FAQ’s

Why do I need to complete the NUR4909 Practicum Experience if I am completing my BSN degree in an online setting?
The practicum experience provides students with opportunities to integrate new nursing knowledge in the public health setting. The Accreditation Organization for Rasmussen’s College of Nurse BSN Program, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education states:

Nursing is a practicum discipline; therefore, regardless of the mode of educational delivery, all students must have the opportunity to integrate new knowledge at the appropriate degree/certificate level into practicum

What must I complete before I enter the NUR4909 Practicum?
Select a Preceptor and Facility to complete the Practicum at least 30 days before the start of the term in which you are taking NUR4909.
Complete the submit these document to Dr. Kari Luoma, BSN Program Director at least 30 days before the start of the term in which you are taking NUR4909.

- Preceptor Authorization Form with Preceptor Professional Bio or Resume included
- Field Experience Agreement

Can I begin the course if I don’t have the required documents signed and submitted?
No

What are the guidelines for selecting a Preceptor?
The preceptor will:

- Have expertise in the course content area
- At least two years of nursing experience
- At least a Bachelor’s of Science (BSN) degree in Nursing (Masters of Science in Nursing is preferred).

This is a voluntary position that requires a 10-week commitment.

Who do I contact if I have questions before I begin NUR4909?
All emails regarding the Practicum are sent to your Rasmussen student email.
Before the course begins direct all questions to Dr. Kari Luoma, BSN Program Director, Kari.luoma@rasmussen.edu

The Practicum Experience in NUR4909 includes an Indirect Care component, what does this mean?
The Accreditation Organization for Rasmussen’s College of Nurse BSN Program, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education states:

Indirect care refers to nursing decision, actions, or interventions that are provided through or on behalf of patients. These decisions or interventions create the conditions under which nursing care of self-care may occur. Nurses might use administrative decisions, population or aggregate health planning, or policy development to affect health outcomes in this way.
Where can I participate in the NUR4909 Indirect Care component?

You will work with the Preceptor to design a Capstone Project, but you will not participate directly in the clinical setting with the Preceptor.

Examples of appropriate indirect care include:

- Educating other healthcare providers regarding the safe and effective use of new technology
- Writing policy and working with other stakeholders to have the policy approved by the state board of nursing
- Working with community leaders to develop a disaster/emergency preparedness plan for a specific population in a community
- Collaborating with the facility information technology staff to design an electronic health record
- Writing an administrative policy that will improve communication among the units in the facility
- Revising new graduate orientation based on feedback from staff and leadership

Will I have to implement the Capstone Project?

No. You will choose a quality and safety concern relevant to your healthcare setting and create a proposal to solve the issue. The proposal will include a description of the topic, objectives, implementation plan, and an evaluation plan. For more information review the document, “Capstone Project Overview” in the Course Project Information area located in the left navigation menu of the course.

What is the weekly time commitment for the NUR4909 Practicum Experience?

Approximately 1.5-2 hours per week in the practicum setting.
Approximately 4-5 hours per week are working on the Course Project deliverable due in Module 9.

Do I have to complete the NUR4909 Practicum Experience to pass the course?

Yes, an indirect care practicum experience is required in NUR4529. You must participate with a Preceptor to design a Capstone Project and document feedback on the experience with the Preceptor.