



**NURS 482W Population Focused Care for RNs (6)  
Information/Fact Sheet**



**Course Description**

This course involves synthesis of nursing and public health theories and practice within the community. Nursing care of individuals, families, and groups is addressed within context of promoting, maintaining, and restoring health. This course focuses on health promotion, disease prevention and health education using the science of epidemiology, health policy, community assessment, disaster response, and population focused interventions to promote social justice and reduce health disparities.

**Overview**

- **N482W Population Focused Care for RNs** does **not** have precepted experiences (pairing of student with specific agency/nurse). Rather, the experiential assignments for this course will require you to explore the work done in a variety of community-based settings in your home community on your own time. Therefore you do **not** need to secure a clinical site/preceptor and less planning ahead.
- N482W is a 6-credit blended theory/clinical course and is intense-if you are working full time it is a good idea to take it alone, if you plan to take it in the summer it is also a good idea to take it alone.
- You will complete 60 hours of “experiential activities during the semester you are enrolled in: 20 will be indirect hours that you can do at home, 40 will be “direct” clinical hours that you will do out in your own community.
- You can expect to spend **at least** 12 hours/week on this course for an 16-week section or double that for an 8-week section

**Regarding COVID-19**

Students are expected to follow whatever policies are in place for a particular entity in terms of vaccination, masking, and/or other protocols.

**What can you do to plan ahead before the semester you enroll in N482W?**

- Purchase MSU Nametag if you do not already have one (see the content area of RN-BS Message Board for the form to order)
- If you work full time-you may want to plan to cut back on work hours or use some vacation time the semester you are enrolled in N482
- Be sure your CPR certification is up to date
- Note: Liability Insurance is built-into the program and so this requirement is already fulfilled. You completed the background study when you started the program and so this requirement is also fulfilled.



**What can wait until you actually start your semester of N482W?**

- Finding sites to do your hours-you will have non-precepted activities in your own community such as interview/shadowing a PHN or LSN, doing a home visit with an elderly or young family, political advocacy, community needs assessment, cultural assessment. There is no need to start finding sites to do these until after you have orientation with your professor the first week of N482W. These sites will be in your own community and you will set them up yourself at the beginning of the semester you take N482W. Your professor will give you direction on what you need to do at the beginning of the semester.

**Comments from past students:**

- "We do a home visit assignment where we visit either a mom/baby or an elderly person. I had a coworker who had a baby last summer so it was easy for me to find someone. For the interdisciplinary assignment I went to the MN Asthma Alliance meeting. I also interviewed a person from WIC. We shadowed a school nurse, I ended up contacting my daughter's school district and they let me shadow at one of the schools. It took them a week to get back to me about it, so I wouldn't wait too long to set something up. For the Civic Engagement assignment I volunteered at Feed My Starving Children, which I really enjoyed.  
At first glance it seems overwhelming and like a lot to do, but it's spaced out pretty good and as long as you don't put things off until the end it's very manageable. Good luck :)"
- "It is intense! I took it last semester. Here's my suggestion - don't finish one assignment before you start on the next. There were times I had 3 going at the same time. I live in a small town and it was a benefit. I knew people who worked for the city and the schools so it gave me an in. In many classes I would finish one assignment, clear my mind, then start the next. Not with this class. Look ahead and start planning!"