
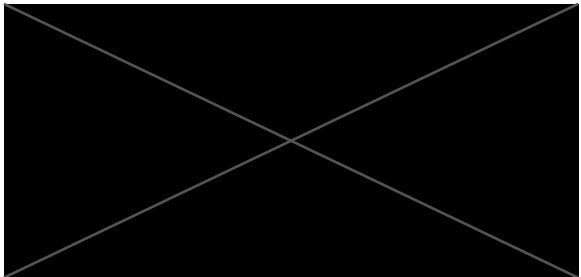




University of Colorado, College of Nursing
 Graduate Course Syllabus

NURS 6859 ADVANCED PROFESSIONAL ROLES
Summer/Fall 2025

Course Number	Course Name			
	NURS 6859		Advanced Professional Roles	
			Didactic:	Clinical
Term:	Summer/Fall 2025	Course Credits:	2	0
Course Website:				

Instructor:	Emily Cheshire, DNP, FNP-BC	Class Meeting: Day/Times	Optional zoom meetings: 06/18/25 → 12- 1 pm 7/23/25 → 12 pm – 1pm 
Phone:		Class Location: Building/Room	N/A
Email:		Lab Location: Building/Room (if applicable)	N/A
Office Hours:	By Appointment		

I. Welcome:

Welcome to Advance Practice Nursing: Role Concepts and Professional Issues. We will discuss the APRN role and various healthcare provider roles to enable a deeper understanding of the APRN role. This is a practical course and includes the legal and regulatory components that accompany the APRN role.

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II. University Course Catalog Description:

This course explores the professional aspects and challenges associated with advanced practicing registered nursing, including professional issues and transition to the advanced practice registered nursing role. Contemporary topics include role acquisition in intra- and interdisciplinary practice, theory, evidence-based practice, professional involvement, and legal/ethical issues.

III. Course Overview:

This course focuses on the development of advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) prepared at the Masters and Doctor of Nursing Practice degree levels. It introduces the RN to the APRN role as leader, collaborator, change agent, and advocate for population health. This course socializes students to the APRN role and facilitates identity transformation. It focuses on the requisite skills for role assumption within the health care delivery system through engagement in activities designed to develop APRN role competencies. Emphasis is placed on standards of practice and requirements for, regulation of, and socialization into APRN roles. Areas addressed include core competencies, professional behaviors, economic implications with health systems, legal and ethical issues, and interprofessional relationships.

IV. Content Outline

General Guidelines for Course

1. Please look at the "open forum discussion" periodically. Feel free to ask questions and respond to other students' questions related to the course that would be valuable for the entire class! This will be checked by faculty once or twice a week. For personal or urgent questions, please use **Canvas email**.
2. **This class runs for 10 weeks.** Be aware that grades for each assignment should be viewed as a smaller piece of a bigger puzzle- not as one whole piece. *Example: A grade of 13 out of 15 is 2 points out of the full course total of 100 points.*
3. **There will be two non-mandatory zoom meetings this semester.** This is intended to provide another mechanism for communication and learning. Course faculty will announce these in Canvas.

Discussion Guidelines

- Several Assignments will include discussion posts as part of completing the exercise. **Although Discussions posts will not always add points toward the course grade - lack of participation can result in 25% of the points being deducted from the assignment.**
- **Discussion posts are expected to be uniquely created by the student -all copy write APA rules apply. If you use AI in your post, please cite.** More information under "plagiarism" below.
- Each assigned discussion will focus on a topic of relevance to your development of the APRN role. Informed participation is critical to successful online discussions. Each student is expected to prepare in advance to participate in on-line small group discussions and to comply with all small group discussion guidelines.
- Each discussion will last for 1 week (Monday through Sunday) and includes a response to either a topical or reflective question posted by course faculty with responses to at least 2 classmates, unless

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otherwise specified. **Please post throughout the week, rather than on one day.** All posts must be substantive and reflect your analysis, critical thinking, thoughts, and opinions on the topic.

- Primary Responses must be made by **THURSDAY at 12AM- Unless otherwise indicated.** In order to assure engagement throughout week **-avoid posting in future modules. This may result in 25% point deduction.**
- APA FORMAT 7TH EDITION is required, and References should be within 5 years.

V. Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this learning experience, the student will be able to:

1. Evaluate philosophic, theoretic, legal, ethical, and research-based literature through a culturally responsive lens to assess its relevance, impact, and application to advance practice registered nursing.
2. Appraise, analyze and present interdisciplinary role competencies, and compare with advanced practice registered nursing professional role competencies.
3. Develop professional strategies that include quality and safety to advocate for the advanced practice registered nurse role among the public, healthcare professionals, and policymakers.
4. Examine the culture of values and beliefs of the advanced practice nursing registered role and evaluate the workplace environment to determine its influence on health and wellbecoming.

VI. Course Prerequisites: None

VII. Required Texts and Materials:

- a. DeNisco, S.M., & Barker, A.M. (Eds.). (2024). Advanced practice nursing: essential knowledge for the profession. (5th.ed.). Burlington, MA: Jones & Bartlett Learning
- b. American Psychological Association. (2020). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Washington, DC.
- c. Required articles located in CANVAS.

VIII. Supplementary Texts and Materials: located in CANVAS.

Course Schedule

Please note CANVAS deadlines override deadlines in this syllabus in cases of discrepancy.

Mondays Dates/Week	Module# / Topics	Assignment	Due Date
Week 1 6/2	Module 1 Roles and Role Responsibilities: Nursing as Art and Science	Post Introduction Activity (Spotify link)	6/6
		Discussion: Read all introductions, minimum of 10	6/8
Week 2 6/9	Module 2 Small Group Role Research on	<u>Matrix Part One:</u> Discussion in your small groups and develop PowerPoint	6/9-6/15

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	assigned APRN Specialties and Healthcare Roles	presentation development in assigned small group site page in Canvas: Submit Peer Review form by Post PP within own group	6/13 6/15
Week 3 6/16	Module 3 Introduction to Advanced Roles: Review and Respond.	Matrix Part Two: Post Matrix Power Point in whole class discussion forum Make 1 post in each group (outside of your specialty group) Debriefing Optional Zoom # 1: -	6/16 6/20 6/22 6/18
Week 4 6/23	Module 4 Theoretical Foundations	Post: Advanced Practice Personal Philosophy Statement	6/29
Week 5 6/30	Module 5 PhD and DNP	Post Interview of PhD or DNP by Respond in discussion	7/3 7/6
Week 6 7/7	Module 6 APRN Regulation & Healthcare Delivery & Policy (Certification, credentialing & prescriptive authority)	Review materials identified. Discussion/2 posts Post Timeline activity for chosen specialty	7/11 7/13
Week 7 7/14	Module 7 Culture Awareness, Ethics, Social Justice, and Advocacy	Part1: Sharing Cultural Experience In Word Cloud Part 2: Discussion/ 2 comments to peers Optional Zoom # 2: 7/23/25 → 12 pm – 1pm	7/18 7/20

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		X	
Week 8 7/21	Module 8 Legal Issues and Scope of Practice	Paper: Explore your chosen Specialty Scope of Practice and Malpractice	7/27
Week 9 7/28	Module 9 Leadership, Role Transitions & Outcomes	Submit Elevator Speech- PowerPoint Discussions/ 4 posts to peers RN→ APRN worksheet reflection	7/31 8/3 8/3
8/Week 10 8/4	Module 10 Class Wrap up Class Reflection & Future Direction	Submit Portfolio Personal reflection	8/7 8/7

Evaluation/Assignments

Please refer to each CANVAS assignment for details how required discussion posts are evaluated. Assignments are **graded based on rubrics**, so please review rubrics to ensure you've met criteria prior to submission. Assignments are due by date posted. If you have a personal issue or emergency, please contact course faculty as soon as possible to make arrangements.

Basis for Final Grade

Assignment:	Possible Points:	Percent of Final Grade:
Introduction (Presentation)	5	5
Matrix Part One (Presentation/Discussion) Peer Review	5	5
Matrix Part Two Discussion/ Video Debrief	10 5	10 5
Personal Philosophy Statement	10	10
Interview of a PhD or DNP and Reflection	10	10
APRN Regulation Discussion Post	Complete/Incomplete	
Transition to Practice Timeline Activity	10	10
Sharing Cultural Experiences (Word cloud/Discussions)	Complete/Incomplete	
Cultural Group Discussion	10	10
Explore your specialty/scope (Paper - 2 Pages)	15	15

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Elevator Speech / PowerPoint Slide	10	10
Portfolio Initiation & CV & Reflection & Timeline	10	10
	100	100

Grading Scale

Letter Grade:	Points:	Percent:
A	94 – 100	94 – 100%
A-	90 – 93	90 – 93%
B+	87 – 89	87 – 89%
B	84 – 86	84 – 86%
B-	80 – 83	80 – 83%
C+	77 – 79	77 – 79%
C	74 – 76	74 – 76%
C-	70 – 73	70 – 73%
D+	67 – 69	67 – 69%
D	64 – 66	64 – 66%
D-	60 – 63	60 – 63%
F	0 – 59	0 – 59%

Grade Dissemination

<p>-Students will be able to check their individual grades on Canvas</p> <p>-All grades will be posted on Canvas in the Gradebook.</p> <p>-Comments /feedback on assignments should be reviewed.</p> <p>-As possible, grades will be posted within 2 weeks of the due date for each assignment; if grades are delayed, you will be notified in advance of the expected return date by course announcement.</p> <p>Basis for Final Grade</p> <p>-A final grade of at least 80points (B-) is required to pass this course and continue progression in the program. For specific Master’s Degree and Doctor of Nursing Practice Program Policies and Procedures, please refer to the UC Denver College of Nursing Student Handbook, which can be found online under the Student Central section of the school webpage.</p>
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Policies

Please refer to the University of Colorado, College of Nursing student handbook for detailed information about college policies and expectations. Handbooks are located at:

<https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/student-handbooks>

Course Procedures

I. Course Policies: Grades

a. Rounding of Final Course Grades

- i. Final Course letter grades are calculated and submitted to the registrar based on whole numbers. A minimum standard of rounding in all courses is necessary to provide consistency and transparency to students. Only the final course grade that represents the completion of all coursework will be used for rounding purposes. The calculated final course grade will be rounded using the number in the tenth position after the decimal of the final grade calculations. Final course grades of 0.5 and higher will be rounded up to the next whole number. When the number at the tenth decimal place is less than 0.5 the grade is rounded down to the next whole number. For example, a final course grade of 87.52% will be rounded up to 88%. A final course grade of 87.49% will result in a final grade of 87%.

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b. Attendance Policy:

- i. Class attendance and participation is a professional expectation.
 1. Take responsibility for keeping up with the readings and assignments for each scheduled class or content area.
 2. Class participation and completion of all learning activities is required for successful completion of this course.
 3. Participate in discussions (in class or online) to define, interpret, summarize, give examples, make conclusions, etc. about the concepts discussed and about what your classmates have discussed.

UC Denver Student Attendance and Absences Policy:

https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider284/default-document-library/7000-student-affairs/7030---student-attendance-and-absences.pdf?sfvrsn=beaffdba_4

c. Late Work Policy:

Due dates for assignments are clearly posted on the syllabus. It is your responsibility to submit these assignments on time and according to their defined critical elements. Late assignments turned in 24 hours after a posted deadline will not be graded and the student will receive a zero for that assignment unless previous arrangements have been made with the instructor.

- i. **Late work is defined as:** hour past the time designated to post and up till 24 hours of designated time frame.
- ii. **The consequence for late assignments is:** Unless previously discussed with professor, Late assignments will receive a 50% reduction; materials received more than 24 hours late will NOT be graded and will receive a 0.

d. Make-up Exam Policy: No exams in this course.

e. Extra Credit Policy: Extra credit is not offered in this course.

f. Grades of Incomplete Policy:

The current university policy concerning incomplete grades will be followed in this course. Incomplete grades are given only in situations where unexpected emergencies prevent a student from completing the course and the remaining work can be completed the next semester. Your instructor is the final authority on whether you qualify for an incomplete. Incomplete work must be finished by the end of the subsequent semester or the “I” will automatically be recorded as an “F” on your transcript.

For further details, please refer to the CU Nursing Incomplete Policy:

<https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/student-handbooks/section-v#ac-grading-1>

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g. Rewrite/Resubmit Policy: Students are expected to follow rubric guidelines prior to submission and are not automatically allowed to rewrite/resubmit assignments.

h. Group Work Policy:

Each group member is expected to participate in group activities. Peers and professors will evaluate participation of all members. Lack of participation can result in up to 25 % deducted from assignment.

II. Course Policies: Technology

a. E-Mail Policy:

- i.** Students and faculty are required to use University of Colorado assigned email addresses or Canvas for all email correspondence. CU Nursing reserve the right to send communications to student via email, and expects that these communications will be received and read promptly. Failure to read emails does not exempt students from the responsibilities associated with communications sent to their official email addresses or through Canvas. Additionally, students are expected to comply with the CU Nursing Email Communications Guidelines which delineate standards for civil and professional email communications.

For further details, please refer to the CU Nursing online Communication policy:
<https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/student-handbooks/section-iv-policies-responsibilities#ac-student-email-6>

b. Canvas Policy:

Canvas will be the primary tool used to access class notes, announcements and track your grade for this course. It is your responsibility to access Canvas frequently for announcements and class materials, as well as information about your clinical assignments. Any questions about access or utilities on Canvas should first be directed to Canvas help site.

c. Laptop and Mobile Device Usage Policy:

Laptops are allowed in class during all class lectures, but must be turned off and stored during exams. Turn off or mute cell phones and pagers during class time. NO cell phone conversations or text messaging is permitted during class or exam time.

d. Classroom Devices Policy:

A basic calculator for medication calculation exercises is allowed in class and during examinations. Please ask the specific lecturers regarding recording of their lectures.

e. Classroom Response Clickers:

Response ware technology will be used throughout the course for interactive participation in class.

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III. Course Policies: Student Expectations

Students are expected to attend all class sessions and are responsible for all content and class work assigned and/or covered in class or online.

CU Nursing Policy Statement Professional Role Behaviors: <https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/student-handbooks/section-vii-conduct-focused-policies#ac-professional-role-behaviors-prb-1>

a. ***Professional Role Behavior and Honor Code:***

Students are expected to engage in conduct that a) is consistent with designated policies and procedures of the course and college and b) demonstrates professional behaviors. Students are expected to have read and abide by the **CU-CON Policy Statement for Professional Role Behaviors and the Student Honor and Conduct code:**

“The health professions are based on a high degree of trust by the individuals they serve. Students entering the health professions have a particular obligation, therefore, to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity and respect for others” (Student Handbook).

b. ***Graduate Program Policies and Procedures:***

Please refer to the Student Handbook, which can be found online at the main College of Nursing webpage. <https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/student-handbooks>

c. ***Students called for Military Duty:***

Please contact the course coordinator if you are called for military duty. Plans will be made according to the length of military service and class or clinical time missed.

d. ***Course Ethics:***

- i. Merriam-Webster's online dictionary (2005) defines plagiarizing as: *To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (another's production) without crediting the source...to commit literary theft: present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source.* (Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary, <http://www.m-w.com>, accessed 08/26/07).
- ii. The CU College of Nursing Student Honor and Conduct Code policy requires that course professors and fellow students who suspect plagiarism or other violations of the honor code must immediately report the incident to the Student Honor and Conduct Committee. This committee evaluates the situation and determines the appropriate consequences. Potential consequences include termination of the student's enrollment in the College of Nursing. If you are caught violating the honor code, faculty will recommend your dismissal to this committee and to the Dean.

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- iii. Your personal integrity is something that takes you a lifetime to build, but only seconds to destroy. Faculty will expect that all work submitted by you is authentic; and that all online testing answers are your individual work, without any assistance from any other person, the Internet, or any other sources, unless I have stipulated that you may use a specific source to complete the assignment.

e. Professional Behavior:

- i. The expected outcomes of the student's ability to conduct oneself in a professional manner, and to lead and to engage in effective group interaction will be demonstrated by the student's professional behaviors in the classroom and to their peers. Successful achievement of these outcomes is based on the following critical elements: The student will:
 1. Adhere to the CU Nursing Guidelines for Professional Role Behaviors and the UCD Student Honor and Conduct Code.
 2. Be considerate of your classmates and faculty and help promote an effective learning atmosphere.
 3. Communicate to faculty and peers in a professional and respectful manner at all times.
 4. Email: Professional communication is expected in all emails sent to faculty or other students. Use of professional titles, appropriate subject lines, and proper written communication structure.
 5. Turn off or mute pagers and cell phones during class time. NO cell phone conversations or text messaging is permitted during class or exam time.
 6. Take responsibility for keeping up with the readings and assignments for each scheduled class or content area.
 7. Class participation and completion of all learning activities is required for successful completion of this course. Participate in discussions (in class or online) to define, interpret, summarize, give examples, make conclusions, etc. about the concepts discussed and about what your other classmates have discussed.
 8. Children are not allowed in classrooms. Students must find alternative childcare during class time.
 - **Professional Behavior:** refer to the CU Nursing Policy Statement Professional Role Behaviors: <https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/student-handbooks/section-vii-conduct-focused-policies#ac-professional-role-behaviors-prb-1>
 - CU Nursing Children in the Workplace and/or Classroom Policy: <https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/student-handbooks/section-iv-policies-responsibilities#ac-learning-environmentphysical-space-8>

f. Civility:

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Our commitment is to create a climate for learning characterized by respect for each other and the contributions each person makes to class. We ask that you make a similar commitment.

g. Inclement Weather Policy:

Please adhere to the following campus wide University policy located at:

<https://ucdenver.edu/emergencymanagement#ac-natural-disasters-and-severe-weather-conditions-1>

UC Denver Emergency Weather: (877) 463-6070 or

<https://www.cuanschutz.edu/police/cu-alerts/anschutz-alerts>

CU Nursing Inclement Weather Policy (refer to the policy for Anschutz, AMC and Legacy) <https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/student-handbooks/section-iv-policies-responsibilities#ac-inclement-weatherfacility-closure-9>

h. Campus Assessment, Response & Evaluation (CARE):

The purpose of the team is to assess whether individuals pose a risk to themselves or others and to intervene when necessary and, more generally, to identify and provide assistance to those in need. The team takes a preventive approach to risk assessment by offering resources, referrals, and support to both the concerning individual and those impacted by their behavior. Additional information regarding this resource may be found at: <http://www.ucdenver.edu/life/services/CARE/Pages/default.aspx>

i. Writing Center:

Writing assistance is available through the Writing Center. Additional information regarding this resource may be accessed at: <https://clas.ucdenver.edu/writing-center/locations/writing-center-cu-anschutz>

j. Religious Observances:

The University of Colorado Denver, Anschutz Medical Campus has a legal obligation to accommodate students who must be absent from an educational activity in order to observe religious holidays or other observances. Students should speak to the faculty member to request accommodations for religious observances in advance during the first week of class. Requests received by faculty must be kept confidential and should be considered unless they create an undue hardship. If the student and faculty member cannot agree on an accommodation, the matter should be referred to the Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs for resolution.

University Policies

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I. Access

- I. Disability Access:** the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus is committed to providing equitable access to our programs for students with disabilities (e.g., psychological, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, and physical).
- II. To engage in a confidential conversation about the process for requesting reasonable accommodations in the classroom and clinical settings please contact **The Office of Disability, Access, and Inclusion** at: disabilityaccess@cuanschutz.edu or begin the process via the website: <https://www.cuanschutz.edu/offices/office-of-disability-access-and-inclusion>. Accommodations are not provided retroactively, therefore, students are encouraged to begin this process early.

II. Nondiscrimination and Sexual Misconduct:

- I.** The University of Colorado Denver is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment. University policy and Title IX prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, pregnancy, creed, religion, sexual orientation, veteran status, gender identity, gender expression, political philosophy or political affiliation in admission and access to, and treatment and employment in, its educational programs and activities. University policy prohibits sexual misconduct, including harassment, domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or related retaliation.

Title IX requires the university to designate a Title IX Coordinator to monitor and oversee overall Title IX compliance. The University Title IX Coordinator is available to explain and discuss: your right to file a criminal complaint; the university's complaint process, including the investigation process; how confidentiality is handled; available resources, both on and off campus; and other related matters. Students may report allegations of discrimination or harassment through the Office of Equity: <https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/equity>.

III. Academic Honesty

I. Student Code of Conduct:

- a.** Students are expected to know, understand, and comply with the ethical standards of the university, including rules against plagiarism, cheating, fabrication and falsification, multiple submissions, misuse of academic materials, and complicity in academic dishonesty.
- b.** For suggestions on ways to avoid academic dishonesty, please see the Academic Honesty Handbook at <https://clas.ucdenver.edu/writing-center/students/plagiarismturnitin>

II. Plagiarism

- a.** is the use of another person's ideas or words without acknowledgement. The incorporation of another person's work into yours requires appropriate identification and acknowledgement. Examples of plagiarism when the source is not noted include: word- for-word copying of another person's ideas or words; the "mosaic" (interspersing your own words here and there while, in essence, copying another's work); the paraphrase (the rewriting of another's work, while still

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using their basic ideas or theories); fabrication (inventing or counterfeiting sources); submission of another's work as your own; and neglecting quotation marks when including direct quotes, even on material that is otherwise acknowledge.

- b. **Using Artificial Intelligence:** Utilizing ChatGPT or other generative language models is not necessarily a form of plagiarism; it depends on how these are used. In line with JAMA's new policy on generative AI models (<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2807956>), you must:
1. Disclose any way in which these models or tools were used to create content or assist with writing or paper preparation, including the name of the tool, version number, and a description of how the tool was used (e.g., for initial idea generation, as part of an Internet reference search, as a style editor), and also,
 2. Take responsibility for the integrity of the content generated by these tools, including the accuracy of any references cited.

You can meet this disclosure requirement by adding an addendum to your paper about the use of technology; the statement about using AI tools does not count toward the page limit within the paper itself. Note, this guidance includes the use of all writing assistive tools (e.g., Grammarly) which include generative AI components. If you are in doubt whether your use of a writing tool is allowable, err on the side of full disclosure.

Failure to disclose your use of AI could be considered plagiarism and result in disciplinary consequences.

XV. Cheating

- I. involves the possession, communication or use of information, materials, notes, study aids, or other devices and rubrics not specifically authorized by the course instructor in any academic exercise, or unauthorized communication with any other person during an academic exercise. Examples of cheating include: copying from another's work or receiving unauthorized assistance from another; using a calculator, computer, or the internet when its use has been precluded; collaborating with another or others without the consent of the instructor; submitting another's work as one's own.

XVI. Fabrication

- I. involves inventing or counterfeiting information - creating results not properly obtained through study or laboratory experiment. Falsification involves deliberate alteration or changing of results to suit one's needs in an experiment or academic exercise.

XVII. Multiple submissions

- I. involves submitting academic work in a current course when academic credit for the work was previously earned in another course, when such submission is made without the current course instructor's authorization.

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XVIII. Misuse of academic materials

- I. includes: theft/destruction of library or reference materials or computer programs; theft/destruction of another student's notes or materials; unauthorized possession of another student's notes or materials; theft/destruction of examinations, papers, or assignments; unauthorized assistance in locating/using sources of information when forbidden or not authorized by the instructor; unauthorized possession, disposition, or use of examinations or answer keys; unauthorized alteration, forgery, fabrication, or falsification of academic records; unauthorized sale or purchase of examinations, papers, or assignments.

XIX. Complicity in academic dishonesty

- I. involves knowingly contributing to or cooperating with another's act(s) of academic dishonesty.

Important Dates to Remember

The College of Nursing academic calendar is available at <https://nursing.cuanschutz.edu/student-life/academic-calendar-and-resources>