Approving University Official(s): Provincial Senate – New Brunswick
Responsible Unit: Office of the Principal & Vice President, Academic NB
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Student Dress Code Policy

Purpose

This policy establishes a clear and consistent framework for dress and appearance standards for nursing students at Yorkville University ("Yorkville") while participating in laboratory, simulation, clinical, and preceptorship learning activities. It supports student and patient safety, infection prevention and control, and a professional image appropriate to nursing practice.

Scope

This policy applies to all students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) program and to nursing faculty participating in laboratory, simulation, clinical, or preceptorship activities.

Definitions

***"Clinical Setting"* –** Any healthcare, community, laboratory, simulation, clinical placement, or preceptorship environment in which a nursing student participates in supervised practice or clinical learning.

***"Professional Dress/ Attire"* –** Clothing, footwear, grooming, and personal presentation that are appropriate to the learning or clinical environment and consistent with safety, infection prevention and control requirements, professional standards, and applicable clinical placement facility expectations.

Policy Statement

Yorkville University Dress and Professional Appearance Standards for Nursing
Students and faculty must present a clean, professional, and appropriate appearance during all laboratory, simulation, clinical, and preceptorship activities.

Students must comply with the dress requirements of the clinical placement facility or unit where those requirements differ from Yorkville's standards, provided applicable safety, accommodation, and professional requirements are maintained.

Religious and cultural dress and articles are permitted where they do not compromise safety, infection prevention and control requirements, or applicable clinical placement facility requirements. Where a religious or cultural article may present a safety or operational concern, accommodation will be considered on an individual basis in accordance with applicable human rights requirements and University policies.

Uniform Requirements

- Yorkville-branded burgundy scrubs are required in clinical, laboratory, and simulation settings unless otherwise directed by the Clinical Instructor or placement site.
- Students will be provided with two (2) sets of burgundy scrubs for clinical placement. Replacement scrubs are the responsibility of the student.
- Standard scrubs must not be altered in style or permanently imprinted or embroidered with the student's name.
- A plain white, grey, or black long-sleeved garment may be worn under the scrub top. Sleeves must be pushed above the elbows for hand hygiene and direct patient care.
- Additional garments worn over the uniform, such as cardigans or jumpers, are permitted only where allowed by the clinical placement facility and consistent with safety and infection prevention requirements.
- Scrub pants must be hemmed so they do not touch the floor.
- Students are encouraged to change out of scrubs before entering public spaces after clinical practice or to cover the uniform when leaving the clinical setting.

Footwear and Socks

- Shoes must have closed heels and toes and be clean, secure, and appropriate for safe clinical practice.
- White or coloured footwear is acceptable.
- Lightweight white or black socks may be worn with the uniform. Compression stockings may also be worn.

Jewelry and Piercings

- A wristwatch with a second hand, or a digital watch that displays seconds, is required.
- Permitted jewelry is limited to a watch, one plain ring without stones or sharp edges, and plain stud or small hoop earrings, to a maximum of two (2) earrings per ear.
- Tongue jewelry and other visible piercing jewelry, including eyebrows, nose, chin, or lip jewelry, are not permitted in the clinical setting.
- Medical alert jewelry and jewelry worn for religious reasons are permitted where consistent with safety and infection prevention requirements.

Personal Hygiene and Fragrance

- Nails must be short and clean. Artificial fingernails and nail polish are not permitted in the clinical setting.
- Hair must be secured or controlled so that it does not interfere with patient care.
- Beards and moustaches must be managed in a manner that does not interfere with required personal protective equipment, including masks.
- Unscented deodorant should be used.
- Students must not chew gum while providing care.
- Students must avoid strong or noticeable scents and odours, including perfume, fragranced personal-care products, tobacco smoke, and scented hair products.

Equipment and Identification

- Stethoscopes must not be worn around the neck during clinical practice. They must be carried in a scrub pocket or otherwise stored safely and cleaned, stored, and used in accordance with infection prevention and control requirements
- Students and faculty must wear their Yorkville University identification during clinical

placements.
- Identification must be attached securely to the uniform. If a lanyard is used, it must have a breakaway safety clip.

Faculty Expectations

Laboratory, simulation, and clinical faculty must model professional dress and comply with the same applicable safety and professional appearance standards required of students. Where uniforms are not required by the clinical setting, professional attire is required.

Non-Compliance

A student who does not comply with this policy may be required to leave the laboratory, simulation, or clinical setting and will be considered absent for that learning activity.

Repeated non-compliance will be referred to the Associate Dean of Nursing or designate and escalated to the Dean of Nursing where further academic or disciplinary action is required. Failure to comply with this policy may affect the student's ability to meet course or clinical requirements and may result in failure of the clinical course.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility

The University promotes a respectful, discrimination- and harassment-free learning environment grounded in equity, diversity, and inclusion, with equitable opportunities for individuals from all backgrounds to pursue an education. Equitable access may require different supports for individuals and groups experiencing attitudinal, historical, social, or environmental barriers related to age, ethnicity, disability, economic status, marital status, family status, Indigenous identity, nationality, race, creed/religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Accommodations and accessibility supports are provided in accordance with applicable provincial human rights legislation. These supports enable students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills and meet essential program requirements without reducing academic standards or altering those requirements. Students with permanent, episodic, or temporary disabilities and medical conditions may receive individualized accommodations, assistive technologies, barrier-removal supports, and other resources to support course and program completion.

The University also promotes mental health and well-being through free webinars, literature, 24/7 online and telephone mental health resources, a well-being online tool, and confidential counselling for students and their family members through Homewood Health.

The Student Services Department supports students and faculty in developing accessible learning environments and individualized accessibility and accommodation plans that promote academic success.

Related Information

- *Attendance and Enrollment Policy*
- *Nursing Faculty Clinical Practical Guide*

Contacts

For questions regarding this policy, please contact:

Department/Office Name: Office of the Principal & Vice President, Academic NB
Email: VPANB@yorkvilleu.ca

Note: Names and structures of Yorkville offices or governing bodies may change over time. Such changes do not affect the validity of this policy. To confirm the current responsible office or body, contact the Office of Regulatory and Government Affairs at academicgovernance@yorkvilleu.ca.

Revision History

Version Code	Date	Summary of Changes	Authorized by (Title)
1.0	October 30, 2026	New policy	Provincial Senate – New Brunswick