

Preceptorship is an option for accelerated and traditional undergraduate nursing students during their final semester of the program. Instead of completing their clinical hours for NURS 476/482, students can apply to complete a preceptorship clinical. With this model, students are paired one-on-one with a registered nurse to get more hands-on experience and become more familiar with the nursing role. Eligible students will receive information on how and when to apply.

Each semester, preceptorship students will have the opportunity to nominate their nurse preceptor for the Preceptor Excellence Award. Excellent preceptors are those who promote critical thinking, provide students with practical, constructive feedback, enable critical decision-making, and model evidence-based practice.

Preceptor Excellence Award Winner Fall 2005



Cambria Davis, from Barnes-Jewish Hospital, was nominated and voted as the recipient of the Preceptor Excellence for the Fall 2025 Semester! Her student nurse, Rachel Newberry, had this to say about her:

Cambria has never failed at being a remarkable preceptor. From the moment I walked onto the floor, she welcomed me with open arms and made sure everyone working knew my name. She has been extremely patient with me, as I consistently ask her questions about equipment I have never seen, medications, nursing skills, procedures, etc. She took her own time to prepare practice worksheets over cardiac rhythms for me as well as printed me out cardiac material because I told her I was nervous about my test in complex needs. She went out of her way to find me new experiences like watching and assisting with a code, as well as opportunities to practice my nursing skills I was nervous about like IV insertion, blood cultures/draws, listening for the heart and lungs for abnormal sounds and/or rhythms. Since her floor is moving up an acuity level in the new Barnes tower, she had training on the cardiac ICU floor, which originally was supposed to be 3-4 hours, but she thought it was the perfect learning opportunity, so she advocated for us to spend the whole day there. From her drive of teaching, I got to see a patient with chest tubes, an A-line, measured cardiac output, saw a bronchoscopy, an extubation, administered medications through central catheters, and saw a patient on ECMO that was also on methylene blue. I learned about LVADs, transplants, cardiac catheter post-op safety, so much more I could go on forever. Not only is Cambria a great teacher, advocator, and supporter of me, but she has passion for Nursing that shines through when she talks with our patients. It inspires me to find a nursing specialty that brings as much joy on a daily basis as the cardiac floor does for her. At the beginning of the semester, I was a nervous nursing student that stuttered over my words when talking to patients, couldn't draw blood, forgot steps in the head-to-toe assessments, and didn't know what majority of the medications we were administering were. By the end of the first 8 weeks I am confident to go into patients rooms and take the lead on talking with the patient, administer medications and explained what each one is for to the patient, answer questions from the patient, and can draw blood without hesitation.

We are grateful for nursing preceptors, like Cambria, who dedicate their time and expertise to helping our students thrive. Congratulations to Cambria!