



UAMS Preceptor News & Updates

February 2026

Strengthening Clinical Preparedness

Faculty play a critical role in preparing students for the transition from classroom learning to specialty clinical practice. Intentional preparation prior to practicum experiences ensures that students enter clinical environments with foundational competence, confidence, and professional readiness. Early exposure to clinical learning experiences allows students to integrate their knowledge, apply diagnostic reasoning, and develop the technical skills essential for safe and effective patient care.

Throughout several preclinical courses, faculty incorporate simulations through Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) to promote clinical judgment and decision-making in realistic scenarios. These scenarios help students practice assessment skills, develop differential diagnoses, and receive targeted feedback in controlled environments. Prior to specialty practicum placement, the curriculum is designed to support students' clinical reasoning skills, thus preparing them for their transitions into advanced practice roles.

In addition, dedicated skills days and specialty intensives provide a focused, hands-on training that strengthens procedural competence and specialty-specific knowledge. These concentrated learning experiences allow students to rehearse essential skills, collaborate across disciplines, and address knowledge gaps before entering clinical settings. By scaffolding learning through simulation, structured evaluation, and immersive training, faculty ensure that students are well-prepared to



Preceptor Spotlight

Nancy Mitchell, PMHNP-BC, APRN is a UAMS graduate who currently works at Cardinal Counseling in North Little Rock. As a previous educator with a strong mental health nursing career, Nancy brings rich history to her patient care and PMHNP student mentorship. She has been a PMHNP for 6 years and currently serves as the Chapter Leader for the Arkansas Psychiatric Nurses Association.

engage meaningfully in their clinical experiences and deliver high-quality patient care.

Spring Intensive Highlights| Adult Gerontology Primary & Acute Care (AGPC & AGAC)



The January AGAC and AGPC Spring Intensive provided an immersive week of wellness, interdisciplinary collaboration, and hands-on clinical training to support students' transition to advanced practice. Activities included a mindfulness and wellness session focused on stress management, hands-on vascular ultrasound training in partnership with the College of Health Professions Ultrasound Program, and culinary medicine sessions highlighting cardiac nutrition through heart-healthy meal preparation.

Students also participated in high-fidelity simulations and procedural skills labs, managing common conditions such as pneumonia and heart failure exacerbations while practicing key procedures—including arterial and central line placement, paracentesis, chest tube insertion, intubation, and lumbar puncture—under faculty supervision.

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2026 Arkansas Nursing Research Day | UAMS College of Nursing

Arkansas Nursing Research Day is a statewide conference dedicated to advancing nursing research and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration among healthcare professionals, faculty, staff, and students. For over a decade, this event has provided a platform to showcase nursing research that drives evidence-based practice and improves health outcomes. ...

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OSCE sessions provide students with real-world practice in patient assessment and specialty focused decision making.

Practice today, makes better clinicians tomorrow.

We hope these resources support your ongoing professional growth and help you meet continuing education requirements. Thank you for your dedication to mentoring the next generation of nurse practitioners.



Upcoming Preceptor Recognition Event



Location and Guest Speakers to be announced shortly.
Join us for food, fun, fellowship! Preceptors will receive \$425 for attending.

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