STUDENT MANUAL

Medical Laboratory, Imaging and Radiologic Sciences
College of Allied Sciences

Academic Year 2017-2018
(updated 8-8-2017)
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MLIRS Student Manual 2017-2018
Dear Students,

Welcome to the Department of Medical Laboratory, Imaging, and Radiologic Sciences (MLIRS) in the College of Allied Health (CAHS) of Augusta University (AU). We are thrilled that you decided to continue your professional aspirations with us. We hope your education with us is prosperous and we look forward to watching you develop as a professional in your chosen program. Our goal is for you to graduate as a skilled healthcare professional, ready to conquer healthcare issues in Georgia, the Nation, and the World. We know you are ready to learn.

The Department of MLIRS is comprised of three dynamic and exciting healthcare disciplines in the diagnostic and therapeutic sciences: Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS), Nuclear Medicine Technology (NMT), and Radiation Therapy (RTT). We have multiple program options within each discipline including online programs in Clinical Laboratory Science and Nuclear Medicine Technology. The MLIRS offers two professional baccalaureate degrees, the BS-CLS in Clinical Laboratory Science and the BS in Radiologic Sciences (BSRS) for NMT and RTT, as well as a Masters of Health Science (MHS) in Clinical Laboratory Science.

We welcome you to our department and your chosen healthcare discipline. The technical nature of our disciplines requires that you gain a deep understanding of concepts and the manual dexterity to apply these concepts to technical systems and patient health. The pathway to competence will be rigorous and we expect you to succeed. We are dedicated to your learning and development, and pledge to be here for you.

Sincerely,

Dr. James Burgess
MLIRS Department Chair

Zubaida Abubucker
Wanda Adams
Jan Bane
Giti Bayhaghi
Dianna Bolick
Sharon Chestnut
Tiana Curry-McCoy
Lynne Eggert
Regina Garrard

Nasrul Hoda
Jeane Silva
Gregory Passmore
Krishnan Prabakaran
Lester Pretlow
Gloria Sloan
Scott Wise
MJ Weintraub
Faculty/Staff Roster

**Chairman**
Dr. James Burgess

**Administrative Office Manager 1**
Ms. Wanda Adams

**Program Coordinator**
Ms. Jan Bane

**Medical Laboratory Assistant**
Ms. Zubaida Abubucker

**Clinical Laboratory Science Faculty**
Mr. Scott Wise (Acting Program Director)
Dr. Tiana Curry-McCoy
Dr. Nasrul Hoda
Dr. Lester Pretlow
Dr. Jeane Silva
Ms. Gloria Sloan
Dr. MJ Weintraub
Ms. Giti Bayhaghi – Mobile Lab Faculty
Dr. Elizabeth Leibach, Professor Emeritus

**Nuclear Medicine Technology Faculty**
Dr. Greg Passmore – Program Director
Mr. Krishnan Prabakaran – Distant Clinical Coordinator
Ms. Regina Garrard – Augusta Clinical Coordinator
Ms. Mary Anne (Mimi) Owen, Associate Professor Emeritus

**Radiation Therapy Faculty**
Ms. Lynne Eggert – Program Director
Ms. Diana Boliek – Clinical Coordinator
Ms. Sharon Chestnut – Part-Time Faculty; Clinical Coordinator

**General Faculty**
Dr. Andy Hauger
Mr. George David
Dr. Ahmad Al-Basheer
Mr. Jonathan Rohe
Ms. Brandy Rohe
Edwin Keeler
Confidentiality of Records and Georgia Open Records Act

You have the right to restrict the release of your student information or to authorize the release of information to specified individuals.

To restrict the release of your information complete the FERPA Opt-Out Form. Requesting confidential status will prevent employees of AU from providing any directory or confidential information to you or other parties. When a confidentiality restriction is in place we can only discuss your record with you if you appear in person with picture identification or if you release the restriction.

Request for Confidential Status Form
To remove the confidential status, complete the bottom of the FERPA Opt-Out Form (Request for Confidential Status Form) available at http://www.augusta.edu/registrar/04.01.16requestconfidentialstatus_fillable.pdf.

Students may complete a FERPA consent form to authorize release of their academic record information to specific individuals named in the release by completing the Authorization to Release Information Form.

FERPA – Right to Privacy
FERPA stands for the Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. This legislation protects the privacy of student records and regulates how the information is utilized. These are your rights and it is to your benefit to familiarize yourself with them. The AU FERPA Policy is located in the AU Student Manual Section 1.1 (Privacy of Student Information and FERPA) available at http://www.augusta.edu/student-life/documents/2017austudentmanual.pdf.

Student Progression Policy

I. Satisfactory Academic Standing
The policy of the Department of MLIRS regarding satisfactory academic standing is as follows: Students must earn a grade of “C” or higher in all courses to progress in the programs within the Department of MLIRS.

II. Superior Academic Performance
Please see the AU Undergraduate Catalog Academic Regulations section related to Dean’s List and Graduation with Honors available at http://catalog.augusta.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=3332.

III. Unsatisfactory Academic Standing

A. Academic Probation And Suspension Policy
Per the AU Undergraduate Catalog Academic Regulations section related to Academic Standing available at http://catalog.augusta.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=3332, “Any undergraduate student whose institutional grade point average (GPA) at the conclusion
of any semester is below a 2.00 shall be placed on academic probation. Undergraduate students at Augusta University who are on academic probation must have their course schedules approved by their advisors prior to registration. They may continue to attend Augusta University only if they meet the following minimum academic standards, which are based on progression level:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Progression Level</th>
<th>Term GPA or</th>
<th>Institutional GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60 - 89</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>1.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 and above</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who are on probation and fail to meet either the minimum Term or the Institutional GPA requirements specified above will be suspended. Students who meet the Term GPA requirement will remain on probation until their Institutional GPA is at or above 2.00, at which time they will return to good standing. Some programs within the University maintain academic standards specific to their degree requirements which may exceed these basic requirements.” (See Academic Suspension, Dismissal and Administrative Withdrawal).

B. Academic Suspension, Dismissal And Administrative Withdrawal

The policy of the Department of MLIRS regarding unsatisfactory academic standing is as follows: A student who fails to earn a grade of “C” or higher in any course which is essential* to further study in the curriculum of the program in which he/she is enrolled may be suspended or administratively withdrawn from the program. In non-professional courses in which the student earns a “pass” or “fail,” a student must earn a “pass,” unless otherwise indicated, to continue in the program.

Per the AU Undergraduate Catalog Academic Regulations section related to Academic Suspension available at http://catalog.augusta.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=3332, “the mandatory minimum term of suspension shall be one semester.” However, most courses within the Department of MLIRS are only offered once a year, so to maintain course sequence the suspension may last until the next time the course in which the student failed to earn a grade of “C” is offered. The Department of MLIRS may choose to offer the student a reduced academic load over an increased number of semesters to assist the student in completing the program of study. These privileges are granted at MLIRS Department Chair's discretion. The MLIRS Department Chair may request proof of recommendation to decrease the course load for medical, financial hardship or other reasons. Due to space availability, priority is given to the students enrolled on full time basis.

* All courses in MLIRS curricula are considered essential. If a student wishes to withdraw from a course, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from the program.

Upon being administratively withdrawn from the program, undergraduate students may pursue another major at AU upon consultation with Academic Advisement.

Any MLIRS student that is dismissed from a clinical internship rotation due to academic or behavioral/professionalism circumstances will be placed on academic probation and will be
required to sign a contract stating that if dismissal should happen again, the student will be administratively withdrawn from the program.

C. Notification Of Unsatisfactory Academic Progress And Unsatisfactory Academic Conduct
The Instructor of Record will inform a student in writing of unsatisfactory academic progress or unsatisfactory academic conduct and copy the Program Director and MLIRS Department Chair. If an unsatisfactory academic progress or unsatisfactory academic conduct issue should arise with a student, the Instructor’s Counseling Form may be used to document the meeting with the student. (See Instructor's Counseling Form).

Student Rights and Due Process

Students will be provided due process in disciplinary matters including the right to know the charges against them, the consequences, the right to submit a grievance and the right to appeal.

I. Student Academic Progress and Academic Conduct Grievances And Appeals

A. MLIRS Student Academic Grievance And Appeals Process
1. After receiving written notification of unsatisfactory academic progress or unsatisfactory academic conduct from the Instructor of Record, the student must start with a sincere attempt to settle the dispute in an informal manner by consulting with the instructor involved by written letter or email within 5 working days in which the grievance occurs. The student should articulate the reason(s) for the grievance and the expected remedy.
2. The Instructor of Record should provide a response in writing to the student within 5 working days of receiving the student’s written grievance.
3. If the student is not satisfied that a fair and equitable solution has been achieved, the student may submit an informal grievance to the instructor’s supervisor by written letter or email with 5 working days of receiving the Instructor of Record’s written response. In most instances, this will be the Program Director. The student should articulate the reason(s) for the grievance and the expected remedy, along with any documentary evidence.
4. The Program Director should provide a response in writing to the student within 5 working days of receiving the student’s written grievance.
5. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she may submit a formal grievance to the MLIRS Department Chair by written letter or email within 5 working days of receiving the Program Directors written response. The student should articulate the reason(s) for the grievance, the expected remedy, any documentary evidence or facts to support it, a summary of the steps that have already been taken to resolve the grievance and reasons why the student finds the resolutions unfair or unsatisfactory.
6. The MLIRS Department Chair should provide a decision in writing to the student within 5 working days of receiving the student’s written grievance.
7. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she may submit an appeal to the Program Director’s Group (PDG) by written letter or email within 5 working days of receiving the MLIRS Department Chair’s written decision and request a hearing, less the Program Director involved.
8. A department administrative representative will communicate the date, time and location.
of the hearing with the student. The student will be informed of his/her right to have an advisor attend the hearing with him/her. The advisor may not be an attorney, as this is not a legal hearing. Any advisor accompanying the student is not permitted to speak or participate in the hearing and will be limited to speaking only to the student for which they are advising. The members of the PDG are not permitted to speak to the advisor.

9. The student must notify the department’s administrative representative of the name of the advisor at least 2 working days prior to the hearing. The hearing will be recorded and a document generated with information discussed during the hearing.

10. When the student prepares his/her case, he/she should keep in mind that the burden of proof is on him/her, not the instructor.

11. The PDG should provide a recommendation in writing to the MLIRS Department Chair within 5 working days of the hearing which supports or disagrees with the MLIRS Department Chair’s decision or recommends alternative consequences.

12. The MLIRS Department Chair should provide a final decision in writing to the student within 5 working days of receiving the PDG recommendation.

13. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she may submit an appeal to the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) by following the CAHS Student Appeal Process.

B. CAHS Student Appeals Process
The CAHS Student Appeals Process is available at http://www.augusta.edu/alliedhealth/faculty/council/student_appeal_process.php. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she may submit an appeal to AU by following the AU Student Academic Grievance and Appeals Process.

C. AU Student Academic Grievances Policy
The AU Student Grievances Policy is located in the AU Policy Library Section 03 (Academic Affairs) available at http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php and in the AU Undergraduate Catalog Academic Regulations section related to Student Academic Grievances available at http://catalog.augusta.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=3332.

D. AU Student Academic Appeals Policy
The AU Student Academic Appeals Policy is located in the AU Policy Library Section 03 (Academic Affairs) available at http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php and in the AU Undergraduate Catalog Academic Regulations section related to Student Academic Appeals available at http://catalog.augusta.edu/content.php?catoid=27&navoid=3332.

E. AU Academic Conduct

The following is a statement of the responsibilities of students, as individuals and as groups at AU. It is the official record of conduct rules and regulations affecting students. The responsibilities apply to the AU campus, property of other units of the University System of Georgia (USG), institutions with formal or informal agreements with AU and AU sponsored functions on or off campus.
1. Academic Honesty
The University recognizes that honesty and integrity are necessary to its academic function. The following regulations protect the equity and validity of the university’s grades and degrees, and help students develop ethical standards and attitudes appropriate to academic and professional life.

Violations of academic honesty include cheating of all kinds, plagiarism, fraudulent research activity and/or scholarship, collusion, and false statements made to avoid negative academic consequences.

- **Cheating**
  - Cheating on course examinations or assignments is prohibited; including but not limited to the following:
    - Possessing, using, or exchanging improperly acquired information, whether in written or oral form, in the preparation of any essay, laboratory report, or other assignment in an academic course, or in preparing for any examination in a course.
    - Copying from another student’s paper.
    - Use of prepared materials, notes, or texts other than those specifically permitted by the instructor during the examination.
    - Collaboration with another student during an examination, unless such collaboration is explicitly allowed by the course instructor for the examination in question.
    - Unapproved use of any technological device to gain or provide advantage on an examination, lab practical, or other assignment to be submitted for academic credit.
    - Substituting for another person during an examination or allowing someone else to substitute for you.
    - Solicitation or bribery of any person to obtain examination information.

- **Plagiarism**
  - Plagiarism is prohibited. Themes, essays, term papers, tests, presentations, creative works, and similar work submitted to satisfy course and program requirements must be the personal work of the student submitting it. Plagiarism is the failure to acknowledge indebtedness to the authors/creators of works used to complete such assignments and/or other course requirements. It is always assumed that the work offered for evaluation and credit is the student’s own unless otherwise acknowledged. Such acknowledgment should occur whenever one quotes another person’s actual words; whenever one appropriates another person’s ideas, opinions, or theories, even if they are paraphrased; and whenever one borrows facts, statistics, or other illustrative materials, unless the information is common knowledge. Further, it is expected, in the production of creative work, that the student’s work products are original, and that any images, sounds, or other intellectual properties that are not the original work of the student will be used fairly and with acknowledgement of the original source(s).

- **Research Misconduct**
  - Research Misconduct is prohibited. Misrepresentation of data collection and analysis, including falsification, fabrication or omission of data is prohibited. Augusta University Policy for Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct
applies to students.

- **Collusion**
  - Collusion is unauthorized assistance from or collaboration with another person in the preparation or editing of notes, themes, reports, or other written work or in laboratory work offered for evaluation and credit, unless such assistance or collaboration is specifically approved in advance by the instructor. In cases of collusion, both the provider and recipient of such assistance are in violation of this academic conduct policy. However, students are authorized to use appropriate campus resources in the completion of written work (e.g., the campus Writing Center). Unless stated otherwise by the course instructor, use of such campus resources does not constitute academic misconduct under this policy. However, no student, except those working in a tutorial capacity in a University-approved academic support center, will knowingly give or receive unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any assignment, essay, laboratory report or examination to be submitted for credit in an academic course.

- **False statements**
  - False statements made to avoid negative academic consequences include oral and/or written statements designed to obfuscate, misrepresent, or otherwise distort the presentation of facts related to a student's academic conduct in a course or program of study. Examples of such false statements include, but are not limited to, oral or written documentation providing willfully inaccurate information related to attendance, course work, examinations, and/or other course requirements enumerated in the syllabus of the particular course for which such a statement is provided.

While these acts constitute assured instances of academic misconduct, other acts of academic misconduct may be defined by the professor in his/her course syllabus.

2. **Responsibilities**

- **Faculty Responsibility**
  It is the duty of the faculty to practice and preserve academic honesty and to encourage it among students. The instructor should clarify in the course syllabus any situation peculiar to the course that may differ from the generally stated policy. He or she should, whenever possible, make explicit the intent and purpose of each assignment so that the student may complete the assignment without unintentionally compromising academic honesty. It is the responsibility of the faculty member to provide for appropriate oversight of assignments, examinations, internship components, and other course requirements. Finally, it is the responsibility of the faculty member to provide written notice to the student of any suspected violations of the academic conduct policy.

- **Student Responsibility**
  It is the duty of the student to practice and preserve academic honesty. Each student should be aware of the specific policies governing academic conduct for the program(s) and course(s) in which he or she is enrolled, as well as the grievance and appeals processes put in place for adjudicating such policies. If the student has any doubt about a situation, he or she should consult with his or her instructor. It is also the student's responsibility to maintain his/her correct address of record with Augusta
University so that official notification of the student regarding academic misconduct can be carried out in timely fashion.

3. MLIRS Student Conduct Code
MLIRS students are required to sign a pledge to uphold the Student Conduct Code prior to or at the time of submitting an academic assessment. The pledge may be in written or in electronic form and states:

“I am the student whose name is shown on top of this examination and I am the person who completed this examination. I neither received from, nor gave assistance or supportive resource to any other person to answer the questions on this examination. The questions on this examination were answered by me without help of textbooks, notes, digital or Web media of any kind, or any other individual. I pledge, to the best of my knowledge that I observed or know of no violation of Augusta University Honor Code having taken place involving myself or other students.”

If unable to answer “true” to the above statement, the student will be given an opportunity to briefly explain. Any response provided concerning other students and their involvement in an Honor Code violation will be closely guarded. MLIRS faculty regularly monitor student activities for evidence of academic dishonesty during all academic activities such as clinical assignments, laboratory time and examinations both on- and off-campus. Any allegations of students’ found giving or receiving assistance not authorized by the Instructor of Record in the preparation of any assignment, essay, laboratory report, or any lecture or laboratory examination to be submitted as a requirement for a course or exhibiting any type of dishonesty will be evaluated by the Instructor of Record and may result in notification of unsatisfactory academic conduct. (See Student Academic Progress and Academic Conduct Grievances and Appeals)

Note that lying, attempted cheating, stealing, or attempted stealing, failure to report the knowledge of an Honor Code violation, and failure to protect the confidential nature of the patient-professional relationship as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) are treated as an act of academic dishonesty.

4. MLIRS Professional Expectations
Students are provided with professional expectations with regards to motivation, attitude, integrity, communication, self-worth/assessment, independence/leadership, and altruism at the beginning of the program. (See Student Professionalism Policy)

Student Professionalism Policy

The Department of MLIRS defines professionalism as the “habitual and judicious use of communication, knowledge, technical skills, clinical reasoning, emotions, values and reflection in daily practice for the benefit of the individual and community being served.”

While the Department of MLIRS recognizes all individuals possess certain unique attributes, it expects students to exercise them in such a way as to exhibit high standards of professional behavior at all times. If professional conduct becomes distracting or is viewed as undesirable by patients, staff, faculty, or other colleagues, it is expected that such behavior will be appropriately modified. Above all, students should keep in mind that their professional conduct is not only a reflection of themselves, but also of the program and institution, and they should conduct themselves accordingly.
References to the Board of Regents (BOR), AU, and Department of MLIRS policies regarding student conduct/professionalism are provided below and are to be reviewed and adhered to at all times:

a. BOR Statement and Policy on discipline of students (Section 4.6) available at http://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section4/C332.


c. Department of MLIRS Student Manual - Refer to the following policies:
   - confidentiality of records
   - assignment policy
   - grading policy
   - attendance policy
   - academic progression policy
   - dress code policy

In order to guide students more specifically in how they should conduct themselves, the Department of MLIRS has developed a list of professional expectations. These behaviors are considered a course requirement for every course in which they enroll in the Department of MLIRS. Accordingly, students are evaluated on these expectations. The weight of the evaluation in determining the course grade is left to the discretion of the Instructor of Record. If an unsatisfactory academic progress or unsatisfactory academic conduct issue should arise with a student, the Instructor's Counseling Form may be used to document the meeting with the student. (See Student Professional Behavior Evaluation and Instructor's Counseling Form).

Reference:
Student Professional Behavior Evaluation

Student ________________________________  Course___________________________
Evaluator ______________________________  Date ____________________________

Evaluate the following behaviors by checking the appropriate box.   For any items in which a “some met” or “not met” score is given, provide at the end of this form specific comments, action taken, follow-up, and/or whether additional action is needed for that item.*

Grading Rubric for Expectations:
Exceeded - Student has met all criteria within the category during the entire course/rotation.
Met – Student has met all but one of the criteria listed within the category or has no more than 2 violations of any of the criteria during the entire course/rotation
Mostly Met – Student has met all but two of the criteria within the category or has no more than 3 violations of any of the criteria during the entire course/rotation
Some Met – Student has met all but three of the criteria within the category or has no more than 4 violations of any of the criteria during the entire course/rotation.
Not Met - Student has not met the majority of the criteria within the category or has more than 5 violations of any of the criteria during the entire course/rotation.

A.  Communication with professors and other students is integral to a student's success in the program. It is also an opportunity to establish timely and proficient communication skills which are vital in the healthcare professions. Thus any student that does not communicate with a course director at least twice during the semester, or does not respond to communications from a course director within one business day may be subject to a score of “Not Met” for Categories II, III, and IV.

B.  Any infraction that rises to the level of Academic Dishonesty or Misconduct may result in a score as low as zero on the Professional Behavior Evaluation. The final score is at the discretion of the instructor based on the instructor’s assessment of the severity of the situation. Please refer to MLIRS Student Manual section on Urgent Behavioral Circumstances.

C.  Plagiarism or cheating on course examinations or assignments are severe infractions that may result in a Professional Behavior Evaluation score of zero. The final score will be determined by the professor based on the instructor’s assessment of the severity of the infraction. Please refer to MLIRS Student Manual section on Urgent Behavioral Circumstances.

D.  Behavior exhibiting disregard for the patient-professional relationship or confidentiality as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) will result in a score of “Not Met” for Categories I, II, III, and V.

I.  ATTITUDE:
Expectations: Exceeded(25)[ ];Met(23)[ ];Mostly Met(18)[ ];Some Met(13)[ ];Not Met(0)[ ]; N/A [ ]
Compassion/Empathy: demonstrate calm, compassionate, helpful demeanor toward those in need; respond appropriately to the emotional response of those in which you interact; take initiative to help others with both spoken and unspoken needs, problems, issues; demonstrate empathy in professional interactions with others; be supportive and reassuring to others
Acceptance of Constructive Criticism: receive constructive criticism with a positive attitude and use feedback to improve his behavior/performance; provide constructive criticism in a positive manner so it will be received by others in a productive way
Respect: treat others with dignity and respect; refrain from generating or spreading gossip, profanity, demeaning, foul, threatening, abusive or other negative communication; behave in a manner that brings credit to his school, discipline, and employer; avoid criticism of people in front of others; treat equipment and other resources with due care
Conscientiousness: be meticulous and careful in conducting professional tasks; consistently strive for excellence in professional activities

Sincerity/Genuineness: demonstrate authentic expression/communication by appropriate use of voice tone, volume and inflection; avoid use of patronizing terms (sweetie, honey, etc.) and impersonal communication; recognize a job well done by others

II. INTEGRITY:

Expectations: Exceeded(25) [ ]; Met(23) [ ]; Mostly Met(18) [ ]; Some Met(13) [ ]; Not Met(0) [ ]; N/A [ ]

Dependability/Reliability: be dependable in all professional dealings; honor his commitments

Accountability: be accountable for his actions and their consequences

Honesty: be consistently truthful, forthright, fair, and credible; be trustworthy by those with whom he interacts; be trusted with the property of others; refrain from deceptive practices; avoid being placed in a compromising situation, either directly or by association; report actions deemed dishonest, illegal, or unethical to the proper authorities for action

Exercise of Sound Judgment: make sound decisions based upon established rules and regulations, fact, and logic

Workload Sharing/Teamwork: show proper respect for group members; work cooperatively with others; actively participate in group work from beginning to completion; contribute his share when working as a group (in number and complexity of tasks); if his assignment is complete, seek out opportunities to contribute above and beyond minimum requirement; value the knowledge, expertise and suggestions of group members; communicate with other group members to resolve problems; participate in group discussion without attempt to dominate; put the success of the group above self-interest; be willing to mentor those in need of encouragement and direction

Responsibility: be competent before performing a task independently; without request, take on and follow through with tasks; demonstrate self-reliance in carrying out professional tasks; provide realistic time estimates for completion of specific tasks; assure tasks within his responsibility are completed fully and in a timely manner; act with the safety of yourself and others in mind; look out for the well-being of others

Demonstration of Professional Code of Ethics: be intimately familiar with his discipline’s Code of Ethics and potential consequences of noncompliance; demonstrate a high standard in personal and professional behavior; report violations of the Professional Code of Ethics to the proper authorities for action

Quality of Work: set a high standard for quality of professional expertise and outcomes; excel in productive use of time and resources; choose to perform tasks according to proper protocols rather than taking “shortcuts”; remain abreast of new information in your professional discipline and health care in general

Admission of Mistakes: acknowledge mistakes/errors, apologize and amend appropriately

III. COMMUNICATION:

Expectations: Exceeded(15) [ ]; Met(13) [ ]; Mostly Met(10) [ ]; Some Met(7) [ ]; Not Met(0) [ ]; N/A [ ]

Confidentiality: protect and preserve personal confidential information of others to which you may have access; observe appropriate conversational etiquette in various professional settings (elevators, cafeteria, work area, offices, classrooms, hallways, etc.)

Level/Quality of Communication: create comfortable communicative atmosphere; communicate with volume, tone, terminology, and nonverbal cues appropriate to the situation presented; convey written messages appropriately; provide appropriate information to others that will assist them with tasks/procedures at hand; listen actively and confirm accuracy of interpretation of communication; adjust communication strategies to fit various situations; encourage questions to clarify information; use humor appropriately in communications

Communication Process: follow established rules and regulations regarding hierarchy of communication; communicate in a timely manner

Perception of Others’ Needs: be attuned to the needs of others

Relevancy of Communication: refrain from personal activities while in professional environment; demonstrate proper discernment re: content of professional communications (ex. interactions are relevant, appropriate, respectful)

Politeness: respond to others in a positive manner by smiling and speaking with a genuine tone; display appropriate manners in interacting with others (ex. use appropriate surnames and titles in formal/professional interactions; identify yourself and your role when communicating with others; allow patients, elders, etc. priority in entering and exiting buildings and elevators); avoid interrupting speaker

Emotional Control: demonstrate appropriate physical, verbal, and emotional restraint in professional interactions with others

Observe: anticipate needs of others based on physical, verbal and nonverbal cues

Cultural Sensitivity: demonstrate understanding of cultural, religious, and spiritual differences of others; exhibit appropriate sensitivity in interactions with those of different cultures, religions, and spiritualities
Conflict Resolution/Diplomacy: use tact when presented with (potentially) volatile situations; follow appropriate protocol in resolution of conflict; exhibit proper restraint in communication during conflict resolution

IV. MOTIVATION:
Expectations: Exceeded(15)[ ];Met(13)[ ];Mostly Met(10)[ ];Some Met(7)[ ];Not Met(0)[ ]; N/A [ ]
Preparation for assignments: organize information appropriately for use/study; bring prior assigned materials with him to designated activities; put forth genuine effort to prepare for, and complete, assignments; use outside resources in addition to required texts to research relevant information; demonstrate both quantity and quality of effort in completing assignments; fully complete assignments by their deadlines
Attendance: be early or on time for all activities even when attendance is optional; if unavoidably late or absent, contact appropriate party ahead of time, or as soon as reasonably possible in an emergency, to inform him/her of change in arrival time; in the event of absence, take responsibility for getting information missed and requesting rescheduling of activities, if appropriate/allowed

V. INDEPENDENCE/LEADERSHIP:
Expectations: Exceeded(10)[ ];Met(9)[ ];Mostly Met(7)[ ];Some Met(5)[ ];Not Met(0)[ ]; N/A [ ]
Respect for authority: understand R&R of unit of which you’re a part; comply with established R&R in task completion; champion and communicate the mission and vision of your school, employer, profession; uses grievance mechanisms appropriately
Adaptability: be flexible in dealing with issues that are not absolute in nature; appropriately modify and reorganize rules and regulations/protocols as needed; adapt to different instructors or modes of instructions; accept changes in assignments and schedules without flustering
Understanding of Limitations: do not attempt tasks beyond your capabilities without instructor/ supervisor’s consent

VI. SELF-WORTH/ASSESSMENT/ALTRUISM:
Expectations: Exceeded(10)[ ];Met(9)[ ];Mostly Met(7)[ ];Some Met(5)[ ];Not Met(0)[ ]; N/A [ ]
Appearance: meet or exceed standards for professional dress
Personal Hygiene: meet or exceed standards for professional grooming
Recognition of Strengths/Weaknesses: use feedback from other professionals, peers, and self-reflection to identify strengths and weaknesses; proactively look for ways to improve your behavior and performance; value the positive contributions you make to your school, discipline, and employer
Desire to Help Others: appreciate and recognize others for their contributions; be an advocate for those you serve; be involved in activities that improve your community and/or other groups you desire to help

*Specific comments, action taken, follow-up, and/or whether additional action is needed for an item (identify the item # to which you are referring; use back of page if more space needed):

Score (pts)

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The weight of the professional evaluation in determining the final course grade is left to the discretion of the course director and provided in each course syllabus.

Instructor’s Counseling Form

When a student is counseled concerning his/her unsatisfactory academic progress and/or unsatisfactory academic conduct, the subject discussed and comments made by both the instructor and the student will be recorded on this counseling form. This form will be kept with the student's records.

Student Name: _________________________________________________

Subject Discussed: _________________________________________________

INSTRUCTOR'S COMMENTS:

STUDENT'S COMMENTS:

Instructor Signature: ___________________________ Date_________________

Student Signature: ___________________________ Date_________________

Copy sent to Department Chair Date_________________

Copy sent to Program Director Date_________________
II. Student Non-Academic Conduct Grievances And Appeals

A. Notification Of Unsatisfactory Non-Academic Student Conduct
   The Instructor of Record will inform a student in writing of unsatisfactory non-academic conduct and copy the Program Director. The Instructor of Record will consult with the Program Director to determine if written notification of the alleged violation should be forwarded to the Program Directors Group (PDG) and MLIRS Department Chair. If so, the PDG and the MLIRS Department Chair will determine if written notification of the alleged violation should be forwarded to the College of Allied Health Sciences (CAHS) Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. If so, the CAHS Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will consult with the CAHS Dean to determine if written notification of the alleged violation should be forwarded to the CAHS Review Body (CAHS-RB). The CAHS-RB policy is located at http://www.augusta.edu/alliedhealth/faculty/council/student_appeal_process.php.

B. MLIRS Student Non-Academic Grievance And Appeals Process

C. AU Non-Academic Code Of Conduct

   The following is a statement of the responsibilities of students, as individuals and as groups at AU. It is the official record of conduct rules and regulations affecting students. The responsibilities apply to the AU campus, property of other units of the University System of Georgia (USG), institutions with formal or informal agreements with AU and AU sponsored functions on or off campus.

   1. 3.1: Presentation of Identification
   2. 3.2: Drugs & Drug Paraphernalia
   3. 3.3: Alcohol on Campus
   4. 3.4: Tobacco-Free Campus
   5. 3.5: Fraud, Including False Identification and Other Acts of Dishonesty
   6. 3.6: Disregard for University Authority
   7. 3.7: Disorderly Conduct
   8. 3.8: Gambling
   9. 3.9: Endangering the Safety of Others
   10. 3.10 Harassment
   11. 3.11 Stalking and Cyberstalking
   12. 3.12 Hazing
   13. 3.13 Sexual Misconduct
   14. 3.14 Respect for Property and the Property Rights of Others (Theft)
   15. 3.15 Arson, Explosive Devices and Emergency Equipment
16. 3.16 Possession of Weapons
17. 3.17 Unauthorized Entry
18. 3.18 Responsibility for Guests
19. 3.19 Amplified Sound and Other Noise Level Violations
20. 3.20 Information Technology Appropriate Use
21. 3.21 Retaliation
22. 3.22 Observance of Local, State and Federal Criminal Laws
23. 3.23 Violation of Other Applicable University Policies

III. Student Non-Academic Concerns And Complaints
The student non-academic concern and complaint procedures provide students a means to request a review of non-academic issues that may negatively affect the quality of the educational program. Examples include but are not limited to: comfort and cleanliness of the classroom, quiet testing conditions and access to laboratories, technology or other educational resources.

The Department of MLIRS follows the AU Student Concerns and Complaints Policy. The AU Student Concerns and Complaints Policy is located in the AU Policy Library Section 04 (Student Affairs) available at http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php and in the AU Student Manual Section 1.3 (Student Complaints) available at http://www.augusta.edu/student-life/documents/2017austudentmanual.pdf.

IV. Urgent Behavioral Circumstances
Under ordinary circumstances a student charged with a violation of the Department of MLIRS Professionalism Policy or their profession's Code of Ethics will remain free to attend class and engage in all other University functions while discipline charges are pending. However, some or all of a student's privileges may be limited or suspended by the Dean of the CAHS on an interim basis pending the outcomes of the grievance and appeal process. The Dean of the CAHS may limit or suspend student privileges when the Dean determines that the student poses a serious and immediate danger or threat to persons or property. An interim suspension or withdrawal of privileges does not replace the regular grievance and appeal process, which shall proceed.

Before issuing an interim suspension to a student, the Dean of the CAHS will make all reasonable efforts to give the student an opportunity to be heard on whether his/her presence on campus poses a danger. The student may submit a request for a hearing by written letter or email to the Dean of the CAHS. The hearing must be held within 3 working days of receiving the student's written request for a hearing.

If the student is charged with an egregious violation of the AU Non-Academic Code of Conduct Policy, located in the AU Student Manual Section III (Student Responsibilities) available at http://www.augusta.edu/student-life/documents/2017austudentmanual.pdf or the MLIRS Professionalism Policy, the Department of MLIRS may submit a written recommendation to the Dean of the CAHS for interim suspension while charges are pending. Please see the AU Student Manual Section 2.8 (Interim Suspension While Charges Pending) available at http://www.augusta.edu/student-life/documents/2017austudentmanual.pdf.

V. Allegations Of Non-Compliance With Accreditation Standards
Students have the right to submit allegations against accredited educational programs if there is
reason to believe that the program has acted contrary to accreditation standards or that conditions at the program appear to jeopardize the quality of instruction or the general welfare of its students.

The following accrediting bodies provide accreditation standards for the educational programs in the Department of MLIRS:

- **National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science (NAACLS) for Clinical Laboratory Science**
  - NAACLS
    - 5600 N. River Road
    - Suite 720
    - Rosemont, IL 60018-5119
    - Telephone: 773-714-8880
    - Fax: 773-714-8886
    - Website: [http://www.naacls.org](http://www.naacls.org)

- **Joint Review Committee on Educational Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology (JRCNMT) for Nuclear Medicine Technology**
  - JRCNMT
    - 820 W Danforth Rd, #B1
    - Edmond, OK 73003
    - Telephone: 405-285-0546
    - Fax: 405-285-0579
    - Email: mail@jrcnmt.org
    - Website: [http://www.jrcnmt.org](http://www.jrcnmt.org)

- **Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT) for Radiation Therapy**
  - JRCERT
    - 20 North Wacker Drive
    - Suite 2850
    - Chicago, IL 60606-3182
    - Telephone: 312-704-5300
    - Fax: 312-704-5304
    - Email: mail@jrcert.org
    - Website: [http://www.jrcert.org](http://www.jrcert.org)

A complaint is defined within this section as one alleging that an accredited educational program within the Department of MLIRS may not be in substantial compliance with accreditation standards.

A student who has a complaint should follow the Department of MLIRS academic progress grievance policy. If there is no resolution, the student may submit an allegation of non-compliance directly to the respective accrediting body. The accrediting bodies’ contact information and links to accreditation standards are also located on each program’s website.
Course Exemption Policy

I. Full Exemption
The Department of MLIRS has defined instances when a student within the department may have the ability to demonstrate college level performance for professional course credit.

The following instances where this may occur are:
- The student has successfully completed a course determined to be similar to a course required for the MLIRS program’s professional curriculum with a grade of “C” or higher;
- The student has successfully completed an equivalent course from an accredited institution, with a grade of “C” or higher, at the same or higher academic level in a discipline specific to the program the student is entering;
- The student holds current credentialing, recognized by the program, in a discipline specific to the program the student is entering.

The MLIRS PDG will review all cases to determine student eligibility for testing out of a course or for course exemption.

A. For Successful Completion of a Similar Course
A student may be allowed to demonstrate college level examination performance through a comprehensive written examination and/or skills assessment for a course determined to be similar to a course required for the MLIRS’s program’s professional curriculum.

The following steps must be taken to initiate and complete this process:
1. The student must submit a written letter to their Program Director stating their desire to exempt a course;
2. The student must provide a college course description of the previous course to the Program Director, who will then forward it on to the Instructor of Record;
3. The student must register and pay for the course to obtain the required course credit;
4. Upon receipt of the letter of intent and the course description, the Program Director and the Instructor of Record must review the course description to determine if the course has equivalent course content as the MLIRS program’s professional course;
5. If the Program Director and the Instructor of Record are satisfied that the previous course can be used, then the Program Director will write a letter to the PDG stating the student’s intent to test out of the course and their recommendations as to whether the student should be allowed to proceed, 

   **Note:** If the Program Director and Instructor of Record do not agree, the process will stop, and the information will be forwarded to the PDG for final consideration;

6. The PDG will then review the material submitted for the final determination of student eligibility to take the course exemption examination;
7. If the PDG agrees to allow the student to exempt the course, the student will be given the course exemption examination/s (written and/or skills assessment) at the beginning of the course;

8. The student must earn a grade of 70* or higher to receive academic credit;

9. The Instructor of Record will then enter a grade commensurate with the examination score at the end of the course.

* If the student does not earn a grade of 70 or higher, the student will then complete all course work.

B. For students that have completed an equivalent course at the same or higher academic level in a discipline specific to the program the student is entering

A student may be allowed to receive transfer credit for a MLIRS professional course if he/she has been enrolled in the same program at another accredited institution and has earned a grade of “C” or higher in a course that is equivalent to the professional course.

The following steps must be taken to initiate and complete this process:

1. The student must submit a written letter to their Program Director stating their desire to receive transfer credit for an equivalent course taken in an equivalent MLIRS specific program;

2. The student must provide a college course description of the previous course to the Program Director, who will then forward it on to the Instructor of Record;

3. Upon receipt of the letter of intent and the course description, the Program Director and the Instructor of Record must review the course description to determine if the course can be used as transfer credit for the MLIRS program’s professional course;

4. If the Program Director and the Instructor of Record are satisfied that the previous course can be used, then the Program Director will write a letter to the PDG stating the student’s intent to receive transfer credit for the MLIRS program’s professional course and their recommendations as to whether the student should be allowed to proceed, Note: If the Program Director and Instructor of Record do not agree, the process will stop, and the information will be forwarded to the PDG for final consideration;

5. The PDG will then review the material submitted for the final recommendation of student eligibility for course exemption to the MLIRS Department Chair;

6. The MLIRS Department Chair will review the recommendation of the PDG and render the final decision, the student will then be advised of the Department Chairs decision, and will be advised of any schedule changes;

7. Upon approval by the MLIRS Department Chair, the Program Director will then complete the attached form, the Transfer Credit Authorization Form, and send to Admissions.

C. For students that have prior certification

Students Enrolled in the BS-CLS Program who are Certified Clinical Laboratory Technicians (CLT or MLT) or are service members/veterans with Army, Navy, or Air Force certificate as a Medical Laboratory Specialist or a Medical Laboratory
Apprentice
Students with prior certification as a CLT, MLT or military certification listed above may be given up to 10 course credit hours for the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLSC 3220</td>
<td>Introduction to CLS Practice</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLSC 3645</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry Laboratory</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLSC 4845</td>
<td>Clinical Hematology Laboratory</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLSC 4445</td>
<td>Clinical Microbiology Laboratory</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLSC 4745</td>
<td>Clinical Immunohematology Lab</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following steps must be taken to initiate and complete this process:

1. The student must submit a written letter to their Program Director stating their desire to be exempt from the basic laboratory courses and the Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Science Course. The basic laboratory courses eligible for exemption are in Microbiology, Hematology, Immunohematology, and Chemistry/Immunology;

2. The student must submit a copy of their certification to the Department of MLIRS;

3. Upon receipt of the letter and the copy of the certification, the Program Director will verify that the certification is one recognized by the department;

4. If the Program Director determines the student is certified with a recognized certifying body, then he/she will write a letter to the PDG stating the student’s desire to exempt the basic laboratory courses and the Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Science course. The Program Director will make his/her recommendation as to whether the student should be allowed to continue this process;

5. The PDG will then review the material submitted for the final recommendation of student eligibility for course exemption to the MLIRS Department Chair;

6. The MLIRS Department Chair will review the recommendation of the PDG and render the final decision; the student will then be advised of the MLIRS Department Chair’s decision, and will be advised of any schedule changes;

7. Upon approval by the MLIRS Department Chair, the Program Director will then complete the attached form, the Transfer Credit Authorization Form, and send to the Office of Academic Admissions.

Students Enrolled in the MHS-CLS Program who are Certified Clinical Laboratory Scientists (CLS or MLS)
Students with prior certification as a CLS/MT/MLS may be given up to 10 course credit hours for the following courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CLS 6220</td>
<td>Introduction to CLS Practice</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLS 6645</td>
<td>Clinical Biochemistry Laboratory</td>
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<td>Clinical Hematology Laboratory</td>
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<td>CLS 6445</td>
<td>Clinical Microbiology Laboratory</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLS 6745</td>
<td>Clinical Immunohematology Lab</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following steps must be taken to initiate and complete this process:

1. The student must submit a written letter to their Program Director stating their desire to be exempt from the specific basic laboratory courses and the Introduction to Clinical Laboratory Science course. The basic laboratory courses eligible for exemption are in Microbiology, Hematology, Immunohematology, or Chemistry/Immunology.
2. The student must submit a copy of their CLS/MLS certification to the Department of MLIRS;
3. Upon receipt of the letter and the copy of the certification, the Program Director will verify that the certification is one recognized by the department;
4. If the Program Director determines the student is certified with a recognized certifying body, then he/she will write a letter to the PDG stating the student’s desire to exempt the basic laboratory courses. The Program Director will make his/her recommendation as to whether the student should be allowed to continue this process;
5. The PDG will then review the material submitted for the final recommendation of student eligibility for course exemption to the MLIRS Department Chair;
6. The MLIRS Department Chair will review the recommendation of the PDG and render the final decision; the student will then be advised of the MLIRS Department Chair’s decision, and will be advised of any schedule changes;
7. Upon approval by the MLIRS Department Chair, the Program Director will then complete the attached form, the Transfer Credit Authorization Form, and send to the Office of Academic Admissions.
8. The internship courses will be required for all MLS/CLS students but can be completed earlier if all competencies are met by the student.

Students enrolled in the MHS-CLS Program who are laboratorians with categorical certification in Microbiology (M), Chemistry (C), Blood Bank (B), or other certification granted by the American Society for Clinical Pathology or the National Credentialing Agency

Students with prior certification in one laboratory discipline area, such as blood bank, clinical chemistry, hematology, microbiology, immunology or molecular biology, may be given up to 10 course credit hours for courses specific to their specialty area.

The following steps must be taken to initiate and complete this process:
1. The student must submit a written letter to their Program Director stating their desire to be exempt from the specific basic laboratory courses. Courses eligible for exemption are the basic laboratory courses in Microbiology, Hematology, Immunohematology, or Chemistry/Immunology;
2. The student must submit a copy of their Microbiology (M), Hematology (H), Immunohematology (BB), Chemistry (C), Immunology (I), or Molecular Biology (MB) certification to the Department of MLIRS;
3. Upon receipt of the letter and the copy of the certification, the Program Director will verify that the certification is one recognized by the department;
4. If the Program Director determines the student is certified with a recognized certifying body, then he/she will write a letter to the PDG stating the student’s desire to exempt the basic laboratory courses. The Program Director will make his/her recommendation as to whether the student should be allowed to continue this process;
5. The PDG will then review the material submitted for the final recommendation of student eligibility for course exemption to the MLIRS Department Chair;
6. The MLIRS Department Chair will review the recommendation of the PDG and render the final decision; the student will then be advised of the MLIRS Department Chair’s decision, and will be advised of any schedule changes;
7. Upon approval by the MLIRS Department Chair, the Program Director will then complete the attached form, the Transfer Credit Authorization Form, and send to the Office of Academic Admissions.

8. The internship courses will be required for all MLS/CLS students but can be completed earlier if all competencies are met by the student.

**Certified NMT Students (R.T.(N) or CNMT) Enrolled in the BSRS – NMT Program**

Those individuals holding a current certification as a Nuclear Medicine Technologist (R.T.(N) and/or CNMT) or Military NMT Diploma may qualify to receive credit for BS level coursework when enrolling in the AU BSRS-NMT program. The student must have completed all pre-requisite coursework with a grade of “C” or higher as assessed by the AU Office of Academic Admissions and must have completed a JRCNMT approved Nuclear Medicine Technology program or the Military curriculum.

The following steps must be taken to initiate and complete this process:

1. The student must submit a written letter to their Program Director stating their desire to be exempt from the courses listed below;
2. The student must submit a copy of their certification to the Department of MLIRS;
3. Upon receipt of the letter and the copy of the certification, the Program Director will verify that the certification is one recognized by the department;
4. If the Program Director determines the student is certified with a recognized certifying body, then he/she will write a letter to the PDG stating the student’s desire to exempt the courses below. The Program Director will make his/her recommendation as to whether the student should be allowed to continue this process;
5. The PDG will then review the material submitted for the final determination of student eligibility for course exemption to the MLIRS Department Chair;
6. The MLIRS Department Chair will review the recommendation of the PDG and render the final decision;
7. The student will then be advised of the MLIRS Department Chair’s decision, and will be advised of any schedule changes;
8. Upon approval by the MLIRS Department Chair, the Program Director will then complete the attached form, the Transfer Credit Authorization Form, and send to the Office of Academic Admissions.

Presentation of an approved credential (R.T.(N) or CNMT) will allow 30 hours of experiential credit and up to 30 hours credit for the following NMT courses:
NMMT 3210  Radiation Physics Protection and Biology        3 credit hour
NMMT 3215  Radiation Physics, Protection and Biology Lab  1 credit hour
NMMT 3100  Introduction to Radiologic Patient Care        2 credit hour
NMMT 3105  Introduction to Radiologic Patient Care Lab    1 credit hour
NMMT 3611  Principles and Practice of Nuclear Medicine I  3 credit hour
NMMT 3621  Principles and Practice of Nuclear Medicine I Lab 1 credit hour
NMMT 3641  Clinical Internship                           3 credit hour
NMMT 3612  Principles and Practice of Nuclear Medicine II 3 credit hour
NMMT 3622  Principles and Practice of Nuclear Medicine II Lab 1 credit hour
NMMT 3642  Clinical Internship                           3 credit hour
NMMT 3400  Nuclear Medicine Physics and Instrumentation  3 credit hour
NMMT 3605  Nuclear Medicine Physics Lab                   1 credit hour
NMMT 3631  Applied Research I                            2 credit hour
NMMT 4300  Professional Issues and Ethics                 2 credit hour
NMMT 3632  Applied Research II                           1 credit hour

**TOTAL TRANSFERRED HOURS**  

<table>
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</table>

**Note:** Students must demonstrate clinical competency of basic skills, but need not compile clinical hours. Students must complete clinical hours for PET and CT competency.

### II. Partial Course Exemption (due to demonstration of foundational competency)

The Department of MLIRS has defined instances when a student within the department may have the ability to demonstrate performance at the appropriate undergraduate or graduate level for partial course exemption.

The following instances where this may occur are:

- The student has successfully completed, with a grade of “C” or higher, an undergraduate course determined to have comparable professional foundational
objectives/competencies to the graduate level course required for the program’s professional curriculum.

- The student holds a current professional credential, recognized by the program as relevant to the specific program the student is entering.
- The student has extensive documented clinical experience recognized by the program faculty as equivalent to the foundational competencies in specific course(s).

The PDG will review all cases to determine student eligibility for partial course exemption and make recommendations to the MLIRS Department Chair. The final determination of eligibility will rest with the MLIRS Department Chair and will give consideration to the recommendations of the PDG and the Instructor of Record for the course.

The possibility of exemption of foundational components of professional undergraduate or graduate level courses exists:

**A. For students that have prior foundational academic course work in the discipline of study**

A student may be allowed to demonstrate foundational level performance for partial course exemption through a comprehensive written examination and/or skills assessment. This situation can occur when the student has completed an undergraduate level professional course which has foundational objectives/competencies that are the same as the foundational level objectives/competencies of a graduate level course required for the discipline’s professional curriculum. If the student successfully completes the partial course exemption examinations (written and/or skills assessment that measures the foundational objectives/competencies) the student must still complete the advanced level objectives/competencies that are a part of all graduate level courses.

The following steps must be taken to initiate and complete this process:

1. The student will register and pay for the course in which they will be attempting partial course exemption;
2. The Program Director will notify the PDG of the desire to allow a student to receive partial course exemption by testing out of the foundational objectives/competencies either by written examination and/or skills assessment. The partial course exemption request should be considered by the PDG no later than the meeting held the month before the beginning of the semester in which the course is offered. Exceptions will be considered to include circumstances such as late acceptance to the program and/or late registration.
3. The PDG will then review the request and make recommendations to the MLIRS Department Chair.
4. If the recommendation is to decline the request to allow the student to partially course exempt a graduate level course, the Program Director will notify the student in writing of the decision:
   a. If the student disagrees with the decision, he or she has the right to initiate a formal complaint to the MLIRS Department Chair in writing.
   b. The MLIRS Department Chair will review the written complaint along with the PDG recommendation and inform the student in writing of his/her decision; the final determination of eligibility will rest with the MLIRS Department Chair and
will give consideration to the recommendations of the Program Directors Group and the Instructor of Record for the course.

5. If the PDG agrees to allow the student to attempt to exempt foundational components of a graduate level course, the student will be given the examination/s (written and/or skills assessment) the first or second day of the semester in which the course is offered;

6. The student must earn a grade of 70* **or higher to partially exempt the course;

7. If the student earns a grade of 70 or higher on the examination/s the Instructor of Record will then enter the grade into the grading scale for the course and the student will continue with their advanced competencies required in the graduate level course.

* If the student does not earn a grade of 70 or higher, the student will then complete all course work, both foundational and advanced competencies, following the regular course schedule.

** If the student does not want to use the grade earned on the partial course exemption examination/s, the student has the right to complete all course work, both foundational and advanced competencies, following the regular course schedule.

B. For students that have prior certification in the discipline of study, such as the Clinical Laboratory Technician (CLT) / Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) students enrolled in the BS-CLS Program or the Medical Technologist/Medical Laboratory Scientist/Clinical Laboratory Scientist students enrolled in the MHS-CLS Program

These students may exempt foundational psychomotor objectives/competencies in designated internship courses. They may be allowed to exempt up to one-half of the required internship hours if they demonstrate mastery of all required foundational psychomotor objectives/competencies within the remaining internship period. The clinical faculty retain the right to increase the internship time if needed for mastery of these foundational objectives/competencies. In case of venipuncture internship, partial course exemption may be granted to MLT/CLTs, as well as to certified phlebotomists. These students may be exempt from all active blood drawing hours upon proof of two successful draws, a fingerstick and completion of an online venipuncture internship exam within the first 4 weeks of the semester.

The following steps must be taken to initiate and complete this process:

1. The student must submit a written letter to their Program Director stating their desire to exempt up to one-half of their clinical internship hours (or all hours when requesting partial exemption from venipuncture internship);

2. The student must submit a copy of their certification to the Department of MLIRS;

3. The student must register and pay for the internship course to obtain the required course credit;

4. Upon receipt of the letter and the copy of the certification, the Program Director will verify that the certification is one recognized by the department;

5. The Program Director will determine if the student is certified with a recognized certifying body, then he/she will write a letter to the PDG stating the student’s intent to exempt the foundational portion of the required internship hours. The Program
Director will make his/her recommendation as to whether the student should be allowed to continue this process;

6. The PDG will then review the request and make recommendations to the MLIRS Department Chair.

7. If the recommendation is to decline the request to allow the student to partially course exempt a portion of the internship hours, the Program Director will notify the student in writing of the decision:
   a. If the student disagrees with the decision, he/she has the right to initiate a formal complaint to the MLIRS Department Chair in writing.
   b. The MLIRS Department Chair will review the written complaint along with the PDG recommendation and inform the student in writing of his/her decision. The final determination of eligibility will rest with the MLIRS Department Chair and will give consideration to the recommendations of the PDG and the Instructor of Record for the course.

8. If the PDG agrees to allow the student to exempt up to one-half of the required internship hours the student will then complete the internship competencies within the remaining specified internship period;

* If the clinical instructors determine that the student cannot demonstrate mastery of the foundational psychomotor objectives/competencies within the specified remaining internship period, the student will be required to spend additional internship hours to complete the required competencies.

Note for graduate students (MHS-CLS) with an Associate level certification as Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT)
In addition to being able to exempt, upon approval, half of the internship hours as outlined above for those who hold a MLS certification, students may also be exempt from the foundational objectives in the laboratory courses upon demonstration of the competencies as outlined in graduate laboratory course syllabi. Graduate students holding the Associate level certification cannot be given credit for associate level courses, hence full exemption policy does not apply to them. For this reason, they must be enrolled in all courses in MHS-CLS curriculum. Partial exemption is the only way these students may exempt foundational objectives (upon approval).

C. For students with extensive documented clinical experience recognized by the program faculty as equivalent to the foundational competencies in specific course(s)
If the PDG agrees to allow the student to attempt to partially course exempt a graduate level course, the student will be given the examination/s (written and/or skills assessment) the first or second day of the semester in which the course is offered;
   • The student must earn a grade of 70*, **or higher to partially exempt the course;
   • If the student earns a grade of 70 or higher on the examination/s the Instructor of Record will then enter the grade into the grading scale for the course and the student will continue with the remaining competencies required in the graduate level course.
Assignment Policy

All assignments are due on the date and time specified. Since all on-line assignments are open for a period of time, if an extension has not been requested and approved ahead of time, the missed assignment will result in a zero if not submitted by the published deadline.

Assignment Due Extensions
Assignment deadline extensions may be considered if the request is received by e-mail or by phone no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the closing time the assignment is due. Deductions may be taken from the final grade of the assignment as a result of an extension, at the discretion of the instructor.

Technical Difficulty Policy
In the rare instance of technical difficulty, the student must contact the Augusta University Service Desk at 706-721-4000 for assistance. The student must also contact the Instructor of Record within 2 hours of the problem via e-mail, phone, or Desire2Learn (D2L) posting. AU Information Technology Services (ITS) are available 24 hours/day and 7 days/week at 706-721-4000, as is the online GeorgiaView D2L Help Center which provides valuable troubleshooting information and live chat sessions with a helpdesk agent at https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/. The D2L Brightspace server undergoes monthly scheduled maintenance, during which the D2L service is temporarily unavailable. D2L Brightspace maintenance schedules are located on the D2L website under the D2L Calendar Upcoming Events dropdown menu. Avoid these times for posting, taking quizzes, etc. because you may be disconnected from the server during these maintenance periods. Should you be unable to access D2L outside these maintenance periods, please contact the Augusta University Service Desk at 706-721-4000 for assistance. Troubleshooting information is also available on the D2L website under the Student Assistance dropdown menu using the D2L Help Center (DHC) link.

Attendance Policy

I. Attendance
Specific attendance requirements may be established by individual colleges/programs. Due to the professional nature of the MLIRS curricula, students are expected to attend/participate in all course activities. Excessive absenteeism or tardiness is considered a violation of Student Professionalism Policy and may result in placing a student on academic probation or denying continuation of enrollment in any MLIRS program. Specific attendance policies will be provided by each Instructor of Record. Satisfactory attendance is defined as the student being present when he/she is expected to be present as specified by the Instructor of Record. All course instructors are expected to publish attendance policies within the syllabus for each class.

II. Reporting An Absence
In order to prevent unnecessary waste of resources, the student must inform the Instructor of Record and/or clinical supervisor when applicable, or a specified designee immediately when anticipating an absence from the laboratory exercise or clinical rotation. Failure to provide prior notification of an absence to the proper person may lead to academic penalties.
A. Absences From Lecture Classes
Attendance for lecture classes is at the discretion of the Instructor of Record. If mandatory attendance is required, students must attend class unless they have a valid medical excuse; which must be presented to the Instructor of Record. Students must notify Instructor of Record as soon as possible of anticipated absence(s). Excessive absences will impact the Student Professional Behavior Evaluation and course grade.

B. Absences from Online Classes
Online class attendance will be based on log-in activity reports and online communication, which will be monitored weekly. Excessive absences (failure to log-in or communicate online weekly) will impact the Student Professional Behavior Evaluation and course grade. It is incumbent upon students to take responsibility for their course participation and communication with the instructor. Expected absences of online activity should be communicated to the Instructor of Record prior to the absence.

C. Absences from Laboratory Classes
Due to time constraints and restrictions on availability of instrumentation or clinical specimens for laboratory courses, absences will be made up in a manner to be determined by the Instructor of Record. If a student is absent from laboratory class, the Instructor of Record will determine if a make-up will be offered. If so, the location, time and requirements necessary to make up the incomplete work will be prescribed. More than two (2) absences from laboratory classes will result in a formal review of the student's behavior by the Instructor of Record and may result in an academic warning or academic penalties. Excessive absences will impact the Student Professional Behavior Evaluation and course grade. Due to the potential seriousness of the penalties for excessive absence, the Instructor of Record must notify the student in writing of the violation and the consequences. If continued infractions occur, the Instructor of Record may forward the case to the PDG for consideration.

D. Absences from Clinical Classes (rotations, internships, practicums)
In the case of absences from clinical rotations/internships, the student is responsible for making those arrangements with the person in charge of the clinical rotation with the approval of the Instructor of Record.

Make-up time may include evening, night or weekend hours. More than two (2) absences from clinical internship(s) per semester will result in a formal review of the student’s behavior by the Instructor of Record and Program Director and may result in an academic warning and in academic penalties. Excessive absences will impact the Student Professional Behavior Evaluation and course grade. Due to the potential seriousness of the penalties for excessive absence from clinical rotation/internship, the clinical supervisor/coordinator must arrange a conference with the student and the Instructor of Record and Program Director immediately to determine the appropriate course of action. If the student is allowed to continue the rotation/internship, the absence must be made up at the convenience of the clinical site/program. If continued infractions occur, the case will be forwarded to the PDG for consideration.

E. Tardiness
Tardiness is considered a form of absence. A student should report to the class/lab/rotation site a few minutes early, but in any case no later than the time set by the Instructor of
Record/supervisor. More than four (4) instances of tardiness in a given course will result in a formal review of the student's behavior by the Instructor of Record and may result in an academic warning or academic penalties. Excessive tardiness will impact the Student Professional Behavior Evaluation and course grade. If continued infractions occur, the case will be forwarded to the Program Director for consideration.

III. Inclement Weather Policy
Please refer to your individual program’s policy for specific inclement weather information.

Student Leave Policy and Procedures

Reason for Policy
To provide policies and procedures for the granting and use of leave for a student in the Department of MLIRS.

Criteria for Medical Leave Request
A student may be granted up to one full year of leave for one or more of the following reasons:

a. the birth and care of a newborn child of the student;
b. the legal placement of a child with the student for adoption or foster care;
c. the care of an immediate family member (defined as the student’s spouse, child, or parent) with a serious health condition; or
d. a serious health condition of the student himself/herself, which renders the student unable to perform the duties of his/her job.

Note: A "serious health condition" under the law is a physical or mental illness or injury that requires either:
- Inpatient care, or
- Continuing treatment by a healthcare provider

Criteria for Hardship Leave Request
A student who is in good academic standing in a MLIRS program may request a leave of absence for up to one year for the following reasons:
- Financial hardship
- Personal or family emergency

Request for Leave Procedures
To be entitled to leave, students must give at least 30 days' advance notice, or as much notice as possible and practicable. Students must submit a written request for leave to their Program Director. The Program Director will forward the request to the PDG for recommendation to the MLIRS Department Chair, who will issue final approval. Documentation of the need for leave may be required by the Department of MLIRS. The office of the Assistant Dean of Students (706-737-1411) is currently developing university policy on medical leave.

Depending on the length of leave required and the demands of the curriculum, it will be determined by the PDG, with final approval of the MLIRS Department Chair, if it is necessary for the student to withdraw from the program. In general, if it is evident that the student cannot make-up the work missed prior to the end of the semester in which the student is enrolled, withdrawal will be necessary.
to comply with Title IV guidelines. Students may be granted a leave of absence for up to one full year. The student will be eligible to return to the program during this time frame provided they meet the criteria outlined below:

Returning To The Program After Approved Leave
In case of personal medical leave, students may be required to present a clearance from their healthcare provider before being reinstated in clinical or laboratory courses upon completion of an approved leave for their own serious health condition. A Return to Class/Lab/Clinic form is available for this purpose, and will be provided to the student prior to their scheduled return.

The student may be required to demonstrate mastery of clinical and didactic work completed prior to the approved leave. Specific objectives for the assessment examination(s), based on the material covered and level of mastery required, will be provided to the student prior to re-entry in the program.

Students are expected to return to class on a full-time basis by the end of the approved leave. If the student does not return, or cannot return in the designated time, the student may be withdrawn from the program and will have to reapply and go through the selection process for the following year.

Student Pregnancy Policy and Procedures

Pregnancy Disclosure
Students who are occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation and/or radioactive materials who become pregnant while enrolled in the program have the option of whether or not to declare their pregnancy to their Program Director and the Augusta University Environmental Health & Safety Division (EHS) Radiation Safety Officer (RSO). If she chooses to voluntarily declare her pregnancy, it must be in writing and indicate the estimated date of conception and/or expected date of delivery.

In the absence of this voluntary, written declaration of pregnancy, a student cannot be considered pregnant even if visibly pregnant.

Policy Statement
Radiation exposure to the developing embryo/fetus of students who are occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation and/or radioactive materials shall be maintained as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA) and within federal and state regulatory limits. A student who chooses to voluntarily declare her pregnancy has the option of continuing the program without modification. Reducing radiation exposures of declared pregnant students may include clinical reassignments (if available), a leave of absence with the intent to complete the program or withdrawal from the program during the pregnancy to minimize or avoid occupational radiation exposure. See the MLIRS Student Leave Policy for the granting and use of leave.

Reason For Policy
To protect the embryo/fetus of students who are occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation and/or radioactive materials. A developing embryo/fetus is at greater risk of radiation injury than the student. More rigorous radiation safety measures are required by state and federal regulation for a student who is occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation and/or radioactive materials who voluntarily discloses her pregnancy to her Program Director and Radiation Safety Officer.
Affected Stakeholder and Organization(s)
This policy applies to students who are occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation and/or radioactive materials who voluntarily declare their pregnancy to their Program Director and Radiation Safety Officer for radiation protection purposes. This includes students in all units, divisions, subsidiaries or other entities of AU.

Definitions
These definitions apply to these terms as they are used in this policy:

Declared Pregnant Student
A student who has voluntarily informed their Program Director and Radiation Safety Office, in writing, of her pregnancy.

Dosimeter
A device worn by students to measure their occupational exposure to radiation.

Ionizing Radiation
Waves or particles capable of removing one or more electrons from an atom.

Radiation
Energy emitted from an atom or nucleus in the form of particles or waves.

Process & Procedures
1. Prior to program start, female students who will be occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation or radioactive materials and receive dosimeters will be provided the AU Pregnant Radiation Worker Guide (References: AU Radiation Workers Registration Form - Women and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Guide 8.13 Instruction Concerning Prenatal Radiation Exposure). Students will sign an acknowledgment indicating receipt of this information.
2. During the RTT and NMT Program Orientations, the MLIRS Student Manual Pregnancy Policy will be reviewed.
3. Students may voluntarily declare their pregnancy, in writing, at any time by completing the AU Declaration of Pregnancy form and submitting it to their Program Director. The forms and information are located on the Environmental Health & Safety web site at http://www.augusta.edu/services/ehs/radsafe/documents/radiationworkerwomen-3.pdf.
4. The Program Director will forward the AU Declaration of Pregnancy form to the Radiation Safety Officer.
5. The Radiation Safety Officer will schedule a meeting with the student to discuss radiation safety measures. The pregnant student may be assigned a monthly whole body dosimeter and possibly a fetal monitoring dosimeter. If the student is occupationally exposed to radioactive materials, the Radiation Safety Officer will review the radionuclides, physical and chemical forms, quantities used, and place the student on a monthly bioassay program, if appropriate. The Radiation Safety Officer reviews each student’s occupational exposure report monthly.
6. Upon review of the findings and recommendations of the Radiation Safety Officer, clinical assignments may be reevaluated and/or resequenced to
a. ensure that the dose equivalent to the embryo/fetus during the entire pregnancy, due to
the occupational exposure of a declared pregnant woman, does not exceed 0.5 rem, and
b. make efforts to avoid substantial variation above a uniform monthly exposure rate to a
declared pregnant woman so as to satisfy the above limit. (Reference: Title 10 Code of
Federal Regulations part 20 Standards for Protection Against Radiation, paragraph 1208, Dose
Equivalent for Embryo/Fetus).

Any clinical competencies not completed for reasons related to pregnancy must be
successfully completed prior to graduation.

7. Students must provide the Program Director with written indication of intent to:
   a. continue in the program, or
   b. take a leave of absence with intent to complete the program, or
   c. withdraw from the program.

8. Students should provide the Program Director with written consent from her
physician providing medical advice for:
   a. continuing in the program as a full-time student, and/or
   b. any limitations placed upon the student while enrolled in the program.

9. Students may voluntarily withdraw their declaration of pregnancy, in writing, at any time by
   completing the AU Withdrawal of Declaration of Pregnancy form and submitting it to their
   Program Director. The forms and information are located on the Environmental Health &
   Safety web site at
   The reason for submitting the AU Withdrawal of Declaration of Pregnancy is not expected
   nor required.

10. The Program Director will forward the AU Withdrawal of Declaration of Pregnancy form to
    the Radiation Safety Officer. When the AU Withdrawal of Declaration of Pregnancy form is
    submitted, any proposed actions designed to minimize radiation exposure to the
    embryo/fetus will be rescinded.

11. Students may voluntarily re-declare their pregnancy following the procedures noted above in
    #3 - #8. When a pregnancy is re-declared, the exposure to date for the entire pregnancy and
    the current clinical assignments will be re-evaluated with respect to minimizing radiation
    exposure to the embryo/fetus.

Related Documents

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Guide 8.13 Instruction Concerning Prenatal Radiation Exposure

Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 20 Standards for Protection Against Radiation, paragraph 1208,
Dose Equivalent to Embryo/Fetus

Georgia Rules and Regulations Rule 290-5-22-.03 Standards for Protection Against Radiation, paragraph
3(b)3 X-Ray

Georgia Rules and Regulations Rule 391-3-17.03 Standards for Protection Against Radiation, paragraph
(5)(h) Radioactive Materials
AU College of Allied Health Minimum Laptop Requirements

While a personal computer is not required for educational performance in the MLIRS programs, and students can use public access computer labs during department hours, a personal computer is highly recommended for convenience, efficiency, and success in all programs. All MLIRS programs use web-based communication and instructional delivery platforms extensively. Student personal computers should be internet accessible with high speed DSL or cable hookup. The Information Technology Division of AU recommends minimum specifications for the best educational experience. These specifications are available at http://www.augusta.edu/its/

Besides personal computers, other recommended items include:
- Carrying case
- 2 GB or higher USB (Flash or Thumb) drive
- Printer for home use

Clinical/Laboratory Dress Code

It is important to give a favorable impression to patients, instructors, other health care practitioners, and visitors while working in the clinical or student laboratory setting. The personal appearance and demeanor of MLIRS students at AU reflect both University and program standards and are indicative of the student’s interest and pride in the profession. Therefore, appropriate professional attire is expected to be worn at all times in clinical and laboratory settings. Appropriate attire, as described below, should be worn during clinical assignments and in the student laboratory setting.

*** NOTE – NMT and RTT have program specific scrub requirements. Refer to your welcome and orientation packet for specifics. Questions – contact program clinical coordinators.

I. Male And Female Attire
- All attire should be neat and clean.
- “Street clothes” such as blue jeans, T-shirts, crop pants, low rise pants / jeans, shorts, and short skirts are unacceptable as are low cut or off the shoulder tops. Dress should be professional. Clean, pressed, white lab coats are required unless a white uniform top or hospital scrubs are worn. (Blue jeans may be worn in the student laboratory setting under the proper personal protective equipment).
- Pants or skirts should not touch the floor.
- Flat or low-heeled shoes with closed toe (no sandals), or clean athletic shoes are required.
- Hospital “scrubs” of any color or pattern, other than “O.R. green”, are acceptable. “O.R. green” is the sea-foam green color of hospital scrubs traditionally worn in hospital operating rooms.
- No colored undergarments are to be worn under white scrubs. Undergarment color is not a consideration when colored scrubs are worn.
- White lab coats are required unless hospital scrubs are worn.
• For sanitary and safety purposes, jewelry should be kept to a minimum and should be inconspicuous.
• Finger nails must be kept neatly manicured and of a modest length.
• Body piercing jewelry is prohibited. Inconspicuous pierced earrings are acceptable.
• Cosmetics, perfumes, and colognes must be used in moderation.

II. Name Badge
While on campus and during all clinical assignments, students must identify themselves to patients and wear the AU identification name badge or an official clinical affiliate name badge as required, in the case of distance students. The University provides name badges at the beginning of the program. It is the student's responsibility to replace the badge if it is lost. See AU Student Manual Section 3 (Student Responsibilities) [http://www.augusta.edu/student-life/documents/2017austudentmanual.pdf](http://www.augusta.edu/student-life/documents/2017austudentmanual.pdf) for policy on name badge (Section 3.1: Presentation of Identification).

III. Failure To Comply
Failure to comply with the dress code may result in the student being dismissed from the clinical or laboratory setting until proper attire is worn. All time missed due to non-compliance with the dress code must be made-up at the convenience and with prior approval of the clinical site/program/Instructor of Record. Violations of the dress code will impact the Student Professional Behavior Evaluation and course grade.

In some cases, specific programs may have additional policies regarding professional appearance. Please consult the program-specific policies and MLIRS Safety Manual for guidance related to any additional requirements of individual Programs. Additionally, where clinical site dress code policy outside the MLIRS differs from MLIRS policy, the student should follow the more stringent policy.

Grading Policy

I. Grading Standard
All professional course grades are based on a common standard of obtaining the maximum points achievable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Points Achievable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Excellent 100-90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Good 89-80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Satisfactory 79-70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D*</td>
<td>Passing 69-60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Failure 59% or lower</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In MLIRS programs, a grade of “D” is not considered an acceptable final course grade. (See Student Progression Policy).

II. Independent Study Courses
Faculty will determine the policy for Independent Study courses, if different from above.
III. Grading System
The grading system follows guidelines established by the University System of Georgia from the USG Board of Regents Policy Manual 305: “All institutions of the University System of Georgia (USG) shall be on a 4.0 grade point average system. The following grades are approved for use in institutions in the determination of Grade Point Average (GPA):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WF</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The cumulative grade point average in each institution of the University System of Georgia (USG) will be calculated by dividing the number of hours scheduled in all courses attempted in which a grade of A, B, C, D, F or WF has been received into the number of grade points earned on those hours scheduled. The cumulative grade point average will be recorded on the student’s permanent record.”

Standardized Syllabus Policy

The syllabi for all courses taught in the Department of MLIRS will be written by Instructors of Record in a standard form.

Syllabus Structure
Each syllabus will contain the following:

- **Heading**
  - Augusta University, College of Allied Health Sciences, Department of MLIRS, and Program name at top of each syllabus (no program name needed if core course).

- **Course name and number**

- **Semester the course is offered with class location and time**
  - Recommended for on-campus classes if location and time do not change periodically.

- **Course Director and Faculty information and communication means**
  - Name, credentials, and contact information of choice (e-mail address and office phone number.

- **Preferred office hours**
  - Drop in any time, call or email for appointment etc.

- **Course structure/description**
  - Structure refers to specific modules within the course or to lab/lecture/clinic/Desire2Learn (D2L) ratio (credit hours), and instruction format. Please note that the “structure” is not equivalent to “schedule” as course schedule should be a separate document.

- **Course purpose and goals**
  - Understood as satisfying the requirement of the accreditation organization for a MLIRS
Program in question.

- **Course objectives**
  - The cognitive, affective and psychomotor skills developed during the course in format and language representing appropriate taxonomic levels should be addressed in the following categories:
    - **Cognitive**
      - Foundational*
      - Advanced*
    - **Psychomotor**
      - Foundational*
      - Advanced*
    - **Affective**
  
  * Objectives are further categorized as “Foundational” and “Advanced” only in double-numbered (BS-CLS/MHS-CLS) courses.

- **Resources required**
  - Texts and other materials.

- **Other resources that may be useful**
  - Optional

- **Evaluation methods**
  - Include grading model, i.e. calculations, and how letter grades are established. Please remember that the Professional Expectations grade comprises 10% of the final grade.

- **Class attendance policy**
  - Include MLIRS Department Attendance Policy in the MLIRS Student Manual or insert faculty/program specific attendance policies.

- **Satisfactory academic standing**
  - The policy of the Department of MLIRS regarding satisfactory academic standing is as follows: Students must earn a grade of “C” or higher in all courses to progress in the programs within the Department of MLIRS.

- **Notification of unsatisfactory academic standing**
  - Please refer to MLIRS Student Manual Student Progression Policy III-C (Notification of Unsatisfactory Academic Progress and Unsatisfactory Academic Conduct).

- **Student Conduct**
  - **A. Academic Honesty**
    - The University recognizes that honesty and integrity are necessary to its academic function. The following regulations protect the equity and validity of the university’s grades and degrees, and help students develop ethical standards and attitudes appropriate to academic and professional life.

    Violations of academic honesty include cheating of all kinds, plagiarism, fraudulent research activity and/or scholarship, collusion, and false statements made to avoid negative academic consequences.

The following is a statement of the responsibilities of students, as individuals and as groups at AU. It is the official record of conduct rules and regulations affecting students. The responsibilities apply to the AU campus, property of other units of the University System of Georgia (USG), institutions with formal or informal agreements with AU and AU sponsored functions on or off campus.

- **Cheating**
  - Cheating on course examinations or assignments is prohibited; including but not limited to the following:
    - Possessing, using, or exchanging improperly acquired information, whether in written or oral form, in the preparation of any essay, laboratory report, or other assignment in an academic course, or in preparing for any examination in a course.
    - Copying from another student’s paper.
    - Use of prepared materials, notes, or texts other than those specifically permitted by the instructor during the examination.
    - Collaboration with another student during an examination, unless such collaboration is explicitly allowed by the course instructor for the examination in question.
    - Unapproved use of any technological device to gain or provide advantage on an examination, lab practical, or other assignment to be submitted for academic credit.
    - Substituting for another person during an examination or allowing someone else to substitute for you.
    - Solicitation or bribery of any person to obtain examination information.

- **Plagiarism**
  - Plagiarism is prohibited. Themes, essays, term papers, tests, presentations, creative works, and similar work submitted to satisfy course and program requirements must be the personal work of the student submitting it. Plagiarism is the failure to acknowledge indebtedness to the authors/creators of works used to complete such assignments and/or other course requirements. It is always assumed that the work offered for evaluation and credit is the student’s own unless otherwise acknowledged. Such acknowledgment should occur whenever one quotes another person's actual words; whenever one appropriates another person’s ideas, opinions, or theories, even if they are paraphrased; and whenever one borrows facts, statistics, or other illustrative materials, unless the information is common knowledge. Further, it is expected, in the production of creative work, that the student's work products are original, and that any images, sounds, or other intellectual properties that are not the original work of the student will be used fairly and with acknowledgement of the original source(s).

- **Research Misconduct**
  - Research Misconduct is prohibited. Misrepresentation of data collection and analysis, including falsification, fabrication or omission of data is prohibited. Augusta University Policy for Responding to Allegations of Research Misconduct applies to students.

- **Collusion**
- Collusion is unauthorized assistance from or collaboration with another person in the preparation or editing of notes, themes, reports, or other written work or in laboratory work offered for evaluation and credit, unless such assistance or collaboration is specifically approved in advance by the instructor. In cases of collusion, both the provider and recipient of such assistance are in violation of this academic conduct policy. However, students are authorized to use appropriate campus resources in the completion of written work (e.g., the campus Writing Center). Unless stated otherwise by the course instructor, use of such campus resources does not constitute academic misconduct under this policy. However, no student, except those working in a tutorial capacity in a University-approved academic support center, will knowingly give or receive unauthorized assistance in the preparation of any assignment, essay, laboratory report or examination to be submitted for credit in an academic course.

- **False statements**
  - False statements made to avoid negative academic consequences include oral and/or written statements designed to obfuscate, misrepresent, or otherwise distort the presentation of facts related to a student's academic conduct in a course or program of study. Examples of such false statements include, but are not limited to, oral or written documentation providing willfully inaccurate information related to attendance, course work, examinations, and/or other course requirements enumerated in the syllabus of the particular course for which such a statement is provided.

While these acts constitute assured instances of academic misconduct, other acts of academic misconduct may be defined by the professor in his/her course syllabus.

**If there is a specific Plagiarism Policy for the course, it must be included in the syllabus.**

MLIRS students are required to sign a pledge to uphold the Student Conduct Code prior to or at the time of submitting an academic assessment. The pledge may be in written or in electronic form and states:

“I am the student whose name is shown on top of this examination and I am the person who completed this examination. I neither received from, nor gave assistance or supportive resource to any other person to answer the questions on this examination. The questions on this examination were answered by me without help of textbooks, notes, digital or Web media of any kind, or any other individual. I pledge, to the best of my knowledge that I observed or know of no violation of Augusta University Honor Code having taken place involving myself or other students.”

If unable to answer “true” to the above statement, the student will be given an opportunity to briefly explain. Any response provided concerning other students and their involvement in an Honor Code violation will be closely guarded. MLIRS faculty regularly monitor student activities for evidence of academic dishonesty during all academic activities such as clinical assignments, laboratory time and examinations both on- and off-campus. Any allegations of students’ found giving or receiving assistance not authorized by the Instructor of Record in the preparation of any assignment, essay, laboratory report, or any lecture or laboratory examination to be submitted as a
requirement for a course or exhibiting any type of dishonesty will be evaluated by the Instructor of Record and may result in notification of unsatisfactory academic conduct. (See Student Academic Progress and Academic Conduct Grievances and Appeals)

Note that lying, attempted cheating, stealing, or attempted stealing, failure to report the knowledge of an Honor Code violation, and failure to protect the confidential nature of the patient-professional relationship as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) are treated as an act of academic dishonesty.

B. Professional Expectations
1. The Department expects students to conduct themselves in a professional manner while enrolled in the program. To understand specifically the minimum professional behaviors that are expected, a list of MLIRS Professional Expectations has been provided to you. An assessment of MLIRS Professional Expectations will be performed in this course. This will be accomplished by having your supervisors/instructors complete a Student Professional Behavior Evaluation at the end of each rotation/semester.
2. The weight of the evaluation in determining the course grade is left to the discretion of the Instructor of Record. If a professional behavior issue should arise with a student, the Instructor’s Counseling Form may be used to document the meeting with the student.

C. Other Conduct Policies

• D. Unsatisfactory Student Conduct
  ▪ Please refer to MLIRS Student Manual Student Progression Policy III-C (Notification of Unsatisfactory Academic Progress and Unsatisfactory Academic Conduct) and Student Rights and Due Process section II-A (Notification of Unsatisfactory Non-Academic Student Conduct).

E. Assignment deadline extensions
1. All assignments are due on the date and time specified. Assignment deadline extensions may be considered if the request is received by e-mail or by phone no later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the closing time the assignment is due. Deductions may be taken from the final grade of the assignment as a result of an extension, at the discretion of the instructor.
2. Technical Difficulty Policy: In the rare instance of technical difficulty, the student must contact the Augusta University Service Desk at 706-721-4000 for assistance. The student must also contact the Instructor of Record within 2 hours of the problem via e-mail, phone, or Desire2Learn (D2L) posting. AU Information Technology Services (ITS) are available 24 hours/day and 7 days/week at 706-721-4000, as is the online GeorgiaView D2L Help Center which provides valuable troubleshooting information and live chat sessions with a helpdesk agent at https://d2lhelp.view.usg.edu/-. The D2L Brightspace server undergoes monthly scheduled maintenance, during which the D2L service is temporarily unavailable. D2L
Brightspace maintenance schedules are located on the D2L website under the D2L Calendar Upcoming Events dropdown menu. Avoid these times for posting, taking quizzes, etc. because you may be disconnected from the server during these maintenance periods. Should you be unable to access D2L outside these maintenance periods, please contact the Augusta University Service Desk at 706-721-4000 for assistance. Troubleshooting information is also available on the D2L website under the Student Assistance dropdown menu using the D2L Help Center (DHC) link.

- All MLIRS students are required to acknowledge reading and understanding the syllabus by taking “Syllabus Understanding Acknowledgement” quiz during the first week of the class.
- Requirement of Syllabus Reading and Understanding by students
Each course taught in the Department of Medical Laboratory, Imaging and Radiologic Sciences will contain an acknowledgement statement within the Desire 2 Learn (D2L) quiz section with choices of a “Yes” and a “No”. The statement will be as follows:

“I acknowledge that I have read and understand the information in all sections of this syllabus and that I will obey the regulations of the AU and of the MLIRS department.”

The students will be required by Instructor of Record to submit a “Yes” answer prior their first assignment in a given course. Otherwise no Desire2Learn (D2L) assignments will be released to the student.

~ END OF SYLLABUS ~

Criminal Background Check Policy and Procedures

After successfully completing the National and State certification examinations, MLIRS graduates are eligible to practice in various settings. Practice settings offer opportunities for full-time or part-time employment.

Please note that application for practice employment in most settings shall constitute consent for performance of a criminal background check. Potential employees must provide any and all information necessary to run a criminal background check, including but not limited to classifiable sets of fingerprints.

Professional credentialing bodies do not approve applications from individuals with unethical, immoral, and/or felonious backgrounds to sit for certification examinations. Additionally, clinical affiliates at which students complete their required clinical education experiences do not accept students with such backgrounds. Therefore, criminal background checks may be requested by the clinical affiliates prior to participating in clinical education experiences.

I. Criminal Background Check
The AU applicant background check shall include, at a minimum, the following:
- Social security number verification;
- Seven year multi-county or statewide felony and related misdemeanor criminal record search;
- Two standard employment history references;
- HHS/OIG List of Excluded Individuals/Entities - GSA list of Parties Excluded from Federal Programs;
- Education verification (highest degree received);
- One professional licensure verification - professional disciplinary action check;
- Certification and designation check.

II. Role Of Involved Parties

The roles of involved parties, including students, the department, clinical affiliates, and AU Legal Affairs, are as follows:

A. Students
   1. Must follow AU Criminal Conviction Disclosure Policy if applicable. The policy is found in the policy online library in section 4 (Student Affairs): [http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php](http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php)
   2. Complete background checks prior to participating in clinical experiences, as directed by the Program.
   3. Pay for the cost of background checks.
   4. Have background checks completed by the agency specified by the Department and clinical affiliates (if requested). Students will be notified in ample time to complete these requirements.
   5. Interact directly with the agency if an adverse report is produced and notify the Dean in writing if the adverse report is due to criminal conviction that occurs subsequent to admission and enrollment in the MLIRS program.

B. Department
   1. Provides instructions to students for completing the background check.
   2. Serves as a repository of background check certification of completion
   3. In the case of an adverse background check result, counsels the student regarding:
      a. ability to complete course requirements;
      b. impact on the student’s status in the Program;
      c. potential impact on the student’s ability to take credentialing exams.*

C. Clinical Affiliate
   1. Provides evaluation of adverse background check and accepts or denies the student permission to participate in clinical experience at that facility
   2. Communicates its decision to the agency performing the background check and the Program in which the student is enrolled

D. AU Legal Affairs
   1. Closely evaluates language in clinical contracts to aid in crafting consistent and appropriate language
   2. Composes standard language or policy, consistent with current legal interpretation, to help guide departments in areas related to background checks.

III. Conduct Of Checks
A. Failure of a student to comply with this policy will result in the student being denied permission to enroll or continue enrollment in the Program.

B. If the student believes his background check report is incorrect, the student will have an opportunity to demonstrate the inaccuracy of the information to the investigating agency. The student will not be able to participate in clinical experience until the matter is resolved. The inability to participate in clinical experience could result in the student receiving an incomplete, withdrawal or failing grade in the clinical course; and denial of permission to continue enrollment in the Program.

*If an adverse background check is produced, there is a possibility that the Program will be unable to find clinical sites which will accept the student. In this case, the student will be unable to complete clinical course requirements, and a grade of “F” will be given for that course. Such circumstance will preclude the student’s ability to successfully complete the Program and will be denied permission to continue enrollment. If the Program is able to secure other clinical sites for the student to complete his/her clinical coursework, the student is to understand there is a possibility that the credentialing agencies may not allow him/her to take their examinations based on the adverse background check, irrespective of Program completion. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the student to check with such agencies regarding his particular case and his future ability to take those examinations.

**Drug Screen Policy and Procedures**

I. **AU Policies**
   It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of Augusta University policies related to Student Conduct, including those regarding chemical substance use. Refer to:
   - AU Drug and Alcohol Policy located in the policy online library at [http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php](http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php) under Section 4: Student Affairs.
   - AU Student Manual Section 2: Student Code of Conduct (subsection 2.2: Alcohol, Other Drugs and Drug Paraphernalia) located on the Division of Student Affairs webpage at [http://www.augusta.edu/student-life/conduct/index.php](http://www.augusta.edu/student-life/conduct/index.php)

II. **Clinical Experience And Drug Screens**
   Clinical affiliates at which students complete their required clinical experiences do not accept students currently engaged in illegal drug use or impaired by chemical substance use of any kind to include alcohol and prescription drugs. Drug screens may be required by the clinical affiliate to be completed immediately prior to, or during, participation in clinical education experiences at that facility. Policies of the clinical affiliate regarding drug testing of employees are presumed to pertain to students, unless otherwise specified. Clinical affiliates requiring drug screen of students will generally require that it be completed within thirty (30) days of the beginning of a rotation. Students must work with their Program Director and clinical coordinator to determine when screening is required.

III. **Role Of Involved Parties**
   The roles of involved parties, including the department, students, and clinical affiliates are as follows:
A. Students
   • Completes the drug screen as required by the clinical affiliate to participate in clinical experience at that facility
   • Insures the information is forwarded from the reporting agency to the appropriate person at the clinical affiliate for review, if not automatically sent
   • Pays for the cost of the drug screen, if not covered by the clinical affiliate
   • Interacts directly with the clinical affiliate and reporting agency in the case of an adverse drug screen result, if the student disputes the accuracy of such results

B. Department
   • Gives ample notice to students to complete a drug screen if one is required by a clinical affiliate to which they are assigned prior to participation in clinical experience
   • Provides instructions to students for completing the drug screen
   • Enforces AU policy in the case of an adverse drug screen result
   • Counsels students, in the case of an adverse drug screen result, regarding:
     a. ability to complete course requirements;
     b. impact on the student’s status in the Program;
     c. potential impact on the student’s ability to take credentialing exams.*

C. Clinical Affiliate
   • Reviews drug screen test results and accepts or denies the student permission to participate in clinical experience at that facility
   • If denying the student permission to participate in clinical experience, communicates its decision and reason for denial to the Program in which the student is enrolled
   • If adverse test results are subsequently challenged and determined to be false positive, communicates that information to the student and the Program and relays its final decision to the Program regarding the student’s permission to participate in clinical experience

IV. Drug Screen Procedure
   A. The clinical affiliate requiring the drug screen will specify the level of screen to be performed, the agency to be used for the procedure, and the timing of the testing. Some clinical affiliates perform the screen at their own facility at no cost to the student. However, if there is a cost involved, it is the student’s responsibility to cover the procedural charge.

   B. Failure of a student to comply with this policy will result in the student being denied permission to enroll or continue enrollment in that course for which drug testing is a requirement. Failure to complete such course requirements could result in the student receiving an incomplete, withdrawal or failing grade in the clinical course; or denial of permission to continue enrollment in the Program.

   C. If the student believes his drug screen results are incorrect, it is the student’s responsibility to interact with the agency and clinical affiliate to resolve the issue. The student will not be able to participate in clinical experience until the matter is resolved. The inability to participate in
clinical experience could result in the student receiving an incomplete, withdrawal or failing grade in the clinical course, or denial of permission to continue enrollment in the Program.

*If an adverse drug screen result occurs, the student may be: a) charged with violation of state/federal law; b) charged with Student Conduct Irregularity by the institution; and/or be; c) unable to complete clinical course requirements.

The inability to participate in clinical experience could result in the student receiving an incomplete, withdrawal or failing grade in the clinical course, or denial of permission to continue enrollment in the Program. The student is also to understand there is a possibility that the credentialing agencies may not allow him/her to take their examinations based on positive drug test results, irrespective of Program completion. Therefore, it is incumbent upon the student to check with such agencies regarding his particular case and his future ability to take those examinations.

Dean's List and Graduation with Honors

Dean's List
To qualify for the Dean's List, an undergraduate student must (a) earn 12 or more hours of undergraduate course work numbered 1000 or above at AU, exclusive of “K” grades, for that semester; (b) have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.50 for that semester; and (c) have received no grade of “F” or “WF” during the semester. For students with an Incomplete (“I”) grade, Dean’s List computations will not be made until a grade is determine.

The achievement of each student who qualifies for Dean’s List is acknowledged and noted on the student's permanent record. Refer to Policy Library, section 03: http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php

Graduation With Honors For Baccalaureate Degrees
Augusta University awards honors to students graduating with an Associate’s Degree or Bachelor’s Degree who meet specific standards of academic excellence as measured by the grade point average. For an undergraduate degree to be awarded with honors, a student must have completed a minimum of 60 semester hours in residence for a bachelor’s degree or a minimum of 30 semester hours in residence for an associate’s degree. For students completing all course work at Augusta University, the Regents GPA is used for the calculation of honors. For students transferring coursework to Augusta University, a grade point average including all transfer work and all work taken at Augusta University will be used for calculation of honors. Both this calculated GPA and the Regents GPA must meet the standards below. The honor will be determined by the lower of the two GPAs. The standards for honors are as follows:

- Summa cum laude: 3.90
- Magna cum laude: 3.70
- Cum laude: 3.50

For specific policies on Dean’s List placement or graduation with honors for undergraduate and certificate programs, refer to Refer to Policy Library, section 03: http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php.
International Students

The Department of MLIRS celebrates its culturally diverse faculty and student body. AU provides a broad range of services and resources to international students to maximize their seamless integration into a new cultural experience.

All students who are not residents of the United States must comply with federal, state, and institutional requirements to document visa status, funding for education, residency status. All necessary documentation and paperwork must be completed and received by the International and Postdoctoral Services Office by the first day of class at program start. For more information call 706-721-0670 or see http://www.augusta.edu/diversity/ipso/.

English as A Second Language

Because students will operate within clinical and classroom settings where English is the primary conversational and written language, MLIRS faculty may require students, for whom English is a second language, to participate in activities that enhance professional communication. Students enrolled in MLIRS programs on the main campus in Augusta may work with Program Directors to seek language support from the International and Post-Doctoral Students Office (IPSO). This office provides a number of resources to international students. Program Directors will work with distant students needing such support to identify local resources to maximize professional communication.

F1 VISA Students

AU is authorized to sponsor F-1 student on the Health Sciences Campus, the Summerville Campus and the Forest Hills Campus only. AU is not authorized to issue the Form I-20 for potential F-1 students accepted for other campuses.

Full time study requirement

F-1 students must be enrolled in a “full course of study.” For AU undergraduate students 12 credit hours per semester is considered full time. For graduate students this usually means at least 9 hours per semester in any semester. The program may include a vacation term, often summer, when the student is not required to enroll, but may enroll with no stipulations on number of hours.

Regulation for on-line, distance, blended coursework 214.2(f)(6)(i)(G)(G)

For F-1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission, satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F-1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.
At AU the rule of thumb a course that “does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class” at least once per week during the term in the presence of a AU faculty or staff person is an on-line or distance course.

An F-1 student may enroll in one (1) such course with up-to 3 credit hours per semester counted towards the full course of study. Additional on-line enrollment is allowed, but does not count towards the “full course of study” 9 hours per semester requirement for graduate students and 12 hours for undergraduate students. This means that a graduate student must be enrolled in at least 6 credit hours of face-to-face classes (plus 3 hours either online or face-to-face to meet the 9 hours of required minimum). An undergraduate student must be enrolled in at least 9 credit hours of face-to-face classes (plus 3 hours either online or face-to-face to meet the 12 hours of required minimum).

(F-2 dependents may be enrolled in coursework of an avocational or incidental nature. No work towards a degree.)

For more information refer to http://www.augusta.edu/diversity/ipso/ http://www.gru.edu/diversity/ipso/students/index.php or call 706-721-0670.

**HIV/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV), HBV And HCV Policy for Health Science Students**

This policy only applies to Augusta University Health Sciences Students during their enrollment in Health Science Programs (e.g. Allied Health, Dentistry, Biomedical Graduate Studies, Medicine or Nursing). It provides a method to manage students who are, or become infected with a blood borne pathogen including Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Hepatitis B (HBV), and Hepatitis C (HCV). It describes evidence-based procedures for managing infected students in a way that protects their privacy while providing reasonable precautions to create a safe environment in the academic healthcare setting.

Process and Procedures for reporting and treatment in the case of suspected exposure are available in section 04 (Student Affairs) at http://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policies.php.

All policies reviewed and updated
8-8-2017