MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF NURSING

POLICY #D-10

TITLE: MASTER RESOURCE OUTLINES (MROs) AND INDIVIDUAL FACULTY SYLLABI (IFS) FOR GRADUATE COURSES

POLICY: The College of Nursing has two different graduate course outlines:
1) Master Resource Outlines (MROs)
2) Individual Faculty Syllabi (IFSs)

Curriculum review and revision is ongoing.

MROs can be developed by individual or small groups of faculty. Newly developed MROs are evaluated by GAAC relative to the graduate program 
curriculum and voted on by GAAC. The GAAC-approved MRO then is presented 
to the general faculty for discussion and approval by majority vote. The 
committee and general faculty approval dates are added to the bottom of the 
MRO. MROs are posted on the College of Nursing website. MROs are reviewed 
by GAAC every three years based on a staggered schedule.

IFSs are developed by individual faculty who teach in the graduate 
program before teaching a course for the first time and revised and kept 
current by individual faculty as necessary. IFSs are collected at the beginning of 
each semester by the Graduate Program Assistant, stored, and available in the 
Associate Dean’s office. IFSs are reviewed and approved by GAAC before the 
course is taught for the first time or before a new instructor teaches the course for 
the first time and every three years if the course has been taught by the same 
instructor.

RATIONALE: All graduate courses must address relevant "Essentials of Master’s Education in 
Nursing (2011) or Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice" (AACN, 2006) as well as the mission of the College of Nursing and 
the foundational and graduate program objectives (website page Resources for 
Faculty & Staff, “Curriculum”). The MRO is a major tool through which adherence to the Essentials can be demonstrated. Faculty-approved MROs are 
used to develop course syllabi and provide a consistent approach for maintaining 
the quality, relevancy, and integrity of the graduate curricula. IFSs reflect the 
course MRO and provide course instructional detail such as assignments, 
schedules, and course policies. The IFS is a validation tool that allows individual 
faculty and GAAC to track trends, evaluation/assessment data, and curriculum 
adherence. Each IFS includes a visible link between course objectives/course 
content and student learning/assessment activities.

Reviewed/Approved by:

Level I: GAAC (November, 2014; amended October, 2015)
Level II: Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education (January, 2015; October, 2015)