

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Curriculum Vitae for Faculty Members

Leah Tjepkema, BN, RN (she/ her)
Northern Baccalaureate Nursing Program
 School of Nursing
Senior Lab Instructor II

August 2025

Peace River-Liard Campus
 Since Aug 5th 2024, 2025

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

University or Institution	Degree	Subject Area	Dates
University of Victoria – Victoria, BC	Master of Nursing Education	Nursing education in both clinical and academic settings.	Sept 2023 – (In progress)
British Columbia Institute of Technology – Burnaby, BC	Perinatal Nursing Specialty with Distinction	Perinatal Nursing	Sept 2017 - May 2019
Mount Royal University – Calgary, AB	Bachelor of Nursing	Nursing	Sept 2011 - May 2015

EMPLOYMENT RECORD

Prior to coming to permanent employment at UNBC

University, Company, or Organization	Rank or Title	Dates
Northern Health –Fort St. John Hospital Fort St. John, BC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peace Villa Long Term care- part-time and casual Inpatient Unit (med/surg) – parttime and casual Public Health – Casual IV Therapy – Casual Prenatal Clinic – Casual Birthing Centre – Fulltime, Parttime and Casual 	Registered Nurse <i>(Full time, parttime and casual)</i>	May 2015 - present
UNBC Sessional Instructor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NURS 310 Clinical NURS 300 Lab NURS 311 Clinical NURS 412 Clinical Instructor 	Sessional Instructor	August 2021 – May 2023

Glow and Grow Prenatal Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Together with a perinatal colleague, We founded this small business to address the lack of prenatal education available in our rural community. 	Parttime RN	2020-2023
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At UNBC

Rank or Title	Dates
Parttime Probationary Senior Lab Instructor II Northern Baccalaureate Nursing Program Peace River-Liard campus	August 2024- present

TEACHING

Areas of special interest and accomplishments: My professional interests center on perinatal nursing, women's health, and the transition of new graduate nurses into independent practice within rural environments. I have a strong commitment to supporting families through pregnancy, birth, and the postpartum period, with a focus on equitable access to safe, evidence-based care. My work in women's health has emphasized not only the physical aspects of care, but also the importance of addressing psychosocial needs, cultural safety, and patient-centered education that empowers women to make informed health decisions.

In addition, I have developed a particular interest in the new graduate transition to practice experience, especially in rural and resource-limited settings. This includes exploring the unique challenges faced by new nurses, such as limited mentorship, high levels of responsibility, and the need to develop broad clinical competencies quickly. My accomplishments in this area include engaging in mentorship of new nurses and examining educational initiatives such as preceptorship models, system-level supports and new grad transition programs, and how they can improve retention and job satisfaction among rural nurses.

**Courses Taught at UNBC –
Peace River-Liard Campus in Fort St. John, BC:**

Session	Course Number	Scheduled Hours	Class Size	Hours Taught per Week			
				Lecture	Clinical	Lab	Other
Fall 2024	<u>NRSG 415:</u> Medical Surgical Nursing II Theory	Theory: 36 hours	8	6 (6 weeks only)	-	-	-
Winter 2025	<u>NRSG 311:</u> Medical Surgical Nursing I Theory and Clinical Instructor	Theory: 36 hours Clinical: 144 hours	10	12 weeks (3 hours per week)	16 hours per week	-	Clinical Lead
Fall 2025	<u>NRSG 415:</u>	Theory: 36	10	6 (6 weeks only)	-	-	-

d) Continuing Education Activities

Working towards a Master of Nursing Education

Recent graduate classes completed through the University of Victoria

- NUED 570 Engaging with Pedagogy: Teaching and Learning in Nursing Education**
Course commencement September 3rd 2025
- NURS 527 Disciplinary Research for Advanced Practice Nurses**
Course completed May 2025-Aug 2025
- NURS 524 Evidence for Advanced Practice Nurses**
Course completed January- April 2025
- NURS 500 Scholarly Writing for Advanced Practice Nurses**
Course completed September 2024-December 2024

Webinars and Brief Online Learning:

Learning Activity	Date
Technology- Enhanced Teaching and Learning	June 25 th , 20225
IPONS Live Stream: Showcasing the work of Emerging Nurse Scholars	May 23 rd , 2025
Lunch and Learn: Management of Post Partum Hemorrhage	May 21 st 2025
Bundle Birth: 8 hour online Physiologic Birth Seminar	May 20 th 2025
Dr. Giesbrecht (OBGYN) presentation on FSJ Birthing Centre	Nov 27, 2024

SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Presentations: MoreOB: I presented a 20 min Oral presentation on the importance of debrief and Interprofessional communication. October 20th 20224

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

Memberships on committees, including offices held and dates.

- Member, SoN UNBC Communications Committee (Sept 2024- present)
- Member, SoN Allies and Allyship Standing Committee: Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility and Anti-Racist Pedagogies, Research and Practice (Sept 2024- present)
- Member, UNBC NBNP Student Application Committee (Sept 2024- present)

Lead Positions

- Clinical Lead, NRSG 311 (2025)

Other

Adventures in Health Care – teaching and introducing high school students to the nursing profession and broader health care careers	<i>March- April 2025</i>
Tabled at Fort St. John Trade Show to promote UNBC and its programs	<i>April 2025</i>
Campus tours for local Highschool students	<i>Fall and Spring 2025</i>
UNBC open house	<i>Fall 2024</i>
Attendance at UNBC NBNP Retreat and program alignment held in PG	<i>April 2025</i>
Admissions review meetings for NBNP Fort St. John & PG, bi-monthly.	<i>Dec- June 2024</i>
Attendance at pinning and graduation ceremonies in Fort St. John:	<i>2025</i>
Recruitment of sessional instructors.	<i>Yearly</i>
Participating in Fall and Winter NBNP orientation activities in Fort St. John.	<i>2024- 2025</i>

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

- **Adventures in Health Care Volunteer (Sept 2024- present)**
 - Working with UNBC School of Nursing staff, School District 60, Northern Health and FSJ Rotary Club to plan and implement “[Adventures in Health Care](#)” program to expose local grade 10 & 11 students to careers in healthcare.
- **NBNP Campus Tours (Sept 2024- present)**
 - Provides prospective students with Peace River-Liard campus tours, discusses the RN role, and introduces the NBNP program.
- **Casual Registered Nurse (RN)**

- I currently hold several casual positions at the Fort St. John Hospital, including the Prenatal Clinic, Birthing Centre, and IV Therapy Clinic. These roles allow me to remain actively engaged in clinical practice, ensuring my bedside skills stay current and evidence based. In addition to maintaining direct patient care, these positions help me foster and strengthen relationships with local health care leadership and administrators, the same leaders who will eventually support and hire our graduating students. Most importantly, this work enables me to continue providing high-quality care and support to the community in which I live and work.