**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON**

**COLLEGE OF NURSING**

**NURS 5301: Section 002 (Online): Research in Nursing**

**Fall 2011**

**Instructor:** Donelle M. Barnes, PhD, RN, CNE

**Office number:** Pickard Hall - 521

**Office telephone number:** (817) 272-0108

**Email address:** donelle@uta.edu

**Office Hours:** Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Online in Blackboard; or by appointment.

**Section Information:** NURS 5301-002

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** Blackboard can be accessed at <http://elearn.uta.edu>

There are three face-to-face meetings that occur on campus. See the weekly schedule for those dates, times, and locations. The remainder of the course is online in Blackboard.

**Description of Course Content:** Exploration of the research process and critical examination of published studies with emphasis on research critique, interpretation of statistical results, and evidence-based practice.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Link theory, research, and practice (MSN Program Outcomes 2 & 3).
2. Critically evaluate research (MSN Program Outcome 3).
3. Interpret statistical results (MSN Program Outcome 2).
4. Plan use of research knowledge to facilitate an evidence-based practice for nursing (MSN Program Outcome 2).

**Requirements:** Graduate Standing

**Required Textbooks and other course materials:**

**Required:**

LoBiondo-Wood, G., & Haber, J. (2010). Nursing research: Methods and critical appraisal for evidence based practice (7th ed.). New York: Mosby Elsevier.

ISBN: 978-0-323-05743-1

Grove, S. K. (2007). Statistics for health care research: A practical workbook. Philadelphia: Saunders.

 ISBN: 978-1-4160-0226-0

 **Recommended:**

American Psychological Association. (2010). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th Ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

 ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5

Salkind, N.J. (2011). Statistics for people who think they hate statistics (4th ed.). Los Angeles: Sage.

 ISBN: 978-1-4129-7959-7

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:**

1. **Multiple-choice exams: Taken online in Blackboard**

There are four (4) exams that cover the content of the reading assignments and lectures for those weeks. The purpose of the exam is to test your knowledge of the content, or see where you need to learn more.

Exams are open all day, beginning at 12 a.m. until 11:55 p.m., on the scheduled date (see weekly schedule below). They are timed exams, meaning that once you begin you will only have a certain number of minutes to take them. You must complete the exam by 11:55 p.m. More instructions are included in Blackboard.

Some of the exam questions will be testing your knowledge of the research article:

**Neyens, J.C.L. et al. (2009). A multifactorial intervention for the prevention of falls in psychogeriatric nursing home patients, a randomized controlled trial (RCT). Age and Ageing, 38, 194-199.**

 (Available full text, online, through the UTA Library.)

PRIOR TO EACH EXAM, you should read that article, looking for application of your knowledge of the research process in that article.

During the exam, you may have the course textbook and the article next to you at your computer. You may refer to them during the exam. You may NOT confer with other students or any other individual during the exam. It should be your work alone. Sharing or receiving answers during an exam is academic dishonesty (cheating) and will be prosecuted.

1. **Statistical Exercises: Submitted online in Blackboard**

Students will complete four (4) sets of assigned Statistical Exercises. **You will be turning in only the “Questions to be Graded” from the statistical exercises.** The ungraded exercises are not handed in to the instructor, but content may be included in the final exam.

**Exercises are due by midnight on the due date (see weekly schedule below).**

1. **Evidence-Based Practice Assignment: Submitted online in Blackboard.**

Students will describe a ***patient care problem or issue***and select an evidence-based protocol, algorithm or procedure that might be used to change practice. The issue can apply to your current practice or might be used in the advanced role you will be assuming on graduation, such as administrator, educator, or nurse practitioner. Guidelines and grading for this assignment are later in this syllabus.

1. **Statistics Final Exam: Held at UTA**

Multiple choice questions will cover all assigned statistical exercises, graded and ungraded. Students will be allowed to use a hand calculator during this exam but no cell phones or any other electronic device.

**Bring to the exam:** a #2 pencil and a calculator that does square root.

**Attendance:** Regular class participation is expected of all students, but attendance is not required. The first two face-to-face meetings will cover the syllabus, lecture material, and explanations of upcoming assignments. Attendance is strongly recommended if you wish to be successful in this course, but no points are deducted if you are not present. The final face-to-face meeting is the final exam. If you are absent on the final exam you will receive a zero (0) grade.

Students are responsible for all course information even if they choose not to attend face-to-face meetings or choose not to read the Discussion Board in Blackboard. Ask another student to share notes and handouts with you if you miss a class session.

**Grading:**

Exams (4 X 10% each) 40 %

Statistical Exercises (4 X 5% each) 20 %

Evidence-based Practice Paper 20 %

Statistics Exam 20 %

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TOTAL 100%

LATE WORK: The instructor will impose penalties for late work. Five (5) percent will be deducted from the final grade of the assignment for each day the work is late. Work is considered “late” if it is received after the scheduled due date and time.

LATE EXAMS: In Blackboard, if you exceed the number of minutes allowed for the exam, the software notifies you that the time has expired but the exam does not close. If you remain in the exam beyond the expiration time, five (5) percent will be deducted from the exam grade for each minute that you remain in the exam. Be sure to save and exit the exam when the time has expired.

EXCEPTION: If you become ill, have an accident or family emergency and do not believe you can complete an assignment on time, you should phone or email the instructor immediately - BEFORE the due date and time. The instructor may postpone the deadline without penalty, depending on the circumstances. Once the due date is passed, points will be deducted for late work regardless of the excuse.

GRADING SCALE FOR **FINAL COURSE GRADE**:

A = 92.0 – 100 %

B = 83.0 – 91.99 %

C = 74.0 – 82.99 %

D = 65.0 – 73.99 %

F = less than 65.0

**Drop Policy:** A graduate student who wishes to change a schedule by either dropping or adding a course must first consult with the Graduate Nursing Advisor. Adds and drops may be made through late registration either in MyMav or in person at the MSN Program Office. The last day to drop a course is listed in the Academic Calendar at: <http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal>

The following regulations pertain to adds and drops:

1. A student may not add a course after the end of late registration.
2. A student dropping a graduate course after the Census Date but on or before the final drop date may, with the agreement of the instructor, receive a grade of W but only if passing the course with a C or better. A grade of W will not be given if the student does not have at least a C average. In such instances, the student will receive a grade of F if he or she withdraws from the class. Students dropping a course must: (1) Complete a Course Drop Form (available online <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/MSN/drop_resign_request.pdf> or in MSN department office rooms 605 or 606 for NP students or rooms 512 or 514 for Nursing Administration and Education students; (2) Obtain faculty signature and current course grade; and (3) Submit the form to the MSN department office rooms 605 or 606 for NP students; rooms 512 or 514 for Nursing Administration and Education students.
3. A student desiring to drop all courses in which he or she is enrolled is reminded that such action constitutes withdrawal (resignation) from the University. The student must indicate intention to withdraw and drop all courses by filing a resignation form in the Office of the Registrar or by: (1) Completing a resignation form (available online <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/MSN/drop_resign_request.pdf> or MSN department office rooms 605 or 606 for NP students or rooms 512 or 514 for Nursing Administration and Education students; (2) Obtaining faculty signature for each course enrolled and current course grade; (3) Filing the resignation form in the College of Nursing MSN department office rooms 605 or 606 for NP students or rooms 512 or 514 for Nursing Administration and Education students; and (4) Filing the resignation form in the Office of the Registrar in Davis Hall, Room 333.
4. In most cases, a student may not drop a graduate course or withdraw (resign) from the University after the 10th week of class. Under extreme circumstances, the Dean of Graduate Studies may consider a petition to withdraw (resign) from the University after the 10th week of class, but in no case may a graduate student selectively drop a course after the 10th week and remain enrolled in any other course. Students should use the special Petition to Withdraw for this purpose. See the section titled Withdrawal (Resignation) From the University for additional information concerning withdrawal.

### Census Date: September 12, 2011

### Last Date to Drop/Withdraw: November 4, 2011

**University Policies:**

**Graduate Student Handbook:** Students are responsible for knowing and complying with all policies and information contained in the Graduate Student handbook online: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/handbook/toc.php>

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 92-112 - The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of federal legislation entitled *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, pursuant to section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.

As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability or by calling (817) 272-3364.

Student Code of Ethics: The University of Texas at Arlington School of Nursing supports the Student Code of Ethics Policy. Students are responsible for knowing and complying with the Code. The Code can be found in the student Handbook online:

<http://www.uta.edu/nursing/handbook/toc.php>

**Academic Integrity:** It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form.

"Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts" (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2).

Copying another student’s paper or any portion of it is plagiarism. Additionally, copying a portion of published material (e.g., books or journals) without adequately documenting the source is plagiarism. If five or more words in sequence are taken from a source, those words must be placed in quotes and the source referenced with author’s name, date of publication, and

page number of publication. If the author’s ideas are rephrased, by transposing words or expressing the same idea using different words, the idea must be attributed to the author by proper referencing, giving the author’s name and date of publication. If a single author’s ideas

are discussed in more than one paragraph, the author must be referenced at the end of each paragraph. Authors whose words or ideas have been used in the preparation of a paper must be listed in the references cited at the end of the paper. Students are encouraged to review the plagiarism module from the UT Arlington Central Library.

All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Suspected violations of academic dishonesty standards will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

**NOTE:** As a licensed registered nurse, graduate students are expected to demonstrate professional conduct as set forth in the Texas Board of Nursing rule **§215.8. In the event that a graduate student holding an RN license is found to have engaged in academic dishonesty, the college may report the nurse to the Texas BON using rule §215.8 as a guide.**

**Student Support Services:** The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. These programs include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, sending a message to resources@uta.edu, or visiting www.uta.edu/resources. Most services are free to enrolled students!

For assistance with writing papers, the UTA Writing Center can be contacted at 817-272-2601. See them at <http://www.uta.edu/owl/services.htm>

For assistance with test anxiety or testing issues, Counseling Services can be contacted at 817-272-3671. See them at <http://www.uta.edu/caacs/counseling/>

**Computer Culture/Electronics:** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means of communication with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning department requirements, registration, financial aid and scholarships, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email. All students are assigned a MavMail account and information about activating and using it is available at [www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php](http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php) Students are responsible for checking their email regularly.

Students are responsible for having a functioning computer and reliable internet access. Be sure you have fast connection speed so you can view lectures online. We highly recommend a cable line or broadband connection to the web. Dial-up connections are usually too slow, and wireless connections can drop you in the middle of a lecture or an exam. Be sure you know how to upload documents, open documents in Word, open power point presentations, and other files. If you have difficulty with your computer, it is the student’s responsibility to problem-solve that issue. If you have problems with logging into Blackboard or access to the UTA Library, you may phone or email the Help Desk in the UTA Library at 817-272-2208, or you can email them at helpdesk@uta.edu

If you have difficulties with Blackboard content or using Blackboard, you should email the instructor within Blackboard (Email link). If she cannot resolve your problem, she/he will send the question on to the appropriate staff.

An online course is not identical to an in-the-seat course. Online courses require you to be more self-motivated and self-disciplined, to ask questions when you don’t understand something, and to value active learning. You cannot be passive in this course and be successful in it. This will be a different learning experience compared to a traditional classroom. If you have specific questions about the online format, be sure to ask the instructor.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of the semester, students will be asked to complete an online Student Feedback Survey about the course and how it was taught. Instructions on how to access the system will be sent directly to you through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the semester. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback data is required by state law; student participation in the program is voluntary.

**Gift Policy:** In accordance with Regent Rules and Regulations and the UTA Standards of Conduct, the College of Nursing has a “no gift” policy. A donation to the UTA College of Nursing Scholarship Fund would be an appropriate way to recognize a faculty member’s contribution to your learning. For information regarding Scholarship Funds, please contact the Dean’s office.

**Library contacts:** For nursing students, the designated librarian is **Helen Hough.**

Phone: (817) 272-7429; E-mail: hough@uta.edu

Research Information on Nursing: <http://www.uta.edu/library/research/rt-nursing.html>

Library Home Page                          <http://www.uta.edu/library>

Subject Guides                                 <http://libguides.uta.edu>

Subject Librarians                            <http://www-test.uta.edu/library/help/subject-librarians.php>

Database List                                    <http://www-test.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php>

Course Reserves                              <http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do>

Library Catalog                                <http://discover.uta.edu/>

E-Journals                                         <http://utalink.uta.edu:9003/UTAlink/az>

Library Tutorials                               <http://www.uta.edu/library/help/tutorials.php>

Connecting from Off- Campus    <http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus>

Ask a Librarian                                 <http://ask.uta.edu>

**College of Nursing Masters Programs:**

**Dr. Jennifer Gray,** *Associate Dean and Chair for Masters Programs*

**Felicia Chamberlain,** *Administrative Assistant*

Office: 515 Pickard Hall; Phone: (817) 272-0659; E-mail: chamberl@uta.edu

Inclement Weather (UTA Closing) Inquiries: Metro: (972) 601-2049

Fax Number UTA College of Nursing: (817) 272-5006

UTA Police (Emergency Only): (817) 272-3003

University of Texas Home Page: [http://www.uta.edu](http://www.uta.edu/)

Graduate Catalog & Faculty: <http://www.uta.edu/gradcatalog/nursing>

Graduate Nursing Programs: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/MSN/administration.php>

<http://www.uta.edu/nursing/MSN/practitioner.php>

Graduate MSN Forms: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/MSN/forms.php>

## General Guidelines for Written Work

 These guidelines have been developed to help students know the mechanics of writing a paper. The 6th Edition APA Manual (2010) is to be used in conjunction with the guidelines to demonstrate referencing style, levels of headings, and proper ways of including direct quotations in the paper. The APA Manual also gives additional information about grammar and punctuation, use of numbers and abbreviations, and development of tables or figures, which should be helpful in developing any paper.

1. Each paper should have a formal title page (see example below).
2. OMIT a running head, abstract, and table of contents.
3. Pagination: Page numbering starts with the title page, continuing through the reference list and any appendices. Arabic (1, 2 etc.) numbers are used.
4. Margins: Margins are to be at least 1 inch and no more than 1.25 inches on all sides. Text should be left justified only. This means that the right margin may appear irregular. If a word is too long to be completed on one line, it should not be hyphenated.
5. Type size and font: Type should be 12 characters per inch. The font should be clean and easy to read (e.g. Arial or Times New Roman). Print should be of letter quality.
6. Spacing: Double spacing is used for the body of the paper. Single spacing may be used within references (with double spacing between references), and long quotations. Long quotations may also be indented five spaces. DO NOT leave any blank lines between paragraphs or sections.
7. Headings within the paper are essential. First develop an outline of your paper and count the number of levels you plan to incorporate. Grading Criteria Sheets are helpful in determining appropriate headings for specific assignments. See the APA Manual for further guidance.
8. Quotations: In general, avoid the use of direct quotes. Re-state the point in your own words and include the appropriate citation. For ways to properly cite quotations of greater than 40 words see the APA Manual.
9. Reference list: See the APA Manual. The reference list includes only the references cited within the text of the paper.

10. Be sure the paper (or statistics exercise) you submit is complete, since that is the version

**that will be graded**.

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Evidence based practice for XXX

[Your name here]

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing

In partial fulfillment of the requirements of

N5301 Research in Nursing

 Donelle M. Barnes PhD, RN, CNE, Instructor

[Date]

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**EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE PAPER**

1. Describe a **Clinical Problem** that you currently see in practice. It can be any patient care problem or issue that is of interest to you in your current practice, or for your future role as an administrator, nurse practitioner, or educator. A way to identify an area of interest may be to ask yourself or colleagues questions such as: Is there a better way of doing something? Would another intervention be more effective and improve patient outcomes? Give some data (at least one rate, ratio or cost) from your agency or from the health care literature that supports the fact that this is a patient care problem. (About one page in length.)

2. Review recent research and practice literature and select a research-supported **intervention** that might address this patient care issue. The intervention may be in the form of a policy, protocol, algorithm or procedure that would change patient care in your institution or care setting. What evidence-based intervention exists to improve current care in terms of patient, provider, or health care agency outcomes? Try to identify something for which you really want an answer. You might also get ideas from research articles from nursing specialty journals.

Review a variety of web sites such as:

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (**[**http://www.ahrq.gov**](http://www.ahrq.gov/)**)**

**National Guideline Clearinghouse (**[**http://www.guideline.gov**](http://www.guideline.gov/)**)**

For the second section of the paper, provide **a copy** of the policy, protocol, algorithm or procedure with its reference list. Attach that copy to the end of the paper as an Appendix. In the second section of the paper, briefly **describe** where the policy came from and why you believe it is appropriate. (About ½ page in length.)

3. Briefly describe how you would **implement** the new practice into existing patient care in your agency. Be **specific** about who, when, where, and how this would be implemented. For example, describe who approves new policies, how would staff be oriented or trained in the new policy, and how the policy will be evaluated for effectiveness. Describe what it would cost (in dollars) in patient care per-day to implement the policy (equipment or personnel), and give a brief timeline. (About three pages in length.)

4. Provide a reference list for your data and guideline/intervention sources, or any other cited sources of information in your paper.

The paper must be submitted as a **Word** document for grading purposes. The attached EBP guideline or protocol can be a **Word or pdf** file. I must be able to open both files or you will get a zero (0) for that part of the assignment.

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**GRADE SHEET FOR EBP PAPER:**

10 points 1. Clinical problem clearly described, appropriate for nursing practice, and supported by data from the literature or other source.

10 points 2. Appropriate policy, protocol, algorithm or procedure chosen to address the clinical problem with its reference list.

10 points 3. Clear implementation plan, practical and complete.

10 points 5. Format: APA format, sentence and paragraph structure, citations and references.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ /40 X 20% = Grade for EBP Paper**

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**Weekly** **SCHEDULE**

In an online course, you can pretty much proceed at your own pace. There are a few exceptions, such as **DUE DATES**! Assignments are due on specific dates, by midnight. Therefore, the dates for study are approximate so you know how fast you should be progressing.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **WEEK OF:** | **Topics and Readings** | **Assignments DUE** |
| **Aug. 25-31** | Introduction to CourseReview of Syllabus & ScheduleSources of knowledgeResearch processTypes of quantitative research **LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapters 1 & 7** | **Meeting at UTA, Saturday, August 27** **10 a.m. to 1 p.m.****Pickard Hall 227.** |
| **Sept. 1-7** | Literature Review**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text:** **Chapters 1 & 3 (Ch. 16 as a reference)** | **[Assignment 1]****Exam 1 on Friday, Sept. 9****over Chapters 1, 3, 7 (including lectures and Assignment 1).** |
| **Sept. 8-14** | Problem and PurposeObjectives, Questions & Hypotheses**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapter 2****(Ch. 16 as a reference)** | **[Assignment 2]** |
| **Sept. 15-21** | Theoretical Frameworks**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapter 3****(Ch. 16 as a reference)** | **[Assignment 3]****Exam 2 DUE on Friday, Sept. 23 over Chapters 2 & 3 (including lectures and Assignments).** |
| **Sept. 22-28** | Research Design**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text:** **Chapters 8 & 9****(Ch. 16 as a reference)** | **[Assignment 4]** |
| **Sept. 29 –****Oct. 5** | Sampling MethodsSample Size**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapter 10****(Ch. 16 as a reference)** | **[Assignment 5]****Exam 3 DUE on Friday, Oct. 7 over Chapters 8, 9, 10 (including lectures and Assignments).** |
| **Oct. 6-12** | Measurement toolsLevels of MeasurementReliability & Validity of MeasuresCollecting data**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text:** **Chapter 12 & 13****(Ch. 16 as a reference)** | **[Assignment 6]** |
| **Oct. 13-19** | Findings & Discussion**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapter 15****(Ch. 16 as a reference)** | **[Assignment 7]** |
| **Oct. 20-26** | Ethics in research**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapter 11****(Ch. 16 as a reference)** | **Exam 4 DUE on Friday, Oct. 21 over Chapters 11, 12, 13, 15 (including lectures and Assignments).** |
| **Oct. 27 –****Nov. 2** | Evidence- based practiceStatistical Theory (lecture)**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text:** **Chapters 17 & 18** | **Meeting at UTA, Saturday, Oct. 29****10 a.m. to 1 p.m.****Pickard Hall 227.** |
| **Nov. 3-9** | Descriptive Statistics**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapter 14**  | **DUE: Saturday, Nov. 5****Statistics Exercises Graded**13: Reliability Values14: Validity Values18: Mean, SD, Curve**Not Graded but on Final Exam**1: Nominal3: Interval/Ratio4: Percentages9: Sampling Methods12: Power Analysis15: Central Tendency17: Mean, SD, Curve |
| **Nov. 10-16** | Correlational Statistics **LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapter 14** | **DUE: Saturday, Nov. 12****Statistics Exercises Graded**21: Effect size23: Pearson’s product**Not Graded**24: Pearson’s r27: Linear regression31: t-test |
| **Nov. 17-23** | Differential (between groups) Statistics**LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Text: Chapter 14** | **DUE: Saturday, Nov. 19****Statistics Exercises****Graded**28: Linear regression29: t-test**Not Graded**33: Standard error |
| **Nov. 24-30** | Thanksgiving Break |  |
| **Dec. 1-7** | Differential (between groups) Statistics | **DUE: Saturday, Dec. 3****Statistics Exercises Graded**36: ANOVA40: Chi Square**Not Graded**42: Spearman rank order43: Mann-Whitney U45: Sensitivity & Specificity |
|  | Course Evaluation (Online)**FINAL EXAM on Statistics** | **Meeting at UTA, Saturday, Dec. 10****10 a.m. to 12 noon.****Pickard Hall: Room TBA.****DUE: EBP Paper** |