**NURS 5301-001: Research In Nursing**

Fall 2013

**Instructor(s):** Barbara M. Raudonis, PhD, RN, FNGNA, FPCN

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**Faculty Profile:** <https://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/view/id/?345/>.

**Office Hours:** By appointment

**Section Information:** NURS 5301-001

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** Pickard Hall, Rm. 223, Thursdays per schedule, 9am–3:50 pm

**Please Note: First Day of Class: August 22, 2013 (only) meets in Room 549 in Pickard Hall**

**Description of Course Content:** Exploration of the research process and critical examination of published studies with emphasis on research appraisal, 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 evidenced-based practice for nursing (MSN Program Outcome 2).

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

Grove, S.K., Burns, N., & Gray, J. R. (2013).*The practice of nursing research: Appraisal, synthesis and generation of* *evidence* (7th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders. ISBN: 978-1-4557-0736-2

Grove, S.K. (2007). *Statistics for health care research: A practical workbook*. Philadelphia: Saunders. ISBN: 978-1-4160-0226-0

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological* *Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC. Author. ISBN: 9781433805615

\*\*Journal articles as assigned will be available electronically through the UT Arlington Library

**Recommended resources (not required)**

Salkind, N.J. (2011). *Statistics for people who think they hate statistics* (4 ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN: 076192776X :

\*\*\* Any other research or statistics book that you have used in past courses that might serve as an additional reference to assist in your learning.

**Course Topics:**

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| Overview of conducting and appraising nursing research  Link between research, theory, and practice  Nursing research   * Quantitative and qualitative research methods * Research process: Problem, purpose, literature review, framework, objectives, questions or hypotheses, design, sample, measurement method, data collection, data analysis, results, findings, limitations, conclusions, generalizations, implications for practice, future research * Ethics in research * Measurement theory and methods * Interpretation of research results in published studies * Present and future issues in nursing research   Appraisal of nursing research   * Comprehension, comparison, analysis, and evaluation   Evidence-based nursing practice and health care  Statistical concepts and Data analysis techniques  **Requirements:** Graduate standing; Competency in the use of Black Board.  **Teaching Methods/Strategies:** Lecture, discussion, Black Board, current textbooks and articles, research appraisal paper, evidence-based websites, statistical exercises, objective exams covering class content that includes a statistical exam, Internet activities, e-mail communication, and student conferences. |

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates:**

**Paper: Critical Appraisal of a Published Study.** Each student will complete a written appraisal of an assigned study. Guidelines for the appraisal paper are posted in a separate document on Black Board. Paper is due **September 26, 2013.**

**Examinations:** There are **3 objective exams** (ex. multiple choice or other non-essay type questions) listed on the Class Schedule that cover the content of the reading assignments and class content as listed for those weeks. All exams will cover your knowledge and application of the assigned content. You will be required to bring a printed copy of the assigned journal article to **all** the exams. This article will be used to answer the application questions on the exams. You may highlight your copy of the article as well as discuss it with your colleagues outside of class. You may not use your notes or textbook during the exams. Only access to the article will be allowed. The instructor will NOT answer questions related to the content of the article prior to the completion of the exams.

The Exam scheduled on **October 10** will cover content related to critical appraisal**.** On **October 24** the exam will cover evidence-based practice content. The **statistics exam** will be on **December 5.** The statistics exam is an objective exam (multiple choice questions or other non-essay type questions) covering all assigned statistical exercises, graded and ungraded. The exam will cover your knowledge and application of the assigned content. Questions related to the statistics and related findings in the assigned journal article (same one used on the other objective exams) will also be included on this exam. You will be required to bring a printed copy of the assigned journal article to the exam. Students will be allowed to use a simple hand calculator during this exam but no cell phones or any other electronic devices.

**Statistical Exercises:** Students will complete assigned Statistical Exercises. The assigned “Questions to be Graded” will be reviewed in class. Students are expected to complete these exercises prior to the assigned due dates. The exercises will be reviewed in class and students are expected to participate in those reviews. The “answers” to these exercises will only be available during these discussions. Although no actual grades will be assigned to the completed exercises it is in each student’s best interest to complete the assigned exercises since the content will be included on the statistics exam on **December 5th**. The “Questions to be Graded” are due on the dates specified on the Class Schedule: **September 26, October 10, 24, November 7 and November 21.**

**Schedule:** A detailed schedule that includes weekly assigned readings, assignments and exams will be posted as a separate document on Black Board.

**Grading Policy**:

Critical Appraisal Paper 25%

Exam #1 Critical Appraisal Content 25%

Exam #2 EBP 25%

Exam #3 Statistics Exam 25%

TOTAL 100%

**Grading Scale for Course:**

A = 92.00 – 100.00

B = 83.00 – 91.99

C = 74.00 – 82.99

D = 68.00 – 73.99

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study**: Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week (approximately 3 hours per course credit hour) of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

**Attendance Policy:** Regular class attendance and participation is expected of all students. Students are responsible for all missed course information. Students are expected to submit the required paper and take the exams as scheduled. There are not make-up exams. If students are ill, then the instructor must be notified prior to the exam.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw

Graduate students who wish to change a schedule by either dropping or adding a course must first consult with their Graduate Advisor. Regulations pertaining to adding or dropping courses are described below. Adds and drops may be made through late registration either on the Web at MyMav or in person through the student’s academic department. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information. The last day to drop a course is listed in the Academic Calendar available at [http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal.](http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal)

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 end of the 10th week of class may with the agreement of the instructor, receive a grade of W but only if passing the course with a C or better average. 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 Graduate Nursing office rooms 512 or 606); (2) obtain faculty signature and current course grade; and (3) submit the form to Graduate Nursing office rooms 512 or 606.
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 completing 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 Graduate Nursing office rooms 512 or 606; (2) obtaining faculty signature for each course enrolled and current course grade; (3) Submitting the resignation form in the College of Nursing office room 512 or 606; and (4) The department office will send resignation form to the office of the Registrar.
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. <http://www.grad.uta.edu/handbook>

**Last Day to Drop or Withdraw: October 30, 2013**

**Americans with Disabilities Act:**  The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are 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 diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Academic Integrity:**  All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

According to the UT System Regents’ Rule 50101, §2.2, "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the 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, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts."

**Plagiarism:** Copying another student’s paper or any portion of it is plagiarism. Copying a portion of

published material (e.g., books or journals) without adequately documenting the source is plagiarism.

Consistent with APA format, 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, according to APA format. 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 expected to review the plagiarism module from the UT Arlington Central Library via <http://library.uta.edu/tutorials/Plagiarism>

**Student Support Services Available**: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

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**Electronic Communication Policy:** The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University “MavMail” address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. ***Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly.*** Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/>. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

To obtain your NetID or for logon assistance, visit <https://webapps.uta.edu/oit/selfservice/>. If you are unable to resolve your issue from the Self-Service website, contact the Helpdesk at [helpdesk@uta.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uta.edu).

**Student Feedback Survey:**  At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. Our classroom #223 is on the second floor in PKH and in the middle of the hall. The nearest exits are at both ends of the hall. Follow faculty instructions toward the exit to the stairwell down to the first floor and out of the building. Once you are outside move away from the building. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist handicapped individuals. Refer to UT Arlington Procedure 7-6: Emergency/Fire Evacuation Procedures (<https://www.uta.edu/policy/procedure/7-6>).

**Librarian to Contact:**

Antoinette Nelson, *Nursing Librarian*

Phone: (817) 272-7433

E-mail: [nelson@uta.edu](mailto:nelson@uta.edu)

[**http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing**](http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing)

**College of Nursing additional information:**

**Status of RN Licensure:** All graduate nursing students must have an unencumbered license as designated by the Texas Board of Nursing (BON) to participate in graduate clinical nursing courses. It is also imperative that any student whose license becomes encumbered by the BON must immediately notify their Associate Dean for the MSN Program, Department of Advanced Practice Dr. Gray/Dr. Schira. The complete policy about encumbered licenses is available online at: [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us)

**Confidentiality Agreement**

You signed a Confidentiality Form in orientation and were provided a copy of the form. Please take your copy of this Confidentiality Form with you to your clinical sites. Please do not sign other agency confidentiality forms. Contact your faculty if the agency requires you to sign their confidentiality form.

**Student Code of Ethics:** The University of Texas at Arlington College 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>

**No 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 one of the UTA College of Nursing Scholarship Funds, found at the following link: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/scholarship_list.php> 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.

**Course Evaluation:**

Course evaluation is a continuous process and is the responsibility of both the faculty and the students. Ongoing feedback (formative evaluation) is the only way to improve the course and to assure that it meets your needs and those of the discipline of nursing. It is your responsibility to give immediate, constructive feedback regarding class structure and process.

Formal evaluation of the course and the instructor occurs at the end of the course. You will receive instructions at your University of Texas at Arlington e-mail address about how to complete the course evaluations online. Your ratings and comments are sent to a computer not connected to the College of Nursing, and faculty members do not receive the results until after they have turned in course grades.

**Online Conduct:** The discussion board should be viewed as a public and professional forum for course-related discussions. Students are free to discuss academic matters and consult one another regarding academic resources. The tone of postings should be professional in nature.

It is not appropriate to post statements of a personal or political nature, or statements criticizing classmates or faculty. Inappropriate statements/language will be deleted by the course faculty and may result in denied access to the Discussion boards. Refer to UTACON Student Handbook for more information.

***For this course Blackboard communication tools, discussion boards, and UTA MAV email will be used extensively and should be checked often.***

**Writing Center**

The English Writing Center, Room 411 in the Central Library, provides support to UT-Arlington undergraduate and graduate students and instructors. Undergraduate and graduate student consultants in the Writing Center are trained to help student writers at any stage in their writing processes. Consultants are trained to attend to rhetorical and organizational issues that instructors value in student writing. Although consultants will assist students in identifying and correcting patterns of grammatical or syntactical errors, they are taught to resist student entreaties to become editors or proofreaders of student papers.

The Writing Center offers tutoring for any assigned writing during enrollment at UT-Arlington. During Fall 2013, Writing Center hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Friday; and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Individuals may schedule appointments online by following directions available at [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl), or by visiting the Writing Center. Please check the Writing Center’s website for an update of their hours. Changes may have occurred after the posting of this syllabus.

The Writing Center Director, Assistant Director, or tutors are available to make classroom presentations describing Writing Center services. The Writing Center also offers workshops on topics such as documentation and will design specialized workshops at the request of instructors. To schedule a classroom visit or inquire about a workshop, please e-mail or call Tracey-Lynn Clough, Writing Center director, at [clought@uta.edu](mailto:clought@uta.edu) or 817-272-2517.

**Departmental Office/Support Staff**

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**Library Resources**

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

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

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

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

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

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

E-Journals <http://liblink.uta.edu/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](http://ask.uta.edu/)

The following URL houses a page where the UTA Librarians have gathered many commonly used resources needed by students in online or hybrid courses: <http://www.uta.edu/library/services/distance.php>