UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARLINGTON

N4325 Nursing Research Syllabus RN-BSN Accelerated Online Program

Instructor Information

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Description of Course Content

Basic concepts, processes and applications of nursing research. Research and the role of the nurse in decision making and clinical practice. 3 Credit hours, 45 Clock hours.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the interrelationships among theory, practice, and research
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic elements of the research process and models for applying evidence to clinical practice.
3. Advocate for the protection of human subjects in the conduct of research.
4. Evaluate the credibility of sources of information, including but not limited to databases and internet resources.
5. Participate in the process of retrieval, appraisal, and synthesis of evidence in collaboration with other members of the healthcare team to improve patient outcomes.
6. Integrate evidence, clinical judgment, interprofessional perspectives, and patient preferences in planning, implementing, and evaluating outcomes of care.
7. Collaborate in the collection, documentation, and dissemination of evidence.
8. Acquire an understanding of the process of how nursing and related healthcare quality and safety measure are developed, validated, and endorsed.
9. Describe mechanisms to resolve identified practice discrepancies between identified standards and practice that may adversely impact patient outcomes.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials

Grove, S., Gray, J., & Burns, N. (2015). *Understanding nursing research text w/ study guide package* (6th ed). St. Louis, MO: Saunders.

Houghton, P.M., Houghton, T.J. (2010). *APA: The easy way!* (2nd Ed.). Michigan: Baker College. ISBN: 978-0-923568-96-2

Recommended Books

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th Ed.).* Washington, DC: Author. ISBN: 978-1-4338-0561-5

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Course Policies

EVALUATION METHODS:

Research introduces concepts that require both abstract and concrete thinking. Successful completion of the course requires reading the textbook, using the reading worksheets, using the workbook as needed, and participating in all course activities and assignments. Active learning is encouraged in Nursing Research. Online assignments, quizzes, and module reading worksheets associated with the book are available for students to actively learn.

Description of Major Assignments and Examinations:

1) **Quantitative Research Article Critique:** The student will learn to comprehensively read and critique a quantitative research article that is selected by the course instructor. This is a two-part assignment that is based on information from the textbook and is due in Module 2 and Module 3.

2) **Evidence Based Practice Project:** The student will apply the steps of an evidence- based practice project by formulating a PICO question, doing a brief literature review related to their PICO question, and sharing what they have found with their peers. This is a two-part assignment that includes writing up their PICO question and findings in an APA-formatted paper and dissemination of their findings to their classmates. It is due in Module 4 and 5.

3) **Quizzes:** The student will complete an online quiz in Module 3 and Module 5 over the material that is covered in the module reading worksheets and related assignments. Please see the blueprints located in Blackboard for more details about each quiz.

Attendance Policy:

At The University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I will take attendance for each class day, and class attendance is required.

Grading

Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Module One Assignments Research Crossword Puzzle 2%; Qualitative Matching 2%; Human Subjects Protection Training 4%; Plagiarism Tutorial Activity 2%	10%
Module Two Assignments APA Activity 3%; Searching for a quantitative Nursing Research Article 3%	6%
Research Article Critique, Part One	15%
Research Article Critique, Part Two	15%
Quiz #1	10%
Evidence Based Practice Project: Finding the Evidence	15%
Evidence Based Practice Project: Sharing the Evidence (In Discussion Board Module 5)	10%
Quiz #2	10%
Discussion Boards (Module 1, 2, and 3 3% each)	9%

In order to successfully complete an undergraduate nursing course at UTA, the following minimum criteria must be met:

70% weighted average on proctored exams.(N/A)
70% weighted average on major written assignments. (article critiques 1 & 2 and evidence based practice project including visual aid.)
90% on math test (if applicable). (N/A)
90% on practicum skills check offs (if applicable). (N/A)

In undergraduate nursing courses, all grade calculations will be carried out to two decimal places and there will be no rounding of final grades. Letter grades for tests, written assignments and end-of-course grades, etc. shall be:

A	90.00	100.00
B	80.00	89.99
C	70.00	79.99
D	60.00	69.99

The existing rule of C or better to progress remains in effect; therefore, to successfully complete a nursing course, students shall have a course grade of 70.00 or greater.

Please note: If you are repeating the course, you must submit a NEW quantitative research article in Module 2 and a NEW Evidence Based Practice Project: Finding the Evidence (Module 4) and a NEW Evidence Based Practice Project: Sharing the Evidence (Module 5).

Grade Grievances:

Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current University Catalog.
http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext

Additional General Comments about the Course:

Assignment Format:

All assignments will be submitted within Blackboard in Microsoft Word format unless instructed otherwise by faculty. Papers not submitted to Blackboard cannot be graded. Papers are not re-graded.

Communication:

Students are responsible for checking discussion board(s) and e-mail on a daily basis. All communications (email, DB, texts, etc.) for this course are expected to be professional in tone and content to peers and instructors. Any student that is not professional in communications with peers and instructors can be subject to counseling / disciplinary action.
Blackboard is the only venue expected to be used for this course. No communications for this course are allowed on Facebook or any other social media.

Late Work:

The instructor will impose penalties for late work. Five points 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. Any late work must be submitted no later than 4 days after the due date in order to receive a grade, otherwise you will receive a zero. **Exception:** If you become ill, have an accident, or a family emergency occurs and you 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. Documentation will be required.

Access to Blackboard:

If you have pre-registered for the course you should be able to access Blackboard approximately 1 week before school begins. You are encouraged to access the site and become familiar with the various resources.

Computer Requirements:

All computers on campus will have access to BLACKBOARD. If you choose to access Blackboard from home you must have a computer and a quality Internet provider such as DSL, Cable, or Satellite (regular telephone is not adequate). Questions about adequate computer hardware should be directed to the UTA help desk at 817-272-2208 or www.helpdesk@uta.edu. **Your home computer's compatibility with BLACKBOARD is your responsibility. Neither the helpdesk nor your instructor is responsible for the functionality of your home computer's configuration. Please do not bring your technical problems to the course. Your instructors are not available for technical support, please call or contact the helpdesk.**

Word of caution:

Do not rely on your employer's computer system to access Blackboard. Students have encountered various problems (such as dropping them in the middle of an on-line quiz) due to the special filters, fire walls, blocking of programs, and barriers they put on their systems. Papers have been distorted in format and various problems have been noted with quiz access with a MAC computer. You are also advised to **not take any on-line quizzes on a wireless system** as students have also been dropped and used up their time trying to reconnect. The Getting Started Module in Blackboard explains the best interfaces for accessing Blackboard for quizzes and paper submissions.

Quiz Information:

All quizzes will be given on-line. This quiz has 25 multiple choice questions, and you will have 35 minutes in which to complete it (per requirements of the RN-BSN program). Use your time wisely. Quizzes will not be re-opened or re-set because you have run out of time and did not complete them. You must complete the quiz in one sitting. You may not go back and forth between questions. The quiz will open and close at the dates and times listed in your syllabus. ***For any additional problems with the quiz, contact your course instructor immediately via e-mail for assistance. Do not contact your Coach or IT.***

Online quizzes are individual work and you may use your book or course materials to assist you in answering the questions. Quizzes are NOT group activities. Sharing or receiving information is a matter of academic dishonesty and will be reported to the Office of Community Standards.

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 9-12 hours per week**, (or more) of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing

for quizzes, etc. **Because content presented in this course is new, some students may need to spend up to 15 - 20 hours per week outside of the classroom for this course.**

LIBRARY INFORMATION

Kaeli Vandertulip, MLS, MS, AHIP

Nursing Liaison Librarian, 817.272.5352
http://www.uta.edu/library | kaeli.vandertulip@uta.edu
Research information on nursing: http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing

RN-BSN PROGRAM SUPPORT STAFF

Pamela Smith, *Administrative Assistant I*
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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.

Academic Integrity

Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses 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.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

A Note About Plagiarism:

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 via http://library.uta.edu/tutorials/Plagiarism

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 or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

Title IX

The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit www.uta.edu/titleIX.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center, 411 Central Library, offers individual 40 minute sessions to review assignments, *Quick Hits* (5-10 minute quick answers to questions), and workshops on grammar and specific writing projects. Visit https://uta.mywconline.com/ to register and make appointments. For hours, information about the writing workshops we offer, scheduling a classroom visit, and descriptions of the services we offer undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members, please visit our website at www.uta.edu/owl/.

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 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

The following URL houses a page where we have gathered many commonly used resources needed by students in online courses: http://www.uta.edu/library/services/distance.php.

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, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

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.

Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. 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 **drop date** for this course can be found at:
http://academicpartnerships.uta.edu/documents/UTA_Drop_Dates.pdf

Electronic Communication

UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university- related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

Student Feedback Survey

At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online 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 stairwell. 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 individuals with disabilities.

COLLEGE OF NURSING INFORMATION:

UTA College of Nursing Policy

Effective for students entering the nursing program Fall 2009 (Jr I) and forward, the following policy applies:
Students within the program, enrolled in an upper division NURS course are permitted to drop the course one time. Upon attempting the course for the second time, the earned grade is retained.
Students may drop no more than three upper division NURS courses during their undergraduate career. Elective and pre-nursing courses are exempt from this policy.

APA Format

APA style manual will be used by the UTACON with some specific requirements for the undergraduate courses. The sample title page & instructions, as well as a Manuscript Preparation document can be found at: www.uta.edu/nursing/files/APAFormat.pdf

No Gift Policy

In accordance with Regents 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 the Scholarship Fund, please contact the Dean's office.

The Student Handbook can be found by going to the following link:
http://www.uta.edu/nursing/bsn-program/ and clicking on the link titled BSN Student Handbook located in the lower left-hand corner.

Emergency Phone Numbers

In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at 817-272-3003 (non-campus phone), 2-3003 (campus phone). You may also dial 911.

NURS 4325 Nursing Research
Course Schedule

MODULE / WEEK	ACTIVITY
Module One / Week One	
Content	**Learning Activities**
Course orientation Introduction to research Role of research in nursing Methodological approaches to research overview • Quantitative • Qualitative Ethical & legal issues • human rights • informed consent • IRB	**Reading:** Chapters 1, 2, 3, & 4. Use the Module Reading Worksheets to help you take notes / learn the information as you read. Read the article assigned by the instructor that will be used for the critique in this course. **Additional Activities:** Submit Attestation form **Graded Activities:** Submit Module One Assignments Discussion Board postings
Module Two / Week Two	
Content	**Learning Activities**
The Research Process • Literature review • Research problems & purpose • Objectives, Questions, & Hypotheses • Study Variables • Study Frameworks • Quantitative research designs	**Reading:** Chapters 5, 6, 7, & 8. Use the Module Reading Worksheets to help you take notes / learn the information as you read. **Graded Activities:** Submit Module Two Assignments Submit Research Article Critique (RAC) Part One Discussion Board postings
Module Three / Week Three	
Content	**Learning Activities**
The Research Process • Sampling • Measurement methods • Data Collection • Quantitative Data Analysis • Evaluation of Findings	**Reading:** Chapter 9, 10, & 11, Use the Module Reading Worksheets to help you take notes / learn the information as you read. **Graded Activities:** Submit Research Article Critique (RAC), Part Two Take Quiz #1 Discussion Board postings

Module Four / Week Four	
Content	**Learning Activities**
An overview of Evidence- based Practice (EBP) • PICO questions • The IOWA Model • Evidence-based guidelines • Magnet Status and EBP	**Reading:** 1 & 13. Use the Module Reading Worksheets to help you take notes / learn the information as you read. **Graded Activities:** Submit EBP Project: Finding the Evidence Discussion Board for help with PICO question (not graded)
Module Five / Week Five	
Content	**Learning Activities**
Evidence-based practice • Barriers and benefits of EBP • Assistance with implementing EBP • Levels of research evidence • Nursing specialty organizations and EBP • Examining the evidence to guide practice. • Sharing the EBP evidence.	**Reading:** 13 and assigned journal articles in Module Five. Use the Module Reading Worksheets to help you take notes / learn the information as you read. **Graded Activities** Submit EBP Project: Finding the Evidence on Discussion Board Discussion Board postings Take Quiz #2

"As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course"
– Regina Urban, MSN, RN-BC, CCRN

Module Objectives

In each module you will demonstrate mastery of objectives. The table below details the course activity where you will demonstrate mastery of each objective.

Module	Objectives	Course Activity (G = Graded, NG = Non-graded)
1	Define research, and nursing research.	G = Research Crossword Assignment; Qualitative Matching Assignment; Quiz NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Relate nursing research to other components of the nursing world.	G = Human Subjects Protection Training Assignment NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Discuss the development of nursing research to present day.	NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Examine the ways of knowing in the scientific world.	NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Contrast the various roles of nurses in research.	NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Describe selected methodological approaches to research.	G = Research Crossword Assignment; Qualitative Matching Assignment; Quiz NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
2	Describe research designs and the different components used in the design.	G = Searching for Quantitative Nursing Research Article; Discussion; Research Article Critique Part I NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Identify variables, hypotheses, and what is needed for each type of design.	G = Discussion; Research Article Critique Part I NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Compare concepts and constructs in research.	G = Research Article Critique Part I NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Identify different types of variables and how to operationalize them.	G = Research Article Critique Part I; Quiz NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Discuss theory and theoretical frameworks and how they are used in research.	G = Research Article Critique Part I NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Identify types of reliability and validity.	G = Research Article Critique Part I NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Examine phenomenology, grounded theory, ethnography, case study, and historical designs.	G = Research Article Critique Part I NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Identify key components of APA Style and Plagiarism	G = APA Assignment; Plagiarism Tutorial Assignment
3	Examine types of data collection for quantitative and qualitative studies.	G = Research Article Critique Part II, Quiz #2 NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Identify levels of measurement.	G = Research Article Critique Part II, Quiz #2 NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards

Module	Objectives	Course Activity (G = Graded, NG = Non-graded)
	Discuss reliability and validity.	G = Discussion
	Examine the different levels of measurement.	G = Research Article Critique Part II, Quiz #2 NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Examine measures of central tendency.	G = Research Article Critique Part II, Quiz #2 NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Identify measures of dispersion.	G = Research Article Critique Part II, Quiz #2 NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Based on research findings, evaluate nursing intervention outcomes and implications for nursing practice.	G = Research Article Critique Part II NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
4	Discuss dissemination of research findings.	G = Finding the Evidence Assignment, Quiz #2 NG = Discussion; Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Discuss methods of communication used by nurse scientists to disseminate the research findings.	G = Finding the Evidence Assignment, Quiz #2 NG = Discussion; Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Discuss transferability and feasibility of clinical applications of research findings.	G = Finding the Evidence Assignment, Quiz #2 NG = Discussion; Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
5	Discuss dissemination of research findings.	G = Sharing the Evidence Discussion, Quiz #2 NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards
	Discuss transferability and feasibility of clinical applications of research findings.	G = Sharing the Evidence Discussion, Quiz #2 NG = Reading Worksheet; Quizlet Cards