

NURS 5366 Principles of Research in Nursing

Course Description:
Integration of theoretical and empirical principles of nursing research to generate evidence for nursing practice.

Pre and Co-requisite Courses: Graduate standing.

Sections:
NURS 5366-402

Instructor:

Denise Cauble, PhD, RN, CWOCN Clinical Assistant Professor dcauble@uta.edu
http://www.uta.edu/profiles/denise-cauble
Office hours by appointment.

Preferred Methods for Reaching Instructor: Email
Timeframe for Responding to Student Communication:
Response to student emails can generally be expected within 24 hours. Re-mail faculty / coach if email is not answered as there might have been a technical difficulty.
Response to student assignments may be expected in 72 hours unless notified.

Virtual Office Hours:
The purpose of virtual office hours is to address those unique instructional challenges or questions that require a response that cannot be answered via email, an announcement, or the question and answer forum provided within each group. Virtual office hours are arranged with your faculty by appointment.

Please email to schedule an individual or small group, virtual work session at an arranged time. In your email, include the purpose of the meeting, what you hope to learn as a result of this meeting, and who will be participating.

Academic Coach(es):
Each student will be assigned a coach for the duration of the course. An introductory email will be sent by your coach at the beginning of the course with specific instructions and contact information. Notify your faculty is you do not receive a communication by the first day of the course.

Credit Hours:
3 hours

Textbooks (Including Titles, Authors, Edition and Publisher) or Equipment - REQUIRED:

Gray, J., Grove, S. & Sutherland, S. (2017). *Burn's and Grove's The practice of nursing research: Appraisal, synthesis, and generation of evidence* (8th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. **ISBN 978- 0-323-37758-4**

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: APA. **ISBN: 9781433805615**

As this course is offered in an online format, **each student must have a computer with a dependable high speed internet connection**. The computer should meet UTA's hardware recommendations: http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/hardware/student-laptop- recommend.php and Blackboard's browser requirements: http://www.uta.edu/blackboard/browsertest/browsertest.php
This course requires the use of word processing software that is compatible with Microsoft Office formats. Students may purchase this software (in person or by mail) at a significant discount from the UTA bookstore http://www.uta.edu/bookstore (scroll to the bottom of the webpage).

Generally weekly quizzes are the norm for this course. These are open book and timed. They are not group quizzes, students are expected to take the quizzes individually. The quizzes are taken directly in Blackboard unless instructed to do otherwise by the faculty (due to test taking issues), For student problems with testing, students may be required to have a webcam and Respondus browser to test online. (which students must download from a link within Blackboard and install on their computer). The instructor will determine what option is offered to students who are unsuccessful in completing a test online. Students may also be required to complete an alternate version of the test using ProctorU for which students must pay a fee if there are consistent issues testing. To avoid these additional requirements, take the quizzes according to the instructions in the course.

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. Regular attendance in this online course is required.

Course Expectations:
This course is presented completely online and is administered at an accelerated pace. The course builds upon your undergraduate education and will cover a significant amount of content over a short period of time. It is designed to facilitate and guide your learning. As such, minimal written lecture content is provided. You will be required to read the textbooks and synthesize the information to complete all of the course assignments. As a graduate student, you are

considered to be an independent learner and, if needed, you are expected to use your resources and identify additional resources to help you understand the concepts in the course. Supplemental videos have been provided over select concepts for your review. You will be required to spend an average of 15 hours per week to complete all of the required readings and assignments. The majority of the concepts presented in the course are not new but the time you spend weekly will depend upon multiple variables.

Course Topics / Lesson Titles:

Module	Module Titles	Module Topics
1	**Introduction to Nursing Research**	1. Overview Research Process 2. Ethics in Research 3. Research Problem and Purpose 4. Literature Review 5. Research Frameworks 6. Research Objectives, Questions, & Hypotheses 7. Study Variables 8. Quantitative Research Designs
2	**The Research Process, Part One**	1. Sampling 2. Measurement: Reliability and Validity 3. Measurement: Physiological Measures 4. Measurement: Observational Measurement, Questionnaires, & Scales Collecting & Managing Data
3	**The Research Process, Part Two**	1. Review of Literature Review Process
4	**Data Analysis & Appraising Quantitative Research, Part One**	1. Introduction to Statistical Analysis 2. Hypothesis Testing 3. Critical Appraising of Research

5	**Data Analysis & Appraising Quantitative Research, Part Two**	1. Descriptive Statistics 2. Inferential Statistics Measurement: Reliability and Validity 3. Measurement: Observational Measurement, Questionnaires, & Scales

Course Objective(s)	Modules	Assessment
Discuss the research process.	• **Module 1** • Discuss the role of research in advanced practice. • Order the steps of the research process. • **Module 2:** • Differentiate between independent and dependent variables. • Provide rationales for controlling extraneous variables. • Compare and contrast conceptual and operational definitions. • Identify the framework in a research study. • Evaluate the fit of a framework in a selected study. • Compare and contrast quantitative research	Discussion forums Worksheet Review of Literature Paper Research Appraisals Quizzes

	Module 3: • Differentiate between a sample and population. • Generate inclusion and exclusion criteria for a proposed research study. • Identify strategies to reduce participant attrition. • Differentiate between random sampling and random allocation to groups. • Assess the elements of a plan for data collection.	

Course Objective(s)	Modules	Assessment
	Module 1: • Develop a research problem from a clinical problem in area of interest. Evaluate selected literature to identify gap in knowledge on clinical problem of interest. Module 2 • Distinguish between research questions and hypotheses.	Discussion forums Weekly quiz Research Appraisals
Evaluate clinical and research literature to identify gaps in knowledge.	Module 2: • Describe components of a literature review. • Analyze relevant literature to find a gap in knowledge for research topic of interest.	Review of Literature Paper Quiz ResearchAppraisals
Articulate clinical and research evidence related to identified clinical problems.	Module 3 and 4: Appraise a published research report using established guidelines.	Research Appraisals Review of Literature, Pinch Table Quiz
Develop a plan for data analysis.	Module 4: • Describe the purpose of hypothesis testing. • Compare and contrast Type I and II errors. • Describe the difference between statistical and clinical significance. Module 5: • Select descriptive statistics to describe study participants. • Determine appropriate levels of measurement for demographic variables. • Differentiate between descriptive and inferential statistics. • Determine which statistics are appropriate to answer selected research questions.	Worksheets Quiz Quiz

Course Objective(s)	Modules	Assessment
Evaluate measurement methods used in nursing research.	Module 4: Develop strategies to strengthen reliability of measurements. Define validity. Identify means to evaluate the validity of psychometric instruments. Assess the validity and reliability of selected instruments. Describe strategies to ensure the accuracy of physiologic measures. Assess precision of physiological measures in selected studies. Module 5: Compare and contrast measurement tools for selected concepts.	Review of Literature Paper, Summary
Demonstrate ethical principles in planning research.	Module 1: • Identify strategies to protect human subjects in biomedical and behavioral research. • Describe steps researchers use to maintain privacy of subjects.	Worksheet Quiz

Course Schedule and Due Dates (Central Time):

Course or Module Activity	Due Date
Module One (All Courses)	
Attestation Statement	Monday 23:59
Discussion: Student Introduce Yourself Discussion: Research Problem	Wednesday 23:59 – post discussion thread Saturday 23:59 – post replies to 2 colleagues
Major Assignment: Research Appraisal, Part One	Saturday 23:59
Quiz 1	Thursday 08:00 to Saturday 23:59
Module Two	
Discussion: Instruments and Tools	Wednesday 23:59 – post discussion thread Saturday 23:59 – post replies to 2 colleagues
Major Assignment: Research Appraisal, Part Two	Saturday 23:59
Quiz 2	Thursday 08:00 to Saturday 23:59
Module Three	
Major Assignment: Review of Literature, Pinch Table	Saturday 23:59
Quiz 3	Thursday 08:00 to Saturday 23:59
Module Four	
Major Assignment: Review of Literature, Summary	Saturday 23:59
Module Five	
Quiz 5	Thursday 08:00 to Saturday 23:59

Assignments and Assessments:

Required Components for Course Credit	Weight / Percentage Value Within the Course
Discussion forums	10%
Quizzes	30%
Research Appraisal Part 1	15%
Research Appraisal Part 2	15%
Review of Literature, Pinch Table	15%
Review of Literature, Summary Paper	15%

Grading and Evaluation Policy:
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.

Course Grading Scale
A = 90-100 B = 80-89.99
C = 70-79.99

GPA of 3.0: Graduate students must maintain a GPA of 3.0.
Academic resources include:

- your course professor
- UTA Student Success Coordinators
- Your advisor Additional grading information:

Additional information about grading:

- There are no options for extra credit in this course
- For assignments that are submitted to an assignment submission link, the paper that is submitted is the paper that will be graded. Be sure to upload the correct version of your paper. Check to make sure that you can open the assignment after submitting.
- Work may not be re-submitted for re-grading.
- Work is considered late if it is received after the scheduled due date and time.
- Late work will be subject to a 5 point deduction per day up to a maximum of four days (Wednesday, 23:59 for Saturday due dates), after which work will not be given any credit).
- Late discussion posts/replies will be subject to a 5 point deduction per day (up to a maximum of two days), after which posts will not be given any credit.
- No late work will be accepted in the last week of the course.
- Because Quizzes in the course will take approximately 45 minutes to complete, students must begin their quiz no later than 2315 CST on the due date in order to complete the quiz before it closes and becomes unavailable. They will

not be re-opened for starting too late. Quizzes are not opened early. Quizzes will not be available after Saturday 23:59 except with the permission of the faculty and will require documentation and a password.

- Grades of incomplete are NOT automatically given when there are missing assignments at the end of the course. A student must discuss with the faculty of record for the course the reasons that an incomplete grade is being requested. This discussion must occur as soon as the student recognizes that a problem exists. Faculty members are not obligated to grant an incomplete grade. With no prior discussion of the need for an incomplete, students not completing the required activities will receive the grade for the course based on the percentage of the required material submitted.
- **Safe Assign:** Safe assign is an electronic system which helps to identify plagiarized assignments. All student assignments are subject to being submitted to safe assign at any time to evaluate for plagiarism. Discussion board posts may randomly be submitted to safe assign or may be submitted if plagiarism is suspected. Please, Do NOT Plagiarize!

Blackboard Required:

Only assignments submitted through Blackboard will be reviewed and accepted for a grade, regardless of the reason. Assignments that are submitted through email will not be reviewed for feedback nor graded. They will be assigned a grade of zero. No exceptions will be made**. Make sure that you have uploaded to Blackboard correctly and the assignment is able to be opened within Blackboard.**

Technical Problems:

Because technology is vulnerable to experiencing difficulties you should not wait until the last minute to submit an assignment. If you experience technical difficulties contact Blackboard Support to help resolve the issue. They are open 24 hours a day. Contact the faculty, not your coach or Blackboard, if you have a technical issue with the quizzes.

Late Assignments / Assessments: (repeating this information as it is important)

- Work is considered late if it is received after the scheduled due date and time. Points will be deducted for work that is submitted late. Graded late work is not guaranteed to be returned at the same time on- time assignments are returned.
- Quizzes must be started, completed, and submitted prior to the submission due date and time. Any quiz submitted after the due date and time will not be accepted. Make-up quizzes are not provided given the extended period for which quizzes are open.

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.*

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 standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with the University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

"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."

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 Board of Nursing (BON)** using rule §215.8 as a guide.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is prohibited. Any assignment determined to have been plagiarized will be given a zero and the student reported for academic dishonesty. Copying your answers from your textbooks, journal articles, any website or any source is considered plagiarism. All of your work is to be in your own words, paraphrased and referenced according to APA style. Using quoted sentences is not an acceptable manner in which to complete any assignment in this course and does not reflect synthesis of the material. Consequently, the use of quoted sentences will result in a point deduction up to and including a zero.

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/plagiarism/index.html

APA 6th Edition:

Students are expected to use APA style to document resources. The APA Manual 6th edition is a required textbook for the course. Supplementary resources can be found in the UTA online library, including:

- http://library.uta.edu/sites/default/files/apa2014.pdf
- http://libguides.uta.edu/apa
- http://library.uta.edu/how-to/paper-formatting-apa-st

Schedule Adjustments:
As the instructors for this course, we reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. – Denise Cauble PhD

UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation – Additional Information

Drop Policy:
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 Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/ .

The last day to drop this course is May 1, 2017

A student dropping a graduate course after the Census Date but on or before the last day to drop may with the agreement of the instructor, receive a grade of W. Students dropping a course must: (1) Contact course faculty to obtain permission to drop the course with a grade of "W". (2) Contact your graduate advisor to obtain the form and further instructions.

University Library Resources for Online Students:
Peace Williamson, *Nursing Librarian* Phone: (817) 272-7433 E-mail: peace@uta.edu
Research Information on Nursing:
http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing

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://libguides.uta.edu/az.php
Course Reserves	http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do
Library Catalog	http://discover.uta.edu/
E-Journals	http://ns6rl9th2k.search.serialssolutions.com/
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

Resources often used by online students: http://library.uta.edu/distance-disability-services

Disability Accommodations:
UT 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), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* 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 disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD).** Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title
VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit* www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

Student Support Services:
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.

The IDEAS Center (2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To

schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 2726593.

Student Success Faculty: In order to assist masters nursing students who are at academic risk or who need academic support, there are graduate faculty members available to you. The goal of the success faculty members is to support student achievement in masters-level coursework so students can reach their educational goals. Students may contact a success faculty member directly, or a course instructor may encourage you to contact a success faculty member.

The success faculty in the MSN Program:

Dr. Donelle Barnes is available as a writing coach to assist students in the MSN Core courses; theory, research, and evidence based practice. Since these courses are writing intensive, Dr. Barnes can help students improve the clarity and organization of their written papers. She can be reached via email: donelle@uta.edu.

Dr. Mary Schira is available as a success faculty to assist with diverse resources that may include study skills, testing challenges/approaches, managing multiple responsibilities, and addressing personal issues impacting academic performance. Course content challenges may also be addressed, with referral to additional resources as indicated. Dr. Schira can be reached via email: schira@uta.edu.

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 If you are unable to resolve your issue contact the Helpdesk athelpdesk@uta.edu.

Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/

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.

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 Dr. Mary Schira College of Nursing, Associate Dean- Department of Advanced Practice Nursing. The complete policy about encumbered licenses is available online at: www.bon.state.tx.us

Graduate Student Handbook: Students are responsible for knowing and complying with all policies and information contained in the Graduate Student handbook online at: http://www.uta.edu/nursing/msn/msn-students

Ebola exposure: Please inform your faculty if you have been in contact with anyone who has Ebola/have traveled to a country that has Ebola virus.

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: is http://www.uta.edu/nursing/student-resources/scholarship 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.

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/msn/msn- students

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.

The English Writing Center (411LIBR): Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In ***Quick Hits*** sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at http://uta.mywconline.com. Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see www.uta.edu/owl for detailed information.

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.