SYLLABUS

Nursing Research

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Texts and Materials:

Burns, N. & Grove, S. (2011). *Understanding nursing research text w/ study guide package* (5th ed). Saunders. ISBN 978-1-4377-0750-2

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

Recommended:

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

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

Course Description:

Basic concepts, processes and applications of nursing research. Research 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.

Course Policies:

EVALUATION METHODS:

Active learning is encouraged in Nursing Research. Online assignments, quizzes, and modules associated with the book are available for students to actively learn. Online Office Hours (OOHs) are not required for students to attend; however, students are responsible for all information provided in the OOHs.

Graded Activities:
1) The student will individually complete five 'Introduction to Research Activities'.

2) Group work will be assigned in week 2-5. There are two group assignments, the Group Article Critique and the Journal Club. Students are responsible for participation in the assigned group work. Participating group members will receive the grade for the submitted work each week. In addition, each student will do a peer evaluation each week that may affect the individuals grade.

3) There are two online quizzes; one in week 3 and one in week 5. The individual student is responsible for making sure (s)he has access to Online Testing in order to take the quiz on the due date in the assigned time. No quiz make-ups are available. Individual students not taking the quizzes will receive a zero for the grade.

Group Article Critique: The student group will critique an article selected by faculty. The group critique, using the 'Critique Template', is a group project. The assigned article will be used to critique each week and the group will submit their answers according to the due date. All students in the group must participate each week to receive credit for the answers submitted by the group. Students who choose not to participate in the group work will have their name omitted from the assignment and receive a grade of zero at the group's request.

Group Journal Club: The group will be assigned a practice topic for this assignment to be discussed in the journal club. The group will complete the search strategy, select a benchmark, and select a group article for this project. The group will provide faculty with the search form, question posed by the group along with the benchmark and research article that has been chosen. The group will critique the article that has been chosen for the journal club using selected questions from the critique template and search strategy to complete the JC form. The JC group form is submitted within Blackboard and the group receives the grade.

General assignment comments:
- Research introduces concepts that require both abstract and concrete thinking. Successful completion of the course requires studying the lecture notes, reading the textbook, and workbook, and participating in course activities.
- Students are responsible to check the general and group discussion boards at least daily to communicate with their peers and to join in the weekly and daily discussions to receive points. The grade for group discussion will be according to the depth and breadth of the individual and group discussion.
- Student names not listed on the graded activities will indicate they did not participate in the group work.

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- The entire paper will be submitted by the group leader in the appropriate format to the drop box within Blackboard. Papers not submitted to the portal cannot be graded.
- Papers are not re-graded. A group request for re-grading is reviewed by faculty. If a group requests a paper be re-graded by faculty, the grade assigned by the faculty, whether more or less, will be the final grade.
- Communication: All communications (email, DB, texts, etc.) for this course are expected to be professional in tone and content to peers, coaches, and faculty. Any student that is not professional in communications with peers, coaches, or faculty can be removed from the DB, and will be in jeopardy of not passing the course since group work is required on the DB. Show of respect for peers, coaches, and faculty is expected.
- Blackboard is the only venue expected to be used for this course. No communications for this course is allowed on Facebook or any other social media.
- Students are responsible for contacting faculty within 24 hours of graded papers being posted in the event there are questions regarding the grade.

Grading Policy:

Introduction to Research Activities	15%
Group Critique #1	12.5%
Group Critique #2	12.5%
Group Search - Question - Research Article	10%
Quiz#1	15%
Quiz#2	15%
Group Journal Club	20%

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

> 70% weighted average on proctored exams.(NA)
> 70% weighted average on major written assignments (Group critiques and Journal Club).
> 90% on math test (if applicable). (NA)
> 90% on practicum skills check offs (if applicable). (NA)

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.

Grade Grievance Policy: 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

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Online attendance is required.

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. **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 access BLACKBOARD. If you choose to access 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 they are open the same hours as the Library.

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 class. 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. Mozilla Firefox is the best interface for accessing Blackboard for quizzes and paper submissions.

Software:
All software should be up to date. As a student you may purchase the latest WINDOWS and OFFICE from the Computer Store at the UTA Bookstore for a very nominal fee. Please take advantage of this opportunity. All other programs used in this course, such as JAVA and Quicktime, Adobe, RealPlayer, should be checked frequently for updates.

INCORRECTLY FORMATTED PAPERS
Any papers submitted in any format other than Word, and that cannot be opened in Blackboard will not be accepted for grading. Faculty reserves the right to refuse to read or grade an assignment that has not been completed according to guidelines. Such cases require special decisions regarding permission to resubmit work and penalty points, etc. that cannot be specified in this syllabus.

QUIZ INFORMATION:
All quizzes and tests will be given on-line. *On-Line quizzes and tests ARE NOT to be considered open book tests or group tests. Using references or sharing or receiving information is a matter of Academic Dishonesty and will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct.*

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On-Line Quizzes will be made available for a specified amount of time. **Failure to access the exam during the assigned time it is available will result in a zero for the quiz. In addition, failure to complete the quiz within the allotted time will result in the grade earned when time ended.** It is the student's responsibility to make sure of password access to Blackboard. Students are responsible to call their faculty if they are not able to access Blackboard testing during the time the quiz is open.

Quizzes are not re-opened at a later date. There is no general formal review process for on-line quizzes. Individual review of a quiz is done by contacting the faculty.

LIBRARY INFORMATION: Peace Williamson, MLS, MS, AHIP Nursing Liason Librarian
Central Library 216 (office)
Email: peace@uta.edu
Research Information on Nursing:
http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing

RN-BSN PROGRAM **Pamela Smith,** *Administrative Assistant I*
SUPPORT STAFF: 650 Pickard Hall, (817) 272-2776 ext. 24814
Email: pamsmith@uta.edu

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 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. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty of their need for accommodation and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.   Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in Room 102 of University Hall, or call them 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.

AP course drop dates may be accessed at the State U website:
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.

COLLEGE OF NURSING INFORMATION:

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 using the link provided under Upper Division

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.

University of Texas at Arlington
College of Nursing
Box 19407
411 S. Nedderman Drive
Arlington, Texas 76019-0407
RN-BSN PROGRAM ATTESTATION STATEMENT
<mark>(Use Form in Course for Submission, not in syllabus)</mark>

Special Notice: **This statement must be completed and submitted before any assignments will be graded in this course. The course content of each week will not open up for you until you complete and submit this attestation statement.**

 I, _____, have read the **Course Syllabus for N4325 Nursing Research** in which I am currently enrolled. By signing this form**,** I attest that I will do my own work for the RN-BSN Program and only submit assignments that are entirely my own work. I will not copy the work of any other student (past or present) or collaborate with anyone else on assignments, quizzes, or any other academic work except as directed by the assignment/instructor's directive. I fully understand that academic dishonesty is grounds for dismissal from the program.

The RN-BSN Program and its courses are designed for the Registered Nurse Adult Learner who can complete the academic requirements in an accelerated format and may require up to 20 or more hours per week, based on the credit hours assigned per course, for completion of the required learning activities.

In addition, as a Registered Nurse, and an undergraduate student, I am expected to demonstrate professional conduct as set forth in the Nurse Practice Act in the state in which I am licensed. All violations of the UT Arlington Honor Code and/or professional standards will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct for their review. Furthermore, I understand that in the event that I, as an undergraduate student holding a RN license, am found to have engaged in academic dishonesty the University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing may report me to the Board of Nursing of the State in which I am licensed.

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 that I 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.

I further understand that I must use my UTA email to contact any faculty or Academic Coach in all RN BSN courses. They will not respond to my personal email.

By submitting this form with the requested information, I attest that I have read and will comply with all the documents and information set forth in this RN BSN Program Attestation Statement.

Name of my Academic Coach is: _____

I contact my Academic Coach at: _____
  (Check your UTA email. Your Coach has sent you his/her contact information.)

Name of my Professor is: _____

Your Name
(Typed):_____

E-mail Address: _____

Contact Telephone Number: _____
        (Use a phone number that will be active the entire time you are in the program)

Today's Date: _____

Course Outline at a Glance
Check calendar for dates for this course.

Week 1	
Content	**Learning Activities**
Course orientation Introduction to research Role of research in nursing Methodological approaches overview • Quantitative • Qualitative Evidence-Based Practice overview Ethical & legal issues • human rights • informed consent • IRB	**Reading:** Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 **Class Notes** **Activities:** Submit Attestation form Take Practice Quiz Participate in discussion boards Obtain professor assigned article **Graded Activities:** Complete Introduction to Research Packet
Week 2	
Content	**Learning Activities**
Research process • Literature review Research process • Research problems & purpose • Objectives, Questions, Hypotheses • Study Variables • Theoretical Frameworks • Quantitative research designs	**Reading:** Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8,12 **Class Notes** **Graded Activities:** Participate in discussion boards Submit Critique #1 Research assignment
Week 3	
Content	**Learning Activities**
Research Process • Sampling • Data Collection Quantitative Data Analysis • Measurement • Presentation of Findings • Discussion of Findings	**Reading:** Chapter 9, 10, 11, 12 **Class Notes** **Graded Activities:** Participate in discussion boards Submit Critique #2 Research assignment **Quiz 1 (on due date listed on calendar) includes content in Weeks 1 & 2. See posted blueprint for this quiz.**
Week 4	
Content	**Learning Activities**
Communicating research findings Elements of Evidence-based Practice Research Utilization	**Reading: 1,** 13 **Class Notes:** **Graded Activities:** Participate in discussion boards Submit Search Strategy assignment for your group Journal Club

	Submit Benchmark/Guideline Submit chosen Quantitative Journal Club article Once your article is reviewed by your coach and you have received a grade begin work on critique of your JC article.
Week 5	
Content	**Learning Activities**
	Reading: Review readings to prepare for Journal Club project and Quiz 2. **Graded Activities:** Participate in discussion boards Complete the Journal Club assignment and submit as a group by due date. **Quiz 2 (on due date listed on calendar). See posted blueprint for content included in this quiz.**