

The University of Texas at Arlington
College of Nursing and Health Innovation
NURS 5366 Principles of Research in Nursing
Fall 2015

Instructor: Patricia Thomas, PhD, NNP-BC, CNE, Clinical Associate Professor

Office Number: 520 Pickard Hall

Office Telephone Number: (817) 272-2776

Email address: pthomas@uta.edu

Office Hours: By appointment, scheduled via email

Faculty Profile: <http://www.uta.edu/profiles/patricia-thomas>

Section Information: NURS 5366-006 (in state), -007 (out of state)

Time and Place of Class Meetings: Class will meet weekly online in Blackboard. While most class participation is asynchronous, some synchronous online activities are required (dates provided on schedule at end of syllabus).

Description of Course Content:

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

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Discuss the research process.
2. Evaluate clinical and research literature to identify gaps in knowledge.
3. Integrate theories and existing research evidence to formulate a research question.
4. Evaluate measurement methods used in nursing research.
5. Develop a plan for data analysis.
6. Demonstrate ethical principles in planning research.
7. Articulate clinical and research evidence related to identified clinical problems.

Other Requirements: Prerequisite: graduate standing. As this course is offered in an online format, **each student must have a computer with a 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 and presentation 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). Students are **required to have a headset (with microphone) and webcam** to participate in web conferences and to test online. Testing will be done online using Respondus browser and monitor (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 be required to complete an alternate version of the test using ProctorU for which students must pay a fee.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:

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

Grove, S., Burns, N., & Gray, J. (2013). *The practice of nursing research: Appraisal, synthesis, and generation of evidence* (7th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. ISBN 978-1455707362

Other Required Course Materials:

1. Headset with microphone
2. Webcam

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates:

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. –Patricia E. Thomas

| Major Assignments | Distribution | Proposed date <i>(see additional dates on schedule at end of syllabus)</i> |
|----------------------|--------------|---|
| Participation online | 10% | ongoing |
| Test 1 | 20% | 9/22/15 |
| Test 2 | 20% | 11/4/15 |
| Test 3 | 20% | 12/8/15 |
| Research appraisal | 10% | 10/19/15 |
| Research proposal | 20% | 12/1/15 |

Grading 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 = 92 to 100

B = 83 to 91

C = 74 to 82

D = 68 to 73 – cannot progress

F = below 68 – cannot progress

- There are no options for extra credit in this course.
- Work may not be re-submitted for re-grading
- Acceptance of a late assignment is at the discretion of the instructor. 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.
- 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.

In this course, you will submit papers as Microsoft Word-compatible documents to a **SafeAssign** assignment drop box in Blackboard. Review the student resources section on Blackboard for more information about the tool. You are encouraged to use the DRAFT function within SafeAssign prior to submitting your FINAL draft. See details below:

1. **DRAFT:** The DRAFT SafeAssign feature allows you to check your paper for potential areas of plagiarism so that you may edit it prior to turning in your final submission. The SafeAssign DRAFT is not reviewed by your instructor. When you upload, please check the “submit as draft” option. The DRAFT box becomes available 72 hours prior to the final submission due date/ time and remains open until the date and time that the paper is due. At busy times, it may take up to 72 hours to receive a report.
2. **FINAL:** The paper you upload to the FINAL SafeAssign assignment is the only one that will be graded. Only one document can be uploaded per SafeAssign drop box. **The document you upload to the FINAL drop box is the one that will be graded, so be certain it is the correct paper.**

Expectations of Out-of-Class Study: Beyond the time required to participate in class each week, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9-12 hours per week on their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

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 require regular class attendance and participation is expected of all students. Students are responsible for all missed course information.

CONHI

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://www.uta.edu/fao/> . The last day to drop a course is listed in the Academic Calendar available at <http://www.uta.edu/uta/acadcal.php?session=20146>

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 last day to drop may, receive a grade of W. Students dropping a course must:
 - (a) Contact your graduate advisor to obtain the drop form and further instructions before the last day to drop.

| |
|--|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Census Day: September 14, 2015 Last day to drop or withdraw November 4, 2015 by 4:00 pm CST</p> |
|--|

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 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos. For information regarding Title IX, visit uta.edu/titleix.

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'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 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 BON using rule §215.8 as a guide.

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/plagiarism/index.html>

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.

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 at 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>.

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. 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.

Librarian to Contact:

| | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| Peace Williamson – 817-272-6208 peace@uta.edu | Lydia Pyburn – 817-272-7593 lpyburn@uta.edu | Shawn Lee – 817-272-5352 |
|---|---|--------------------------|

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://www.uta.edu/library/databases/index.php |
| Course Reserves | http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do |
| Library Catalog | http://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#!/ |
| E-Journals | http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/searchSubject |
| 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>

The subject librarian for your area can work with you to build a customized course page to support your class if you wish. For examples, visit <http://libguides.uta.edu/os> and <http://libguides.uta.edu/pols2311fm>

UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation - 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 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.

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>

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.

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.

Department of Graduate Nursing

| | |
|---|---|
| Judy LeFlore, PhD, RN, NNP-BC, CPNP-PC & AC, ANEF, FAAN Interim Associate Dean, Graduate Nursing Programs Director, PNP, ACPNP, NNP Programs Pickard Hall Office #518 Email address: jleflore@uta.edu | Kathy Daniel, PhD, RN, ANP/GNP-BC, AGSF Associate Chair, Graduate Nurse Practitioner Programs Pickard Hall Office #615 817-272-0175 Email address: kdaniel@uta.edu |
| Rose Olivier - Administrative Assistant I Pickard Hall Office # 605; (817) 272-9517 Email address: olivier@uta.edu | Kim Doubrava (Hodges) - Support Specialist II Pickard Hall Office #612; (817) 272-9373 Email address: khodges@uta.edu or npclinicalclearance@uta.edu |
| Janyth Mauricio (Arbeau) -Clinical Coordinator Pickard Hall Office # 610; (817) 272-0788 Email address: janyth.mauricio@uta.edu or npclinicalclearance@uta.edu | Angel Trevino-Korenek - Clinical Coordinator Pickard Hall Office # 610; (817) 272-6344 Email address: angel.korenek@uta.edu |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>NNP Graduate Advisor:</u></p> Luena Wilson - Graduate Advisor I Pickard Hall Office # 613; (817) 272- 4798 Email: lywilson@uta.edu | |

Prior to First Week of Class

| Date | Topics | Assignment to Prepare for Class |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Prior to first class on 8/27 | Getting started | Access course in Blackboard https://elearn.uta.edu/ (available by 8/24) Read syllabus. Buy books. |

N5366 Schedule Fall 2015

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. –Patricia E. Thomas

| Dates | Content | Major Assignments (See Blackboard for weekly assignments) |
|--|---|--|
| Week 1 8/27 (first day of class) | Course orientation Overview of Research | Collaborate 8/28 at 1000 CST |
| Week 2 8/31 | Research process Problem and Purpose | |
| Week 3 (9/7 Labor Day holiday) 9/8 | Objectives, Questions, hypotheses Study variables | |
| Week 4 9/14 | Statistics – overview and hypothesis testing | Collaborate session 9/17 at 1300 CST |
| Week 5 9/21 | Statistics – descriptive statistics | Test 1 on 9/22 |
| Week 6 9/28 | Statistics – inferential statistics | |
| Week 7 10/5 | Critical appraisal of research | |
| Week 8 10/12 | Literature review | |
| Week 9 10/19 | Frameworks for research | Research appraisal due 10/19 |
| Week 10 10/26 NANN Conf. 10/22-26 | Quantitative research designs | |
| Week 11 11/2 (11/4 drop date) | Measurement concepts and methods | Test 2 on 11/4 |
| Week 12 11/9 | Sampling methods | |
| Week 13 11/16 | Data collection | |

| | | |
|---|----------------------|--|
| Week 14 11/23 (11/26-27 TGVG holiday) | Ethics in research | |
| Week 15 11/30 | Qualitative research | <i>Research proposal due 12/1</i> |
| Week 16 12/7 | | <i>Test 3 on 12/8</i> |