Instructor(s): Ronda Mintz-Binder, DNP, RN, CNE  
Clinical Associate Professor, College of Nursing and Health Innovation  

Office Number: Pickard Hall, Room 520A  
Office Telephone Number: (817) 272-2776 (email preferred for questions)  
Email Address: rondamb@uta.edu  
Faculty profile:  https://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/view/id/2025/  
Office Hours: before/after class and/or by appointment  

Section Information: NURS5327-002  

Time and Place of Class Meetings:  
- Class meets 4 Wednesdays: 11am-3:50pm – 9/2; 9/23; 10/21; 11/18  
  Room: COB 239  NOTE: College of Business building!  

Description of Course Content:  
Critical examination of the philosophical and theoretical bases for nursing. Analysis of selected concepts and theories.  

Student Learning Outcomes:  
1. Describe the history and philosophy of nursing science.  
2. Analyze concepts and their relationships to theory development.  
3. Evaluate theoretical frameworks for nursing research.  
4. Apply theories of population diversity and cultural competence to nursing education, administration and advanced practice.  
5. Apply system and change theories to health care delivery, administration and education.  
6. Evaluate usefulness of other theories from nursing and related disciplines to nursing education, administration and advanced practice.  

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:  

Recommended Textbooks:  
Description of Major Assignments and Overall Requirements:

**Participation (15%)**
Because this is largely an online class, students are responsible for reading and responding to discussions and proposed questions in class and online. The instructor will pose topics on the discussion board online. Students may pose topics or questions as well since the discussion board replaces in-class discussions. Students are encouraged to log into the course at least every day and are expected to make **substantive comments at least twice (minimum)** each week on the discussion board related to the topic discussed in class or online. This includes an initial post and a response to a peer (does not include answering a response of a peer to your initial post). Attendance at the class meetings will also be considered as part of the participation grade. **See grading criteria on Blackboard.**

**Concept Exploration Paper (30%)**
Each student will submit a concept exploration paper. The assignment will be evaluated based on the submission of a formal paper. **See grading criteria on Blackboard.**

**Quiz (10%)**
Multiple choice-20 questions based on readings in textbook. **See Blackboard for details.**

**Middle Range, Change or Organizational Theory Presentations (20%)**
Each group will select a middle range nursing theory or a non-nursing theory that has been developed or revised since 1985. The presentation and handout will include a description, analysis, and evaluation of the selected theory. This will be presented to peers in the classroom setting. This will be graded as a group. **See grading criteria on Blackboard.**

**Theoretical Framework Paper (25%)**
Each student will develop a theoretical framework for nursing practice based on the concept used in the concept exploration paper. The assignment will be evaluated based on the submission of a formal paper. **See grading criteria on Blackboard.**

**Methods/Strategies:**
Learning modules, experiential learning activities, synchronous and asynchronous online discussion, student presentations, and individualized instructor/student conferences.

**Grading Policy:**

**GRADING:**
A = 92.0 - 100
B = 83.0 – 91.99
C = 74.0 – 82.99
D = 68.0 – 73.99
Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels; see “Student Support Services,” section.

Due dates of assignments and weighted percentages of grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due Dates</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>% of Course Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total course</td>
<td>Participation/Attendance</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/11: 2359</td>
<td>Concept Analysis Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/16: 2359</td>
<td>Multiple Choice Quiz posted 9/11</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/18 in class</td>
<td>Presentation of middle range theory</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/6: 2359</td>
<td>Theoretical Framework Paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance Policy:** Regular class attendance and participation is expected of all students, whether in class or online. Students are responsible for all missed course information. Attendance during class and participation in discussion boards factors into participation grade noted above.

**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 3-6 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

**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/](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](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.

**Last day to drop or withdraw – 11/4/15**
**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**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](http://uta.edu/eos). For information regarding Title IX, visit [uta.edu/titleix](http://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.

1. **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.

2. The success faculty in the MSN Program:

3. 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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Librarian</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peace Williamson</td>
<td>817-272-6208</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peace@uta.edu">peace@uta.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lydia Pyburn</td>
<td>817-272-7593</td>
<td><a href="mailto:llyburn@uta.edu">llyburn@uta.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawn Lee</td>
<td>817-272-5352</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

**Course Schedule.** See the back of this syllabus for the first week schedule. The full course schedule is available to enrolled students through Blackboard.

“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. –Dr. R Mintz-Binder.”
**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 the Associate Dean- Department of Graduate Nursing. The complete policy about encumbered licenses is available online at: [www.bon.state.tx.us](http://www.bon.state.tx.us)

**MSN Graduate Student Dress Code:** The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing and Health Innovation expects students to reflect professionalism and maintain high standards of appearance and grooming in the clinical setting. Clinical faculty has final judgment on the appropriateness of student attire and corrective action for dress code infractions. Students not complying with this policy will not be allowed to participate in clinical.

Please View the College of Nursing and Health Innovation Student Dress Code on the nursing website: [http://www.uta.edu/nursing/msn/msn-students](http://www.uta.edu/nursing/msn/msn-students).

**UTA Student Identification:** MSN Students MUST be clearly identified as UTA Graduate Students and wear a UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation ID in the clinical environment.

**Blood and Body Fluids Exposure:** A Health Verification form was signed by all MSN students at start of the program documenting personal health insurance coverage. All MSN students have mandatory health insurance and will need to manage exposure to blood and fluids. Current CDC guidelines can be found at: [http://www.cdc.gov/](http://www.cdc.gov/)

**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.

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

**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](http://www.uta.edu/nursing/msn/msn-students)

**Student Code of Ethics:** The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing and Health Innovation 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](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 and Health Innovation has a “no gift” policy. A donation to one of the UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation Scholarship Funds, found at the following link: is [http://www.uta.edu/nursing/student-resources/scholarship](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):** [Optional.] 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.

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**DEPARTMENT OF GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

**Judy Leflore, PhD, RN, NNP-BC, CPNP-PC & AC, ANEF, FAAN**  
Interim Associate Dean  
Graduate Nursing Programs  
Director, PNP, ACPNP, NNP Programs  
Office # 518-Pickard Hall  
Email: jleflore@uta.edu

**Felicia Chamberlain,** AP Program Coordinator  
Office # 515- Pickard Hall (817)-272-0659  
Email: chamberl@uta.edu

**Janyth Arbeau-Mauricio,** Clinical Coordinator  
Office # 610-Pickard Hall (817) 272-0788  
Email address: mauricio@uta.edu or npclinicalclearance@uta.edu

**Angel Trevino-Korenek,** Clinical Coordinator  
Office # 610-Pickard Hall (817) 272-6344  
Email address: angel.korenek@uta.edu

**Janette Rieta,** AP/Campus Programs, Administrative Assistant  
Office # 510-Pickard Hall (817) 272-1039  
Email: jrieta@uta.edu

**Kimberly Doubrava,** Support Specialist II  
Office # 612-Pickard Hall (817) 272-9373  
Email address: khodges@uta.edu or npclinicalclearance@uta.edu
GRADUATE ADVISORS

Lisa Rose, AP/Campus Programs, Academic Advisor II (A-G)
Office # 628B – Pickard Hall (817) 272-9591
Email: lrose@uta.edu

Rebekah Black, AP/Campus Programs, Academic Advisor (H-O)
Office # 630- Pickard Hall (817)-272-2291
Email: rjblack@uta.edu

Caitlin Wade, AP/Campus Program, Academic Advisor II (P-Z)
Office 631 – Pickard Hall (817) 272-9397
Email: cwade@uta.edu

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.
General Guidelines for Papers

The 6th Edition APA Manual (2009) is to be used in conjunction with the paper guidelines to demonstrate referencing, levels of headings, and direct quotations in the paper. The guidelines in the APA Manual about grammar and punctuation, use of numbers and abbreviations, and development of tables or figures should be used in developing the paper.

1. Upload all completed assignments to Blackboard (instructions will be given in class). Before uploading your paper, save the file using your last name and first initial as the file name (for example, JohnL.doc). Be sure to upload all needed files before submitting the assignment. Be sure the paper you submit for grading is complete, because that is the paper that will be graded.

2. Each paper is to have a formal title page (see example at end of syllabus).

3. Pagination: Page numbering starts with the title page. Numbering continues through the reference list and any appendices. Arabic (1, 2 etc.) numbers are to be used. Insert page breaks after the title page and before the reference list.

4. Margins: Margins are to be 1 inch on all sides. Text should be left justified only. This means that the right margin may appear irregular. If a word is too long to be completed on one line, it should not be hyphenated.

5. Type size and font: Type should be 12 characters per inch. The font should be Times New Roman.

6. Spacing: Double spacing is to be used for the body of the paper. Single spacing may be used for table titles and headings, figure captions, within references (with double spacing between references), and long quotations. Only one space should follow each period, colon, semicolon, or question mark. Indent the first line of each paragraph ½ inch using the tab key.

7. Figures and tables should be inserted into the body of the paper as close as possible to where discussed in text. See the APA manual for format for inserting figures and tables in the text of papers/theses.

8. Headers: Running headers are required.

9. Headings within the paper are essential. First develop an outline of your paper count the number of levels you plan to incorporate. Grading Criteria Sheets are helpful in determining appropriate headings for specific assignments. See the APA Manual for further guidance.

10. Quotations: Quotations should be limited to only that which is absolutely essential. You should synthesize the information not use quotes. Extensive use of quotations will result in deductions from the assignment grade. When more than 5 words in a row are directly taken from another source, the original author or speaker must be given credit. See the APA Manual for ways to properly cite quotations of less than and greater than 40 words.

11. Reference citations in text: Every sentence that is not your own original idea must have a citation to a source, even in the introduction to the paper. Any sentence that does not have a citation means you are claiming that idea as your own original idea (if it’s not in fact your own idea, then it is plagiarism). Sources must be cited during or at the end of each fact, not after the entire paragraph. There are specific guidelines for citing primary and secondary sources in text (first and subsequent citations, as well as for multiple citations of a source within one paragraph). See the APA Manual (2009) and APA resources on Blackboard for further guidelines.
12. Reference list: The reference list includes only the references cited within the text of the paper. There are specific guidelines for citation of various types of sources. These guidelines include spacing, commas, periods, and order of elements of the citation. Format your reference list using the hanging indent function in Word. Single spacing may be used within references with double spacing between references. See the APA Manual (2009) and APA resources on Blackboard for specific guidelines.
Exploration of Science and Theories for Nursing  
CLASS SCHEDULE: Fall 2015 002 section

- Assigned chapters are in the required textbooks and journal articles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week/ Dates</th>
<th>Course Content</th>
<th>Readings, Assignments, and Due Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is nursing and how did we get here?</strong> See posted question for week 1!</td>
<td><strong>Module 1:</strong> Overview of Nursing Science <strong>Module 2:</strong> History of Nursing in the US</td>
<td><strong>PLEASE TRY TO READ AS MUCH OF THE ASSIGNED READING AS YOU CAN FOR DISCUSSION!!</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The complete schedule and grading rubrics will be posted on Blackboard for those enrolled in the class.

**NOTE:** There will be additional information posted on Blackboard. Please be sure to look at this packet of additional information.
Unique Title of our Excellent Paper on a Fascinating Nursing Topic

Bob Brilliant

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing and Health Innovation

In partial fulfillment of the requirements of

N5327 (sec #) Exploration of Science and Theories for Nursing

Ronda Mintz-Binder, DNP, RN CNE

Month day, year