College of Nursing and Health Innovation
N5361 Special Topics in Clinical Practice (2-3)
Fall 2015

Instructor(s): Dolores Aguilar, APRN, MS, CNS, CHN
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Faculty Profile: Faculty Profile: [https://www.uta.edu/profiles/ms-dolores-aguilar]

- To access your faculty profile, go to **https://www.uta.edu/mentis**.
- For guidance on how to upload your syllabus to the Profile System, visit **https://www.uta.edu/provost/administrative-forms/index.php** and choose one of the two "how to" options under "course-related information."

Office Hours: By appointment; please email for an appointment

Section Information: N5361 Section 400

Time and Place of Class Meetings: This course meets on-line using Blackboard or other media as described in this syllabus. This is a 5 week course.

Description of Course Content:
Advanced exploration of special topics applicable to clinical practice.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Explore (in depth) nursing concepts related to selected patient population(s).
2. Integrate advanced nursing concepts in the nurse educator role.
3. Apply evidence based practice in the nurse educator role.
4. Develop a portfolio of evidence based, culturally competent nursing interventions for use in nursing education.

Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:
Benner, P., Tanner, C., & Chesla, C. (2009). *Expertise in nursing practice: caring, clinical judgment, and ethics* (2nd ed.) New York: Springer Publishing Company. Ebook ISBN: 978-08261-25453

American Psychological Association. (Recent edition). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association.(6th ed)* Washington, D.C.: Author. **ISBN: 9781433805615**

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates:

Item	% of grade	Due Date

Participation in weekly on-line discussion. You are responsible for completing the questions yourself, posting them, and then responding to at least one answer from at least 2 students	30%	Weekly: Initial post due Thursday by 11:59 pm of each week and responses to peers due by the following Tuesday at 11:59 pm. Except Week 5, the responses are due Saturday at 11:59 pm
Three to five Clinical Objectives	P/F	Week 1 due Saturday at 11:59 pm
Clinical activity log/encounter record (Student has 45 clinical activity hours in order to successfully pass the course. Must provide names and contact information of clinical experts and peers for the development and presentation of case study)	P/F	Weekly due Saturday at 11:59 pm
Two reflective clinical activity journals	20%	Week 4 and 5 due Saturday at 11:59 pm
Assignments: Due Saturday at 11:59 pm	20%	Week 2
Educational Needs Assessment	30%	Draft week 3; Week 5
Case Study and Case Study	P/F	Week 5
Case Study Presentation (Mandatory) With a peer group (those who provided need assessment and feedback for the draft case study or other peer group)		

Special Requirements – Clinical Activities: In addition to on-line work, students are required to spend 45 hours performing clinical activities (conducting Educational Needs Assessment, developing Case Study, journaling about Clinical Activities, etc. As part of the clinical activities students will:

- Identify the focus (i.e. area of clinical specialty – Peds, Oncology, Gero, Critical Care, Med-Surg, etc.) for their clinical activities
- Identify one or more clinical expert(s) to mentor them in the process.
- Develop three to five clinical objectives for this experience.
- Conduct an Educational Needs Assessment within student's area of clinical focus/specialty (Refer to guidelines and grading rubric.
- Develop a Case Study based upon Educational Needs Assessment.
- Present Case Study to peers, academic coach and faculty as if this group is the intended population for the case study (refer to guidelines
- Submit two reflective clinical journals (See guidelines.)
- Keep log/encounter records outlining the clinical activities conducted as well as hours spent.

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

- Each assignment grade is rounded to two decimal points. The final grade will **NOT** be rounded to a whole number (e.g. 91.89 = B)

- Students are responsible for uploading & submitting the correct document in the Blackboard assignment drop box. The document submitted will be graded and no substitution of the document will be accepted. Please verify you have submitted the correct document. Faculty must be able to open the document or it will receive a grade of zero.
- **Late work:** The official time for the assignment will be determined by the submission time. Late papers may be penalized up to 5 points for every day late after the date and time due unless prior arrangements have been made with the faculty. After the 5th day, no assignments will be accepted and students will receive a zero for that assignment. Instructor does not guarantee that work received after the due date will be returned at the same time as those which were on-time.

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

Expectations of Out-of-Class Study:
Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting or time spend with online content, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 20 hours per week on their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc. Clinical hours are in addition.

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 have developed the course to be delivered completely online. There are no mandatory in class attendance requirements however you are required to meet the established assignment due dates and times as outlined.

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.

Deadlines are located on the Academic Partnership website as well as UTA's,

Census Day: August 14, 2015
Last day to drop or withdraw: August 31, 2015

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.

Librarian to Contact:

Peace Williamson – 817-272-6208 peace@uta.edu	Lydia Pyburn – 817-272-7593 llpyburn@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 .

Course Schedule

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Participation in weekly on-line discussion. You are responsible for completing the questions yourself, posting them, and then responding to at least one answer from at least 2 students	Weekly: Initial post due Thursday by 11:59 pm of each week and responses to peers due by the following Tuesday at 11:59 pm. Except Week 5, the responses are due Saturday at 11:59 pm
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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 the Associate Dean- Department of Graduate Nursing. The complete policy about encumbered licenses is available online at: 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 .

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/

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

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

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 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.

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
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Janyth Arbeau-Mauricio, Clinical Coordinator
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Janette Rieta, AP/Campus Programs, Administrative Assistant
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Email: jrieta@uta.edu

Kimberly Doubrava, Support Specialist II
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Email address: khodges@uta.edu or npclinicalclearance@uta.edu

GRADUATE ADVISORS

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