

**The University of Texas at Arlington  
College of Nursing  
N5366 Principles of Research in Nursing  
Summer 2017**

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**Instructor(s):** Thomas Dombrowsky PhD, RN

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**Faculty Profile:** <https://mentis.uta.edu/explore/profile/thomas-dombrowsky>

**Office Hours:** Thursday 12-2 PM or by appointment

**Section Information:** NURS 5366-002

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** Pickard Hall Room 227 on alternate Thursdays: 6/8, 6/22, 7/6, 7/20, and 8/3

**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.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

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

Grove, S. K., & Ciper, D. J. (2017). *Statistics for health care research: A practical workbook*. (2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.). Philadelphia: Saunders. ISBN: 978-0323358811

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> Ed.). Washington, DC: Author. ISBN: 9781433805615

### **Descriptions of major assignments and examinations with due dates:**

1. Critique of research briefs (2 @ 10 points each)	20 points	
2. Midterm examination	25 points	
3. Research proposal	25 points	
Literature review, theory, problem statement, purpose		prepared by sections, to be reviewed in class
Hypothesis/research questions, design		
Sampling strategy, measurement tools		
Data Collection		
Data analysis, relevance to practice		
4. Statistics (Study Questions)	5 points	
5. Final examination/statistical applications	25 points	

Critique of research process (steps) by review of two research briefs (a concise report of a study usually 3-4 pages in length)-identify gaps in knowledge (problem statement), purpose, existing research and theory used to formulate hypotheses/research questions, design, sampling strategies; evaluate measurement methods and data collection procedures and ethics; and plan of data analysis (statistical appropriateness) (use **Research Brief template on BB under Course Materials**)

Midterm examination- testing over information presented in class and in textbook to date  
Research proposal- Paper discussing how you would develop a research study of your choice to include comments on all steps of the research process, such as literature review, problem statement, purpose, hypotheses/research questions, design, sampling strategies, instrument evaluation, data collection methods, consent process, and plan of data analysis (see Blackboard for examples of a research proposal) Proposal will be developed over the semester by completion of assignments # 1-8 (pgs. 15-16) with one final product due at end of course incorporating all previous work and appropriate APA use. The proposal will be done by a “research team” of three to four peers. Sections will be discussed in class. A different topic per research team is required.

Statistics- Statistical Exercises in workbook- Students will complete assigned Statistical Exercises noted in class schedule. Student will complete the “STUDY QUESTIONS” only and review the answers after completion from the workbook. Your corrected version will be turned in on the day of the final exam as indicted in the class schedule. Content may be included in the final exam.

Final examination- multiple choice exam testing knowledge of suitability of statistics to selected research studies/situations, sampling methods, and short essay as relates to critique of research brief.

**Attendance Policy:** **Attendance:** 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 decided that class attendance is extremely important and strongly encouraged. I may not call attendance but attendance will be tracked. Therefore, weekly class attendance and participation is expected of all students. Students are responsible for all missed course information.

**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 = 90 to 100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60 to 69 – cannot progress

F = below 59 – cannot progress

**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>.

<http://www.uta.edu/deanofstudents/student-complaints/index.php>.

**Make-up Exams:** Please contact your faculty for approval.

**Test Reviews:** Contact faculty for instructions.

**Expectations of 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 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc.

**CONHI – language**

**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=20166>

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:
  - (1) Contact your graduate advisor to obtain the drop form and further instructions before the last day to drop.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Census Day: June 22, 2017</b> <b>Last day to drop or withdraw July 20, 2017 by 4:00 p.m.</b></p>
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**Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide “reasonable accommodations” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a **letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

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

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

**Non-Discrimination Policy:** *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).*

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

**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. Additional information is available at <https://www.uta.edu/conduct/>.

"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](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>.

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR):** The Writing Center Offers free tutoring in 20-, 40-, or 60-minute face-to-face and online sessions to all UTA students on any phase of their UTA coursework. Our hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mon.-Thurs., 9 am-3 pm Fri. and Noon-6 pm Sat. and

Sun. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, workshops, and specialized services for graduate students are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information on all our programs and services.

The Library's 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. <http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza>

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

**Student 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:helpdesk@uta.edu).

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are 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 via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled



in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** for semester-long courses, 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.

**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 <a href="mailto:peace@uta.edu">peace@uta.edu</a>	Lydia Pyburn 817-272-7593 <a href="mailto:llpyburn@uta.edu">llpyburn@uta.edu</a>	Heather Scalf 817-272-7436 <a href="mailto:scalf@uta.edu">scalf@uta.edu</a>	
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Contact all nursing librarians:  
[library-nursing@listserv.uta.edu](mailto:library-nursing@listserv.uta.edu)

**Helpful Direct Links to the UTA Libraries' Resources**

Research Information on Nursing	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing">http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing</a>
Library Home Page	<a href="http://library.uta.edu/">http://library.uta.edu/</a>
Subject Guides	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu">http://libguides.uta.edu</a>
Ask us	<a href="http://ask.uta.edu">http://ask.uta.edu</a>
Database List	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php">http://libguides.uta.edu/az.php</a>
Course Reserves	<a href="http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do">http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do</a>
Library Catalog	<a href="http://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#/">http://uta.summon.serialssolutions.com/#/</a>
E-Journals	<a href="http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/searchSubject">http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/searchSubject</a>
Library Tutorials	<a href="http://library.uta.edu/how-to">library.uta.edu/how-to</a>

<b>Connecting from Off- Campus</b>	<a href="http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus">http://libguides.uta.edu/offcampus</a>
<b>Academic Plaza Consultation Services</b>	<a href="http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza">library.uta.edu/academic-plaza</a>
<b>Study Room Reservations</b>	<a href="http://openroom.uta.edu/">openroom.uta.edu/</a>

For help with APA formatting, you can go to:

- 1) <http://libguides.uta.edu>
- 2) Scroll down and click on “Nursing”
- 3) Click on “APA Guide” for advice on various aspects of paper writing. This is a short-cut for the APA Manual. When in doubt, refer to the Manual.

In addition to providing the general library guide for nursing (<http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing>), we can put together course specific guides for your students. 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.** Your course schedule to follow contains dates for all major work to be completed. 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.

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## UTA College of Nursing and Health Innovation - Additional Information:

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**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 College of Nursing and Health Innovation expects students to reflect professionalism and maintain high standards of appearance and grooming in the clinical setting. Students must adhere to the Dress Code Policy. [www.uta.edu/nursing/file\\_download/234/BSNDressCode.pdf](http://www.uta.edu/nursing/file_download/234/BSNDressCode.pdf) **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.**

**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/conhi/students/policy/index.php>

**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/conhi/students/msn-resources/index.php>

**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/conhi/students/scholarships/index.php> 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 UTA CONHI Graduate Student Handbook for more information.

***For this course Blackboard communication tools and UTA MAV email will be used extensively and should be checked often.***

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<p><b><u>Emergency Phone Numbers:</u></b> 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. For non-emergencies, call 817-272-3381.</p>
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## Graduate Nursing Support Staff

<b>Judy LeFlore, PhD, RN, NNP-BC, CPNP-PC &amp; AC, ANEF, FAAN</b> Associate Dean Chair, Graduate Nursing Programs Pickard Hall Office #514 Email address: <a href="mailto:jleflore@uta.edu">jleflore@uta.edu</a>	<b>Kathy Daniel, PhD, RN, ANP/GNP-BC, AGSF</b> Associate Chair, Graduate Nurse Practitioner Programs Pickard Hall Office #511 817-272-0175 Email address: <a href="mailto:kdaniel@uta.edu">kdaniel@uta.edu</a>
<b>Rose Olivier</b> , Administrative Assistant II Pickard Hall Office # 513 (817) 272-9517 Email address: <a href="mailto:olivier@uta.edu">olivier@uta.edu</a>	<b>Lauri John, PhD, RN, CNS</b> Associate Chair, Graduate Educator and Administration Programs Pickard Hall Office #519 817-272-0172 Email address: <a href="mailto:ljohn@uta.edu">ljohn@uta.edu</a>
<b>Angel Trevino-Korenek</b> , Clinical Coordinator AO & On-campus Pickard Hall Office # 518 (817) 272-6344 Email address: <a href="mailto:angel.korenek@uta.edu">angel.korenek@uta.edu</a>	<b>Janette Rieta</b> , Clinical Coordinator AO & On-campus Pickard Hall #518 817-272-1039 <a href="mailto:jrieta@uta.edu">jrieta@uta.edu</a>
	<b>Christina Gale</b> , Administrative Assistant Nursing Education and DNP Pickard Hall Office #518 817-272-1039 Email address: <a href="mailto:christina.gale@uta.edu">christina.gale@uta.edu</a>

### **Graduate Advisors – see the link below**

<http://www.uta.edu/conhi/students/advising/nursing-grad.php>