UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF NURSING

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING 2015

COURSE NUMBER NGR 6850

COURSE TITLE Research Methods and Utilization for Nursing

CREDITS 3

PLACEMENT Master’s or DNP Program

PREREQUISITE NGR 6101 Theory and Research for Nursing

COREQUISITE None

FACULTY JOYCE STECHMILLER, PhD, ARNP, FAAN

[stechjk@ufl.edu](mailto:stechjk@ufl.edu) Web Course – No Office Hours

Always available by e-mail or phone (352) 284-1801

CINDI FIGUEROA, PhD, ARNP, ANP-BC

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COURSE DESCRIPTION This course provides the student with the knowledge and skills to critique theory and research from nursing and related fields as a basis for the provision of evidence-based practice. Emphasis is on understanding research methodology in order to critique research studies. The focus is on utilization and synthesis of research findings to address specific nursing practice questions or problems.

COURSE OBJECTIVES Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze elements of scientific rigor in research.

2. Synthesize major findings in the literature related to specific nursing questions or problems.

3. Critically evaluate research reports in terms of design, sampling, instrumentation, data collection and analysis, and interpretation of findings.

4. Analyze research findings for their applicability to evidence-based practice and advancement of nursing science.

5. Develop a research utilization paper regarding a specific nursing practice question or problem using published research findings as evidence for the solution proposed.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Section Day Time Room

0574 Web

E-Learning in Canvas is the course management system that you will use for this course. E-Learning in Canvas is accessed by using your Gatorlink account name and password at <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/> . There are several tutorials and student help links on the E-Learning login site. If you have technical questions call the UF Computer Help Desk at 352-392-HELP or send email to [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

It is important that you regularly check your Gatorlink account email for College and University wide information and the course E-Learning site for announcements and notifications.

Course websites are generally made available on the Friday before the first day of classes.

**For the purposes of this class, the week will begin on Monday morning at 8:30 AM and will close on Friday evening at 5:00 PM. Messages inside the course are NOT checked daily. The course mail is used for routine course-related activity. For urgent needs, please text my cell phone OR use Gatorlink e-mail address.**

TOPICAL OUTLINE

1. Evidence-based practice
2. Utilization models (i.e. Stetler, Iowa)
3. Clinical relevance
4. Steps of evidence-based practice
   1. Ask the clinical question in PICO format
      * + 1. Patient population
          2. Intervention or interest
          3. Comparison intervention or group
          4. Outcome
5. Collect the best evidence (e.g., Cochrane Reviews)
6. Critically appraise the evidence
7. Integrate evidence and expertise
8. Evaluate the outcome
9. Elements of scientific rigor
10. Probability and non-probability sampling
11. Instrumentation
12. Data collection and analyses

Descriptive and inferential statistics

Parametric and nonparametric statistics

1. Critique of published research reports

Statistical significance

Clinical significance

TEACHING METHODS

Asynchronous interactive e-Learning modules using Canvas.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Presentations, individual research utilization paper (required learning activity).

EVALUATION METHODS/COURSE GRADE CALCULATION

30% PICO Clinical problem and research utilization paper

30% Research utilization paper

20% Group Presentation

11% Participation with group presentations (1% per group presentation)

9% Assigned weekly postings (1 pt/wk; week 1=1%, week 2= 1%, week 3=1%; week 4 = 1%; week 5 = 1%; week 12=1%; week 13 =1%; week 14 = 1%; week 15 =1% )

Assignments/papers will be returned within approximately 2 weeks.

MAKE UP POLICY

A grade penalty will be assigned for late assignments, including tests. Make-up quizzes will not be available.

GRADING SCALE/QUALITY POINTS

A 95-100 (4.0) C 74-79\* (2.0)

A- 93-94 (3.67) C- 72-73 (1.67)

B+ 91- 92 (3.33) D+ 70-71 (1.33)

B 84-90 (3.0) D 64-69 (1.0)

B- 82-83 (2.67) D- 62-63 (0.67)

C+ 80-81 (2.33) E 61 or below (0.0)

\* 74 is the minimal passing grade

For more information on grades and grading policies, please refer to University’s grading policies: <http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=907#grades>

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological*

*Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Polit, D.F., & Beck, C.T. (2012). *Nursing research: Generating and assessing evidence for*

*nursing practice* (9th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS

Melnyk, B. M. & Fineout-Overholt, E. (2011). *Evidence-based practice in nursing and health*

*care: A guide to best practice* (2nd Ed). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams and Wilkins.

WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Week |  | | Week 1:  1/7/15 – 1/10/15 | Module 1: Introduction and evidence based practice | | Week 2:  1/13/15 – 1/17/15 | Module 2: Preparation  Defining a PICO clinical problem, research utilization strategy and clinical guidelines | | Week 3:  1/20/15 – 1/26/15 | Module 3: Sampling and sample size  **Martin Luther King Holiday 1/19/15** | | Week 4:  1/27/15 – 1/31/15 | Module 4: Literature Synthesis and Evidence Reviews  **PICO Clinical problem and research utilization strategy paper due** | | Week 5:  2/3/15 – 2/7/15 | Module 5: Threats to reliability and validity | | Week 6:  2/10/15 – 2/14/15 | Module 6: Comparative evaluation-Evidence Based Guidelines  **Presentations of Critique of Evidence Based Guidelines** | | Week 7:  2/17/15 – 2/21/15 | Module 7: Comparative evaluation  **Presentations of Critique of Evidence Based Guidelines** | | Week 8:  2/24/15 – 2/28/15 | Module 8: Comparative evaluation  **Presentations of Critique of Evidence Based Guidelines** | | Week 9:  3/3/15 – 3/9/15 | **SPRING BREAK** | | Week 10:  3/10/15 – 3/14/15 | Module 9: Comparative Evaluation  **Presentations of Critique of Evidence Based Guidelines** | | Week 11:  3/17/15 – 3/21/15 | Module 10: Comparative Evaluation  **Presentations of Critique of Evidence Based Guidelines** | | Week 12:  3/24/15 – 3/28/15 | Statistics: Description and relationships | | Week 13:  3/31/15 – 4/4/15 | Statistics: Group differences  **Research utilization paper due** | | Week 14:  4/7/15 – 4/11/15 | Statistics: Multivariate | | Week 15  4/14/15 – 4/18/15 | Research utilization and quality of care | |

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE OF NURSING POLICIES:

Please see the College of Nursing website for a full explanation of each of the following policies - <http://nursing.ufl.edu/students/student-policies-and-handbooks/course-policies/> .

Attendance - **A grade penalty of one point per day will be assigned for late assignments. These assignments include weekly module assignments, presentations and papers.**

Academic Honesty

UF Grading Policy

Accommodations due to Disability

Religious Holidays

Counseling and Mental Health Services

Student Handbook

Faculty Evaluations

Student Use of Social Media

Approved: Academic Affairs Committee: 11/04, 01/05, 04/13

Faculty: 11/04, 01/05, 04/13

UF Curriculum: 03/05