UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF NURSING

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING 2017

COURSE NUMBER NGR 6850, Section 0574

COURSE TITLE Research Methods and Evidence-Based Practice

CREDITS 3

PLACEMENT Second Semester in DNP Program

PREREQUISITE NGR 6101 Theory and Research for Advanced Nursing Practice or equivalent

COREQUISITE None

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Office hours by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides the student with the knowledge and understanding of the difference between research, evidence-based practice (EBP) and continuous quality improvement (CQI) methodology in health care. Emphasis is on the understanding and application of the evidence-based practice or continuous quality improvement process design to begin the DNP capstone project. The focus is on utilization and synthesis of research findings to address specific health care questions or problems.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

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

1. Articulate the definition and differences between and requirement of research, EBP and CQI in health care.

2. Synthesize clinical investigative skills by completing an extensive literature search to identify a nursing related question or problem to improve health outcomes.

3. Critically analyze data used in developing practice guidelines

4. Evaluate levels of evidence, quality of reporting of clinical guidelines and standards of care and their application into practice.

5. Examine several CQI tools for application and management of health-related questions or problems.

6. Analyze the quality and reporting guidelines for continuous quality improvement and research studies.

7. Develop new practice/next steps design approaches based on the integration of research, theory, and practice knowledge.

COURSE SCHEDULE

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 <http://elearning.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 an email to [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu). The internet browser, Google Chrome, works best with e-Learning and it is often helpful to access the course using the VPN connection.

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. All feedback will be given on the web via Canvas and occasional direct emails, including grades and comments on assignments. If you contact me by voicemail, on-line posting or email, you can expect a response **within three business days**. When I am traveling, response time may be longer because of time changes and access to the Internet. I will not be consistently checking Canvas, phone messages, or email on the weekends or holidays and responses may be limited during these times.

**For the purposes of this class, the week will begin on Monday morning at 8:00 AM and will close on Sunday evening at 11:59 PM.**

TOPICAL OUTLINE

1. Overview of the DNP Project
2. Utilization of research, EBP and CQI in nursing
3. Identifying nursing related questions or problems to improve health outcomes
4. Appraisal of evidence (research, EBP, CQI, guidelines)
5. Developing practice guidelines
6. Examination of standards of care utilizing the AGREE Tool
7. CQI tools
8. Quality and reporting guidelines for CQI and research studies (SQUIRE, PRISMA, CONSORT)
9. Research/survey methodology/next steps project design

# TEACHING METHODS

Lectures, discussion, individual assignments, presentations.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Readings, individual assignments, quizzes.

EVALUATION METHODS/COURSE GRADE CALCULATION

Each student is expected to:

1. Comprehensively read and critically analyze materials assigned for each class topic
2. Successfully complete all assignments

Evaluation will be based on the achievement of these criteria. Assignments and their relative weights are as listed below. Details of each assignment will be posted on Canvas.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **% of Final Grade** |
| Individual Assignments (6 @ 5 points each) | 30% |
| Quizzes (7 @ 5 points each) | 35% |
| Putting It All Together: Final Project (35 points) | 35% |
|  | 100% |

*Feedback on assignments will be returned within two weeks of due date.*

MAKE UP POLICY

ALL assignments are due on the date and time assigned. If lateness is unavoidable, notify the professor prior to the due date. ***Unexcused late submission will result in grade reduction of one point per day late****.* 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 [Graduate Student Handbook](http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/).

STUDENT WELL-BEING

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The U Matter, We Care initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu) so that the U Matter, We Care Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352-392-1575. The U Matter, We Care Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.

COMMUNICATION COURTESY/NETIQUETTE

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all class discussion, small group activities, and email messages. Familiarize yourself with the [UF netiquette policy](http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf). Failure to follow the rules of common courtesy may result in a grade reduction.

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

The College of Nursing expects all Nursing students to be professional in their interactions with patients, colleagues, faculty, and staff and to exhibit caring and compassionate attitudes. These and other qualities will be evaluated during patient contacts and in other relevant settings by both faculty and peers. Behavior of a nursing student reflects on the student's individual’s ability to become a competent professional nurse. Attitudes or behaviors inconsistent with compassionate care; refusal by, or inability of, the student to participate constructively in learning or patient care; derogatory attitudes or inappropriate behaviors directed at patients, peers, faculty or staff; misuse of written or electronic patient records (e.g., accession of patient information without valid reason); substance abuse; failure to disclose pertinent information on a criminal background check; or other unprofessional conduct can be grounds for disciplinary measures including dismissal.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the [UF Student Honor Code](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/). Students are required to provide their own privacy screen for all examination’s administered to student laptops. No wireless keyboards or wireless mouse/tracking device will be permitted during examinations.

University and College of Nursing Policies:

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

Attendance

UF Grading Policy

Accommodations due to Disability

Religious Holidays

Counseling and Mental Health Services

Student Handbook

Faculty Evaluations

Student Use of Social Media

# REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Melnyk, B. M., & Fineout-Overholt, E. (Eds.). (2014). Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: A guide to best practice (3rd ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

**Supplemental readings will be required; links will be provided via Canvas.**

Approved: Academic Affairs Committee: 11/04, 01/05, 04/13, 01/15

Faculty: 11/04, 01/05, 04/13, 01/15

UF Curriculum: 03/05; 02/15

**DESCRIPTION OF CLASS MODULES** (readings and assignments may be modified to achieve course objectives)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **MODULE** | **DATES** | **TOPICS** | **READINGS and DUE DATES** |
| 0 | 1/4 – 1/8 | Welcome and Course Orientation | AACN, (2006) The essentials of doctoral education for advanced nursing practice  AACN, (2015), The DNP: Current issues and clarifying recommendations  Introduce yourself on the Discussion page by January 8 at 11:59 pm  Quiz open January 5, 5:00 pm until January 8 at 11:59 pm |
| 1 | 1/9 – 1/22  MLK Holiday 1/16 | Getting Started  Overview of the DNP Project | Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt, Chapters 1-2, 22  Individual Assignment due January 22 at 11:59 pm  Quiz open January 19, 5:00 pm until January 22, 11:59 pm |
| 2 | 1/23 – 2/5 | Conducting the Literature Search | Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt, Chapters 3-6, 8  Individual Assignment due February 2 at 11:59 pm  Quiz open February 2, 5:00 pm until February 5, 11:59 pm |
| 3 | 2/6 – 2/19 | Critically Appraising the Evidence | Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt, Chapters 3-6, 8  Individual Assignment due February 19 at 11:59 pm  Quiz open February 16, 5:00 pm until February 19, 11:59 pm |
| 4 | 2/20 – 3/5  Spring Break  3/4 - 3/11 | Moving from Evidence to Practice Change | Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt, Chapters 7, 9-10  Individual Assignment due March 5 at 11:59 pm  Quiz open March 2, 5:00 pm until March 5, 11:59 pm |
| 5 | 3/13 – 3/26 | Models to Guide Evidence-Based Practice | Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt, Chapter 13  Individual Assignment due March 26 at 11:59 pm  Quiz open March 23, 5:00 pm until March 26, 11:59 pm |
| 6 | 3/27 – 4/9 | Disseminating Evidence-Based Practice | Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt, Chapter 18, 21  Individual Assignment due April 9 at 11:59 pm  Quiz open April 6, 5:00 pm until April 9, 11:59 pm |
| 7 | 4/10 – 4/19  Class Ends 4/19 | Putting It All Together | Final Project due April 19 at 11:59 pm |