I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Course Title: Introduction to the Nursing Research Process
Number and Code: NURS 3115
Credits: 3 Credits
Academic Term: 
Professor: 
Office Telephone: (787) 250-1912 ext. 2159, 2202
Office hours: 
Email: 

II. DESCRIPTION


III. COURSE COMPETENCIES

Knowledge

1. Describe evidence-based practice to include the components of research evidence, clinical expertise and patient/family values
2. Identify efficient and effective search strategies to locate reliable sources of evidence
3. Identify principles that comprise the critical appraisal of research evidence
4. Analyze own strengths, limitations and values as a member of a team

Skills

1. Use health research methods and processes, alone or in partnership with scientists, to generate new knowledge for practice
2. Employ efficient and effective search strategies to answer focused clinical questions
3. Critically appraise original research and evidence summaries related to area of practice.
4. Demonstrate awareness of own strengths and limitations as a team member.

Attitudes

1. Value the need for ethical conduct of research and quality improvement.
2. Value development of search skills for locating evidence for best practice.
3. Value knowing the evidence base for nursing practice.
4. Acknowledge own contributions to effective or ineffective team functioning.

IV TERMINAL OBJECTIVES

1. Identifies the PICO components in a well worded clinical question applicable to nursing practice and patient-centered care. (Knowledge, Critical Thinking)

2. Use information technology to retrieve hierarchical levels of evidence that addresses clinical questions. (Informatics & Technology)

3. Becoming familiar with nursing research background, theoretical and conceptual frameworks, research language, basic design (Quantitative and Qualitative), and statistical concepts (descriptive and inferential). (Knowledge)

4. Developing critiquing skills for research literature assessing biases, the soundness of methodological decisions, the credibility of resulting results, and observance of ethical principles. (Critical Thinking, Safety, Ethics)

5. Preparing a written review of literature; integrating appraised evidence to clinical practice. (Communication)

V. CONTENT

1. Nursing Research and Its Role in Evidence-Based Practice
   1.1 Introduction to Nursing Research in an Evidence-Based Practice Environment
   1.2 Fundamentals of evidence-Based Practice
   1.3 Key Concepts in Quantitative and Qualitative Research
   1.4 Reading and Critiquing Research Articles
   1.5 Ethics in Research

2. Steps in Research
   2.1 Research Problems, Research Questions, and Hypotheses
   2.2 Finding and Reviewing Research Evidence in the Literature
   2.3 Theoretical and Conceptual Frameworks

3. Quantitative Research
   3.1 Quantitative Research Design
   3.2 Sampling and Data Collection
3.3 Measurement and Data Quality
3.4 Statistical Analysis
3.5 Rigor and Interpretation

4. Qualitative Research
4.1 Qualitative Designs and Approaches
4.2 Sampling and Data Collection
4.3 Analysis of Qualitative Data
4.4 Trustworthiness and Integrity

5. Special topics in Research
5.1 Mixed Methods
5.2 Systematic Reviews: Meta-Analysis and Metasynthesis

VI TRIMESTER WEEKLY SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Reading Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Expectations: Review syllabus/trimester</td>
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<td>schedule, assessment &amp; evaluations (Classroom</td>
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<td>Assignments, Group Discussion, Assignments 1-3,</td>
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<td>and Exams 1-3)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Chapters 1-3 &amp; 19 (Intro Nursing Research in an</td>
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<td>EBP Environment; Fundamentals of EBP; Key</td>
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<td>Concepts &amp; Steps in Quali and Quan Research;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Systematic Reviews: Meta-Analysis &amp;</td>
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<td>Metasynthesis)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Chapters 4-6 (Reading &amp; Critiquing Research;</td>
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<td>Ethics in Research; Research Problems, Questions &amp;</td>
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<td>Hypotheses)</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Chapters 7-9 (Finding &amp; Reviewing Research</td>
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<td>Evidence; Theoretical &amp; Conceptual Framework;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Quantitative Research Design)</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Chapters 10-13 (Sampling and Data Collection in</td>
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<td>Quanti Studies; Measurement &amp; Data Quality;</td>
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<td>Statistical Analysis of Quanti Data)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Independent Study (Fine tune Assignment #2)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Chapters 14-15 (Qualitative Designs &amp;</td>
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<td>Approaches; Sampling &amp; Data Collection in Quali</td>
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<td>Studies)</td>
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<td>Assignment 1: Title,</td>
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<td>Introduction, Clinical Question</td>
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<td>&amp; PICO paper due by Midnight</td>
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<td>(Blackboard)</td>
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<td>Exam 1 (chapters 1-6 &amp; 19)</td>
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<td>-Lecture</td>
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<td>-Classroom Assignment &amp; Group</td>
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<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>-Assignment 1 in classroom</td>
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<td>Clinical Question peer critique</td>
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<td>Assignment 2: Annotated</td>
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<td>Bibliography due by Midnight</td>
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<td>-Lecture</td>
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<td>-Classroom Assignment &amp; Group</td>
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<td>Discussion (Quantitative Study</td>
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<td>Discussion (Qualitative Study</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Exam 2 (chapters 7-13)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Chapters 16-18 (Analysis of Qualitative Data; Trustworthiness &amp; Integrity in Quali Research; Mix Methods and Other Special Types of Research)</td>
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<td>TO 3, 5</td>
<td>Assignment 3: Literature Review Due by Midnight (Blackboard)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Group Presentations</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Group Presentations</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Final Exams Week</td>
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<td>Exam 3 (chapters 14-18)</td>
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VII. TEACHING-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

A. Conference or Lecture
B. Cooperative, collaborative group work (Team STEPPS)
C. Special group assignments and classroom written exercises (Assessment)
D. Journal articles appraisal (Critical Thinking)
E. Group discussion
F. Web sites (Informatics and Technology)
G. Independent study
H. Oral presentation
I. Blackboard: Research Resources, Examples of Assignments, Assignment Rubrics
J. CAI

VIII. EVALUATION

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<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
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<th>PERCENTAGE OF FINAL GRADE</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 Partial Exams (200 points each)</td>
<td>600 points</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Literature Review Project</td>
<td>350 points</td>
<td>35%</td>
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<td>Attendance</td>
<td>50 points</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1000 points</td>
<td>100%</td>
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- There will be a 5% point deduction for each day an assignment is late up to 3 days. No assignments will be accepted after 3 days from its due date.
- There are no make-up exams
- Literature Review assignment must be submitted to SafeAssign; Originality report greater than 10% will not be accepted.

IX. SPECIAL NOTES
A. **Supportive Services or Special Needs**

Students requiring additional services or special assistance must request these at the beginning of the course or as soon as they learn that they need them, through the appropriate register in the office of M. Jose Rodrigues, at the University Orientation Program located at the first floor of Harris Building.

B. **Honesty, Fraud, and Plagiarism**

The lack of honesty, fraud, plagiarism, and any other inadequate behavior in relation to academic work constitutes major infractions sanctioned by General Student Regulations. Major infractions, according to General Student Regulation, may result in suspension from the University for a definite period of time greater than one year or the permanent expulsion from the University, among other sanctions.

C. **Use of electronic devices:**

Cellular (mobile) telephones, IPODS, and any other electronic device that could interrupt the teaching-learning process or disrupt a milieu favorable for academic excellence will be deactivated. Critical situations will be dealt with in an appropriate manner. The use of electronic devices that permit accessing, storing or sending data during tests or examinations is prohibited.

D. **Special Requirements of Practice and Internship Centers (N/A)**

Some academic programs of the University require students to complete a practice or internship in a real work scenario as part of the degree requirements. These external centers may be state and federal agencies, hospitals, and nongovernmental organizations, among others. It is the student’s responsibility to comply with the external practice center, these requirements may be doping tests, HIV tests, an immunization certificate against hepatitis, a health certificate, a negative criminal record, or any other requirement that the institution or practice center may stipulate. If students refuse or are not able to meet any of the requirements, they will be unable to complete their practice or internship and, therefore will not pass the practice or internship course or meet the graduation requirements of their academic program.

**XI. EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**

**Text Book**


**Reference Books**


**Electronic resources:**

Clinical Evidence
www.clinicalevidence.com

Evidence-Based Mental Health
http://ebmh.bmjournals.com/

Evidenced-Based Nursing
www.evidencebasednursing.com

PubMed Clinical Queries
www.pubmed.gov

CINAHL
www.cinahl.com

MEDLINE
www.pubmed.gov

National Guidelines Clearinghouse
www.guideline.gov

RNAO Best Practice Guidelines
www.rnao.org

Center for evidence-based Nursing (York,UK)
www.york.ac.uk/healthsciences/centres/evidence/cebn.htm

EBM Toolkit
www.med.ualberta.ca/ebm/ebm.htm

Joanna Briggs Institute
www.joannabriggs.edu.au

SchARR Netting the Evidence  
www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/ir/netting

American Public health association (APHA);  
http://www.apha.org

Center for disease control and prevention (CDC)  
http://www.cdc.gov

National Institutes of Health (NIH):  
http://os.dhhs.gov

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
http://os.dhhs.gov

World Health Organization  
http://www.who.ch

Center for International Health Information  
http://www/cihi.com

Health Literacy Initiative (NIH):  
http://www.nih.gov/icd/od/ocpl/resorces/improvinghealthliteracyl.htm

National Center for Health Education:  
http://www.nche.org/

Cultural Competence Compendium:  
http://www.ama-aassn.org

Culture and Diversity:  
http://www.amsa.org

National Institute of Nursing research:  
http://www.nih.gov/ninr

Online Journal of Nursing Informatics:  
http://www.eaa-knowledge.com/ojni/

National Center for Health Statistics:  
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs

The Cochrane Collaboration
Ofelia Neubaur, MSN, RN June 2013