

Course Syllabus

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Title NUR 322 Nursing Research I

Credit 2 semester credits

Prerequisite Cumulative Nursing GPA of 2.5
Satisfactory completion of prescribed nursing curriculum

Placement Junior year – Spring or Summer

Course Description This course focuses on the understanding of the research process and the role of the professional nurse in designing and conducting research. Quantitative design will be studied with emphasis on the use of research to improve nursing care.

Learning Objectives Upon the completion of the course the student will:

1. Describe each of the components of the research process
2. State the rights and responsibilities of both participants and subjects in research.
3. Identify nursing problems that need to be investigated in order to foster improved patient care.
4. Utilize critical thinking skills in the reading of research.
5. Enhance scholarly communication skills.
6. Communicate recommendations for clinical practice based on the review of research and non-research literature.

Time Allocation 2 hours of class weekly

Teaching Methods Audio-visual materials
Case Studies

Reflective writing
 Lecture and discussion
 Computer-assisted instruction
 Problem-solving activities

Course Evaluation

1.	Assignment # 1 (Research Question & Databases)	5%
2.	Assignment #2 (8 articles with APA citation)	10%
3.	Assignment #3 (Search & Retrieval Paper)	15%
4.	Assignment #4 (Critique #1-9)	7.5%
5.	Assignment #5 (Critique #10-20)	7.5%
6.	Assignment #6 (Scholarly Presentation)	20%
7.	Assignment #7 (Scholarly Paper)	20%
8.	Quiz #1	5%
9.	Quiz #2	5%
10.	Quiz#3	<u>5%</u> 100%

Description of Course Evaluation

Quizzes

There will be 3 quizzes throughout the course. Quizzes may include definition of terms, short essays, multiple test questions, and research critiques. Quizzes may be online or administered during class. Quizzes are worth 5% each, for a total of 15% of the course grade.

Assignments

1. **Assignment #1: Research Question & Database Search** – The purpose of this assignment is to begin to explore research topics of interest and conduct a preliminary search of the literature of this topic. The process of this exploration is

explained in a 1 to 2-page narrative. A research question is decided upon and three databases are searched. Peer-reviewed nursing research journals are the focus of this search. The skeleton of the scholarly paper is initiated with a cover page formatted in APA style. Paper must be submitted electronically in dropbox and via hardcopy. See grading rubric. This assignment is worth 5% of the course grade.

2. **Assignment #2: Retrieved Research Publications with APA Citation** – The purpose of this assignment is to retrieve a minimum of 8 nursing research publications related to the chosen research question of Assignment #1. The goal is to be able to differentiate research from other types of publications, with a focus on recent, quantitative, nursing research. Copies of the 8 retrieved full-text publications are to be submitted with an accurately cited reference page formatted in APA style. Paper must be submitted electronically in dropbox and via hardcopy. See grading rubric. This assignment is worth 10% of the course grade.

3. **Assignment #3: Search and Retrieval Assignment** – The purpose of this assignment is to learn the technique of conducting literature searches and obtaining relevant research articles. A reference list of the articles found via the literature search using APA format must be attached. The Search and Retrieval Scholarly Paper is the result of the Search in Assignment #1 and the Retrieval in Assignment #2. This paper should also include the significance of the research to nursing and the process of the literature search, as well as an accurate reference list of 8 to 10 articles. All published studies must be full-text and copies must be submitted with the paper. Paper must be submitted electronically in dropbox and via hardcopy. See grading rubric. This assignment is worth 15% of the course grade.

4. **Assignment #4: Critique #1-9** – Using the Quantitative Research Critique Guidelines for COMPREHENSION (Burns & Grove, 2007, p. 448-451), answer questions # 1 through #9. This critique is to be written using the research study from Assignment #3. Assignment must use the template provided, typed with Times New Roman size 12 font, and submitted electronically in the drop box and hardcopy. See grading rubric. This assignment is worth 7.5% of the course grade.

5. **Assignment #5: Critique #10-20** – Using the Quantitative Research Critique Guidelines for COMPREHENSION (Burns & Grove, 2007, p. 448-451), answer questions # 10 through #20. This critique is to be written using the research study from Assignment #3. Assignment must use the template provided, typed with Times New Roman size 12 font, and submitted electronically in the drop box and hardcopy. See grading rubric. This assignment is worth 7.5% of the course grade.

6. **Assignment #6: Scholarly Presentation** – Using the selected topic of interest from Assignments #1, #2, and #3, the Search and Retrieval Paper, the student will present a summary of the research topic, significance to nursing, process of the literature search and subsequent retrieval, and research critique of one research publication. The presentation is to be 10-12 minutes in length and a Power Point is to be presented. The presentation must be submitted electronically to the document sharing tab of eCompanion, and a hardcopy of the PowerPoint and

any accompanying handouts are to be submitted to the faculty the day of the presentation. See the grading rubric for details. This assignment is worth 20% of the course grade.

7. **Assignment #5: Scholarly Paper** – Using the selected topic of Assignments #1, #2, #3, and #4, a scholarly paper, no more than 7 - 10 pages is to be written. The paper will scholarly describe the research topic, elaborate on the reason it is chosen for review, describe the process of the literature search, and critique one research study of interest. The paper must be typed using APA format. Please use headings/subheadings. An Introduction should include a brief overview of the intention of the paper. A Conclusion should include the student’s opinion about the quality of the study and knowledge gained on the topic. The paper must be submitted electronically in the dropbox and via hardcopy. See the grading rubric for details. This assignment is worth 20% of the course grade.

Note:

All assignments are due on the designated dates. Lateness will reflect in a lower grade (10 points per day). There will be no change of quiz dates or make-up of missed quizzes. The grade for a missed quiz/assignment will be recorded as a zero (0). If there are extenuating circumstances, these must be brought to the attention of the professor prior to the due date. All assignments not submitted by the last day of class will be given a grade of zero (0).

**Grading
Scale**

<u>Letter</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	60-66%
F	<60%

A grade below C is not passing. Students must achieve a minimum grade of a 73 in order to receive a C. Grades from 0 to 72.99 will not be rounded up. Final course grades above 73 will be rounded up if the decimal is greater than or equal to .5.

Honor Code Students are reminded to review the Honor Code and Plagiarism statements as found in the Cedar Crest College Student Handbook. Students found guilty of Honor Code offenses will receive a zero for the assignment in question.

Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's paper or work under one's own name with or without additions or modifications; downloading and turning in a paper from the internet or including concepts, phrases, sentences, or paragraphs from print or electronic sources whether verbatim or paraphrased in one's own paper without proper attribution.

A paper suspected of intentional plagiarism or careless scholarship will receive a grade of zero. Students who submit papers with evidence of academic dishonesty of a more serious nature may receive an "F" for the course at the discretion of the course faculty. Students who turn in work with unintentional plagiarism including overuse of direct citations, inappropriate and inaccurate citations, or omission of citations, will receive a serious deduction of points for critical analysis, paper content, and APA formatting.

All papers are to be the student's original work. Submission of a paper from a previous course or from a previous assignment in this nursing course is unacceptable and will result in a zero.

Dishonesty of any kind throughout this course may result in an "F" in this course.

Classroom Protocol Friendly Classroom

Appropriate classroom behavior is implicit in the Cedar Crest Honor Code. Such behavior is defined and guided by complete protection for the rights of all students and faculty to a courteous, respectful classroom environment. That environment is free from distractions such as late arrivals, early departures, inappropriate conversations and any other behaviors that might disrupt instruction and/or comprise students' access to their Cedar Crest College education.

Cumulative Knowledge

The student is reminded that knowledge in nursing is cumulative and that she/he will be held accountable for prior learning. Furthermore, the student is expected to be knowledgeable about anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, and health/physical assessment as they relate to material covered in this course. The student is responsible for material discussed in class as well as information covered in the required readings. Copies of journal articles may be placed on reserve in the Cressman Library.

Attendance Policy

Class Attendance is required for the successful completion of this course. Participation is crucial to "an understanding" of the role of consumer research. You must be present in class for participation to be achieved. If you will be absent, please let the professor know ahead of time. Small group exercises and seminar presentations require students to come prepared to discuss assigned readings for

each class. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Excessive absences from class will be reflected in a lower final grade. Attendance is mandatory and necessary to complete the course objectives.

Copy of Student's Work

Students are required to keep a hard copy of all written work assignments for this course. In the event an assignment is lost, it is the student's responsibility to provide an additional copy of the written assignment. Failure to provide this copy will result in a grade of zero for the assignment.

Additionally, students are required to submit an electronic copy of their scholarly paper to the dropbox in eCompanion.

Assignment Due Dates

All written assignments are due on the designated date. Lateness will be reflected in a lower grade of 10 points per day beginning immediately after the time due.

Weekend days are counted toward deductions. Assignments submitted after the assigned time on the due date will be considered one day late, and subsequent points will be deducted in 24 hour increments according to the policy. All assignments will be collected at the beginning of class. If an assignment is late, it is the student's responsibility to obtain a stamp from the nursing secretary indicating the date and time the assignment was received. Assignments in question without a stamped date and time will be counted as late. Assignments are not to be slid under the professor's door without a stamp indicating date and time.

Extenuating Circumstances

Extenuating circumstances will be evaluated on an individual basis by the professor. If a dispensation is granted, it must be documented in writing and signed by both the professor and student. Extenuating circumstances are less likely to be considered once the assignment is late. If a student is experiencing difficulty, it is recommended that he/she meet with the instructor prior to the due date of an assignment to discuss possible alternatives or solutions.

Required Textbooks American Psychological Association. (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). Washington, D.C. Author.

Burns, N., & Grove, S. (2007). *Understanding nursing research: Building an evidenced-based practice* (4th ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Saunders.

Burns, N., & Groves, S. (2007). Accompanying Study Guide

Clicker (classroom response system) - Available from the CCC bookstore.

ON-Line <http://evolve.elsevier.com/Burns/understanding>

Resources

Websites See <http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html> and <http://www.apastyle.org/previoustips.html> for specifics on the appropriate methods for formatting and referencing papers.
