



Course Syllabus: Nursing Research
College of Health Sciences and Human Services
NURS 3503
Summer 2021

Contact Information

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Course Description

Basic concepts of research and related terminology are studied. Steps involved in conducting useful and sound research studies are explored. Focus is on analysis and evaluation of research report/studies as they apply to nursing practice.

Pre-requisites/co-requisite: Statistics

Credit hours: Three credit hours (45 clock hours of class time)

Course Objectives

AACN Essentials: For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to <http://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/BaccEssentials08.pdf>

DEC Competencies: In the DEC Competencies below, the following designations apply: I: Provider of Patient-centered Care, II: Coordinator of Care, III: Patient Safety Advocate, and IV: Member of the Health Care Team. For further information regarding the competencies identified for each course objective, refer to http://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/publication_pdfs/delc-2010.pdf

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:	AACN	DEC
1. Discuss the essential components of the research process.	III, VI	
2. Differentiate application of selected research designs.	III	

AACN Essentials: For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to <http://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/BaccEssentials08.pdf>

DEC Competencies: In the DEC Competencies below, the following designations apply: I: Provider of Patient-centered Care, II: Coordinator of Care, III: Patient Safety Advocate, and IV: Member of the Health Care Team. For further information regarding the competencies identified for each course objective, refer to http://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/publication_pdfs/delc-2010.pdf

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:	AACN	DEC
3. Discuss the ethical and legal aspects of research.	III, IV, V, VIII	1A
4. Critique selected research projects relevant to healthcare providers.	III, IV	ID, IIA, IVE
5. Demonstrate ability to apply research findings to clinical practice issues.	III	ID, IIC

Required Textbooks and Supplies

Rebar, C.R. & Gersch, C.J. (2015). *Understanding research for evidence-based practice* (4th ed). Philadelphia, PA: Wolters Kluwer. ISBN: 978-1-4511-9107-3

Recommended Textbook

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>

Learning Experiences

Students are expected to be self-directed in the acquisition of basic nursing knowledge. Learning activities available to students include but are not limited to:

1. Assigned readings (textbook and articles) for each unit
2. Videos for selected units
3. Practice and learn activities
4. Ask the professor discussion board
5. Assignments for each unit

MSU Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2020-21](#)

Grading

Table 1: Course Grade

Assignments	Course Objective	Percentage
Syllabus Quiz		5
Unit 1: Systematic Review Assignment	5	30
Unit 2: Research Methodology Assignment	1 & 2	30
Unit 3: Evidence-based Practice Assignment	4 & 5	30
Unit 4: Ethical Research Certificate	3	5
Total		100

Table 2: Course Grade Calculation

The final course grade will be calculated in the following manner:
There will be no rounding of grades except as necessary to accommodate the grade book limitations.
Students must score at least a 74% average, using the percentages posted in table 1, to successfully complete the course.

Table 3: Grading Scale

Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	89-80
C	74-79
D	65-73
F	Less than 65

Last day to drop with a W is Thursday, July 22, 2021, by 1600.

Course Instructions

1. To begin this course, read this syllabus and work on this course daily.
2. Complete the syllabus quiz located on D2L under Assessments and then Tests, but also linked on the Content Module, by 1700 on Friday, July 5 2021.
3. Each unit's activities and grading rubrics are located on the Content Module by unit. Grading of the unit 4 assignment is as follows:
 - a. Submitted by the due date and time then 100%
 - b. Submitted within 1 to 24 hours after the due date and time then

50%

- c. Submitted longer than 24 hours after the due date and time then 0%
4. Begin with unit 1 and complete the readings, watch the video and complete the practice and learn activity.
5. Complete the unit 1 assignment and post to the Assignment dropbox, located under Assessments and linked to the Content Module, by 1700 on Monday, July 12, 2021.
6. Move to unit 2 and complete the readings, watch the videos and complete the practice and learn activity.
7. Complete the unit 2 assignment and post to the Assignment dropbox, located under Assessments and linked to the Content Module, by 1700 on Monday, July 19, 2021.
8. Move to unit 3 and complete the readings, watch the videos and complete the practice and learn activity.
9. Complete the unit 3 assignment and post to the Assignment dropbox, located under Assessments and linked to the Content Module, by 1700 on Monday, July 26, 2021.
10. Move to unit 4 and complete the readings and the online course.
11. Post the certificate of completion for the online Ethics assignment to the Assignment dropbox, located under Assessments and linked to the Content Module, by 1700 on Monday, August 2, 2021
12. A discussion board titled Ask the Professor is available and linked to on the Content Module for you to ask questions and seek assistance from the professor. You also may e-mail your professor preferably using the D2L e-mail function.

Unit Objectives

Unit 1: Critiquing the evidence for clinical practice

1. Identify the purpose of doing a systematic review.
2. Identify the search strategy for completing a systematic review.
3. Analyze inclusion and exclusion criteria for including studies within a systematic review.
4. Identify findings and conclusions of a systematic review.
5. Determine if sufficient evidence exists to put an intervention into practice.

Unit 2: Identifying the essential components of research methodology

1. Identify the type of research design used in selected primary research studies.
2. Identify the purpose statements of selected primary research studies.
3. Identify sampling methods used in selected primary research studies.
4. Identify data collection methods used in selected primary research studies.
5. Identify the level of evidence provided by selected primary research studies.
6. Interpret the meaning of the results of selected primary research studies.

Unit 3: Putting the evidence into clinical practice

1. Identify the population, intervention and outcomes for searching the literature for evidence on a clinical topic.
2. Search the literature for evidence on a clinical topic.
3. Determine the degree of evidence available on a clinical topic.
4. Determine the next step in completing a model of putting evidence into practice.

Unit 4: Conducting ethically sound research

1. Describe the history and importance of human participants protections
2. Identify research activities that involve human participants
3. Discover the risks a research project might pose to participants
4. Understand how to minimize the risks posed by a research project
5. Describe additional protections needed for vulnerable populations
6. Understand additional issues that should be considered for international research
7. Describe appropriate procedures for recruiting research participants and obtaining informed consent
8. Identify the different committees that monitor human participants protections
9. Understand the importance of study design in the protection of research participants

Assignments

Further explanation of each assignment is listed under the unit on the Content Module in D2L.

Unit 1 assignment: Systematic Review Assignment

Unit 2 assignment: Research Methodology Table

Unit 3 assignment: Evidence-based Practice Assignment

Unit 4 assignment: Ethics Certificate

Late Assignments

Assignments submitted 1-24 hours late will receive a 50% deduction in grade. Assignments submitted greater than 24 hours late will receive a 0 as the grade. Exceptions to this policy may be negotiated with the course faculty prior to late submission of the assignment

Nursing Program Failure Policy

1. Students must meet all course requirements or a grade of F will be assigned.
2. Earning less than a C as the final course grade will be considered a nursing program course failure.

3. Earning less than a C as the final course grade in a course in the Accelerated Program renders the student ineligible to continue in the Accelerated Program.
4. Students who fail one nursing course in the Accelerated Program may transfer to the traditional BSN program.
5. Students who withdraw/drop or receive a D or an F in two nursing courses must seek entry to the traditional BSN program, by request to the Student Affairs Committee of the Wilson School of Nursing, to be eligible to continue in any MSU nursing programs.

University Policies

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to <http://www.mwsu.edu/student-life/disability>.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

NURS 3243 and 3253 adheres to the MSU Code of Conduct. In particular, academic dishonesty, however small, creates a breach in academic integrity. A student's participation in this course comes with the expectation that his or her work will be completed in full observance of the MSU Code of Student Conduct. A student should consult the current Student Handbook for answers to any questions about the code.

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available including online Desire 2 Learn course resources, Internet sites, other textbooks and journals, faculty, and peers when accomplishing objectives. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive for life-long learning.

However, all components of NURS 3503 are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually and are not to be shared, copied, or plagiarized from other sources. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they abided by this rule.

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, collusion, plagiarism or the acquisition of tests or test questions and other academic materials such as test banks without

the permission of the faculty. Cheating, collusion, or plagiarism is defined as: (1) cheating - intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, equipment, or study aids in any academic exercise; (2) collusion - the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit; (3) plagiarism - intentionally representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

Academic dishonesty (cheating, collusion, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. Whenever a student is unsure of whether a particular situation will be interpreted as academic dishonesty, he or she should ask the instructor for clarification.

Any student found to be academically dishonest as defined above and under each assignment will automatically receive a grade of "0" on the assignment.

Instructor Drop

An instructor may drop a student at any time during the semester for excessive absences, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. The instructor must give the students a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through the 8th week of a long 45 hours semester, the 6th week of a 10 week summer term, or the 11th class day of a 4 or 5 week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these periods, the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar is the official drop date. Refer to page 28 at <https://mwsu.edu/Assets/documents/student-life/student-handbook-2017-18.pdf>.

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place, which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university

property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.