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*Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services  
The Shimadzu School of Radiologic Sciences  
Bachelor of Science, Radiologic Technology Program  
Course Syllabus - Rodney Fisher*

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**RADS 3523 Essentials of Research**

**Spring 2020**

**Monday 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM Centennial Hall 240**

**Rodney Fisher, MSRS, R.T.(R)(N)(CT)(BD), CNMT**

**Assistant Professor, Radiologic Sciences**

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**Office Hours Mondays & Wednesdays 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM and by appointment (preferred)**

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## **WHY ARE YOU TAKING THIS COURSE?**

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- In this course we will be surveying the different types of research. You will be learning about some of the basic types of research including quantitative, qualitative, mixed methods; and evidence-based research. You will also learn about the parts of a literature review including how to formulate a research questions, conduct peer-reviewed research, and organize your findings so you can write a paper. Learning this process now will help you with RADS 4913 Applied Research.
- You will be introduced to APA formatting. APA formatting is one of the two major types of formatting for scientific literature and is used extensively by your other courses. Learning how to use APA now will help you throughout the program.
- You will also learn about the ethical considerations in research which will complement what you are learning in RADS 4613 Ethical and Legal Issues in Medical Imaging. We will also discuss the different types of plagiarism and how to avoid them.

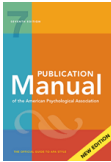
- This semester you will improve your writing skills by learning how to evaluate several sources of information and present them through a process called synthetization.
- You will also learning to become an informed consumer of scientific research. Throughout your entire career you will need to stay current in radiologic technology by obtaining continuing education credits (CEs). This course will help you discriminate between what is good research and what is questionable research when you fulfill your CE requirements by reading research papers or listening to scientific presentations.

## THE TEXTBOOKS YOU WILL NEED

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### Required:

American Psychological Association. (2019). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association. [ISBN 978-1-4338-3216-1]



### Recommended:

Aaron, J. (2016). *LB Brief* (5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Pearson Education. [ISBN 9780134123073]



## HOW TO CONTACT ME

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I prefer email for most contacts. This gives me a written record of what we talked about so I do not forget anything important. Also, I am away from my desk quite often and may be hard to reach by telephone. If you do need to reach me by phone, please email me for an appointment. The appointment will assure that I have everything ready for your call and we will not be disturbed. If you are on campus, you can always stop by my office. However, if what you need may take a few minutes, please make an appointment.

## ATTENDANCE

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It is important you attend every class. As you will see from the schedule below, we will move at a very fast pace. I do not differentiate between excused or unexcused absences. Instead I give you two absences without question. After that there is a 10% penalty off your semester grade per absence. Being tardy disrupts class and prevents you and your classmates from the full potential of the course. Three instances of being tardy by more than ten minutes will be counted as one absence. If you miss too many classes and it becomes mathematically impossible for you to pass the course, you may be withdrawn administratively. Please note – many of the in-class assignments and projects we do for a grade cannot be made up in the case of an absence.

## HOW I GRADE THIS COURSE

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I use the following grading scale:

A = 100 – 90

B = 89.99 – 80

C = 79.99 – 75

D = 69.99 – 60

F = 59.99 and below

While I do not round individual assignments, I will round your semester grade up to the next grade if you are within 0.5 points of the next grade. While this is not a

progression course, you must make a “C” or better in this course or you will have to repeat it. If you do not pass this course or its substitute twice, you will be dismissed from the program and will not be able to reapply. In addition you may not take RADS 4913 Applied Research until you have successfully passed this course. **Late assignments are not accepted without my prior approval.** If you believe there are extenuating circumstances, please contact me with the appropriate documentation as soon as possible.

Your semester grade will be made up by the following type of assignments:

- 40% Writing Assignments (6)
  - 10% #1: Radiology History
  - 10% #2: What is a Literature Review
  - 10% #3: Interesting Fact About Your Topic
  - 10% #4: What is Synthesis
  - 50% #5: Synthesizing Assignment: Introduction & First Main Point of a Literature Review
  - 10% #6: What is an Abstract
- 35% Assignments (5)
  - 10% Research Question Approval
  - 10% Acknowledgment of MSU Student Honor Creed
  - 10% Synthesizing Matrix
  - 10% Synthesizing Outline
  - 10% Reference Page
- 15% Quizzes (4)
- 10% Participation
  - 4% Discussion Boards (4)
  - 4% Group Projects (2)
  - 2 % Attendance

## THE MODULES IN THIS COURSE

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Module 1: Welcome

Module 2: What is Research?

Module 3: Beginning a Literature Review

Module 4: Plagiarism

Module 5: APA Formatting Style

Module 6: Synthesis

Module 7: Abstract

Module 8: Preparing to Write a Complete Literature Review

## WHAT IS THE CLASS SCHEDULE / DUE DATES?

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Note: Schedule subject to change.

Date	Assignment
January 18	Class opens
January 26	Discussion Board: Introductions due by 23:59 Quiz #1: Course Expectations complete by 23:59 Writing Assignment #1: Radiology History due by 23:59
February 2	Quiz #2: What is Research complete by 23:59
February 3	Attend the Moffett Library Workshop: Citations. This workshop will be held during your regular class time and day from 11-12 in the Moffett Library Computer Lab on the 2nd Floor of the Moffett Library. There is a sign-up sheet. Attendance is mandatory.
February 9	Writing Assignment #2: What A Literature Review is due by 23:59
February 10	Attend the Moffett Library Workshop: Picking a Topic. This workshop will be held during your regular class time and day from 11-12 in the Moffett Library Computer Lab on the 2nd Floor of the Moffett Library. There is a sign-up sheet. Attendance is mandatory.
February 16	Writing Assignment #3: Interesting Fact About Your Radiology Topic due by 23:59 Discussion Board #2: Searching for Literature
February 21	Group Project #1: Research Question & Two Sources
February 23	Assignment: Research Question Approval (RQA) due by 23:59
March 1	Assignment: Acknowledgement of MSU Student Honor Creed due by 23:59 Quiz #3: Plagiarism due by 23:59
March 16-20	Spring Break
March 22	Quiz #4: APA complete by 23:59 Writing Assignment #4: What is Synthesis due by 23:59
March 30	Last day to withdraw with a "W" grade by 4:00 pm campus time
March 29	Assignment: Synthesizing Matrix due by 23:59
April 5	Assignment: Synthesizing Outline due by 23:59
April 12	Group Project #2: The Good, The Bad, & The Ugly-Peer-review of a Research Paper due by 23:59
April 19	Reference Page due by 23:59
April 26	Writing Assignment #5: Synthesizing Assignment (Title Page, Introduction, First Main Point, and revised Reference List) due by 23:59
May 3	Writing Assignment #6: What is an Abstract due by 23:59
May 11-May 15	Finals Week-No final-No class

## COURSE INFORMATION AND POLICIES

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### Credit

**3 Hours**

### Course description

This course introduces research methods specific to radiologic sciences.

### Prerequisites

Acceptance into the Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology Program

### Course objectives

Upon completion of this course, a student will:

- Discuss essential components of the research process.
- Differentiate application of selected research designs.
- Discuss the ethical and legal aspects of research.
- Critique selected research projects.
- Demonstrate ability to apply research findings to professional practice issues, including interdisciplinary issues.

### Teaching methodology

Desire2Learn (D2L) modules, Independent reading assignments, D2L open book module quizzes, writing assignments, dropbox assignments, group work, weekly meetings, and discussion boards. There is NO final exam for this course.

### Computer Requirements

You need access to an up-to-date computer with an internet connection in this course. D2L does not work well with Internet Explorer. Use a different browser when working in D2L. Only Word documents will be accepted in this course. If you have a Mac device, you will need to export as a .docx when you are ready to turn in any assignment in this course. Video: [How to save Apple Pages document as Microsoft Word file \(.doc & .docx\)](#)

### Honor code

RADS 3523 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.

Many components of RADS 3523 are designed to be highly interactive with students helping each other learn. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available including online D2L course resources, Internet sites, other textbooks and journals, faculty, and peers when answering objectives. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive for life-long learning.

**Please note:** By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a “limited right” in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The “limited right” shall include but not be limited to the right to reproduce the student’s work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

### Plagiarism

For this course plagiarism is defined as: the use of a source without proper attribution. This can include (but not limited to):

- Turning in someone else’s work and calling it your own.
- Paraphrasing another source without citing the source;
- Direct quotations which are not marked as direct quotations regardless of the attribution;
- Using a majority of direct quotes within a paper regardless of attribution and:
- Using incorrect information in a citation including citing one author as the source of another author’s work.<sup>1</sup>
- All assignments will be submitted to TurnItIn.com, a computerized service which checks for plagiarism. Any suspicious results will be investigated. Instances of plagiarism will result in a lower grade on the assignment; a grade of “F” on the assignment, and/or a grade of “F” on the course. Repeated or severe instances may result in academic probation, or dismissal from the program. Instances can also be referred to the Dean of Students for further action.

If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, please consult:

- The entire University Academic Dishonesty Policy which can be found in the University Student Handbook: [MSU Student Handbook](#)

- The website: [Plagiarism.Org](http://Plagiarism.Org); or
- This instructor.

### Special needs

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Disability Support Services in Room 168 of the Clark Student Center, (940) 397-4140.

### Administrative process

Unresolved issues related to this course should be first addressed between the student and the course instructor. If there is no resolution, students must follow this sequence:

1. Department Chair – Dr. Beth Vealé (940-397-4611)
2. College Dean - Dr. Jeff Killion (940-397-4679)
3. Dean of Students – Matthew Park (940-397-7500)

### Senate Bill 11

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 the [University's campus carry webpage](#). If you have questions or concerns, please contact MSU Chief of Police [Patrick Coggins](#) by email at [mpatrick.coggins@msutexas.edu](mailto:mpatrick.coggins@msutexas.edu).