



Robert D. & Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences & Human Services

Course Syllabus: Research
NURS 3503 / RADS 3503 / RESP 4423
Fall 2023

Faculty: **Jessyca Wagner, Ph.D., RT(R), CIIP (She/Her/Hers)**

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Prerequisite:

BSRT, BSRS, BSRC, or BSN chair approval

Course Overview:

The focus of this course is to instruct health sciences and human services students in the role of research in interdisciplinary health studies.

Note: This is an interdisciplinary research course that will be taught to nursing, radiologic science, and respiratory therapy students mixed into each course section.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of this course, students 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 the ability to apply research findings to professional practice issues pertaining to healthcare.

Course Resources:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). American Psychological Association.

[ISBN: 9781433832161] **Required**

Student Handbook:

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2022-2023](#)

Communication with the Instructor:

Communication will be through the student's Midwestern State University email account. An email account is created for every MSU student. If you have not accessed this account yet, please do so by logging into the Portal and clicking the student email account icon located in the Portal. You have the option to have any messages sent here to be forwarded to the email account of your choice.

The instructor will respond to or at least acknowledge email messages from students within a maximum of five (5) business days when MSU is in session. Beyond standard university holidays and breaks, the instructor will notify students of any extended periods of time when email contact is not practical (professional meetings, etc.).

When emailing the instructor, please include your full name, course, and section number, and a thorough explanation in your message. This will help expedite your request or needs.

Class Meeting Date and Time:

Since this is an online course, there are no mandatory face-to-face sessions. However, the student should be vigilant in logging into D2L. Regular checks will ensure messages from the instructor are received in a timely manner.

This course is on a schedule that will be strictly adhered to. See the Course Schedule at the end of this syllabus for specific information about activities and due dates.

The instructor will be available to meet face-to-face with any interested students. This meeting is optional and must be confirmed by email ahead of time with the instructor.

Student Responsibilities:

As a student enrolled in this course, you will be responsible for adhering to and meeting posted deadlines and due dates. All activities for this course are listed at the end of this syllabus and in D2L.

All modules have expiration dates. Independent readings and assignments/activities are spaced out to allow you ample time to complete them. Assignments/activities will be accepted on or before the posted due date and deadline. **Late assignments will be accepted on a case-by-case basis.** If a student cannot complete a course activity by the indicated due date, the student must contact the course instructor immediately. Please note that late submissions may not be graded unless prior approval has been granted. If a student has emergency issues, the student must contact the instructor as soon as possible (within a day or two).

Students must use baccalaureate level writing skills, including complete sentences, correct grammar, and proper punctuation. All assignments will be graded for accuracy, completeness, quality, spelling, grammar, and integrity. All assignments are considered complete and will be graded as such.

All assignments will be submitted in a dropbox within D2L. All assignments will be completed in Times New Roman or Arial, 12-point font.

Course Behavior:

All students will treat others with respect in this course. Discussion board posts will be professional and constructive.

Pronouns

Names and pronouns are deeply personal. Assumptions about them can cause harm. In this class, we will respectfully use whatever names and pronouns peers, authors, and community members ask us to use. If we make a mistake, we will respectfully correct ourselves. Please let me know if you have a chosen name different from that on your academic record or particular pronouns you prefer. To learn more about personal pronouns and why they are important, please visit MSU Texas' [Guide to Pronouns](#) and [pronouns.org](#).

Mental Health

We all experience stressful and difficult events as a normal part of life. As your instructor, I believe your mental health is an important part of your academic success. Success in this course depends heavily on your personal health and well-being. You should recognize that stress is an expected part of the college experience, and it often can be compounded by unexpected setbacks or life changes outside the classroom. I strongly encourage you to reframe challenges as unavoidable pathways to success. Reflect on your role in taking care of yourself throughout the term before the demands of exams and projects reach their peak. Please feel free to reach out to me about any difficulty you may be having that may affect your performance in this course as soon as it occurs and before it becomes unmanageable. In addition to your academic advisor and me, I strongly encourage you to contact the many other support services on campus that stand ready to assist you.

- Counseling Center – call 940-397-4618 to schedule an appointment
- [BetterMynd](#)- free virtual counseling for students looking for evening appointments
- A list of self-help [apps](#)
- More online [resources](#)

More [mental health resources](#)

Methodology/Teaching Strategies:

Independent reading assignments, discussion boards, and writing assignments.

Activities and Assignments:

This course is one that was constructed so that the material builds upon itself to result in a final paper and application of learning. It is not recommended to work ahead. See the

Course Schedule in this syllabus, as well as the course calendar in D2L, for specific information about activities and due dates.

If students have technical difficulties, they should use the “Help” link on D2L, contact the MSU Information Systems Support Staff, and send an email to the professor explaining what happened **at the time of the incident**.

Syllabus & Course Resources

Students should begin the course by viewing the Syllabus, Cautionary Notes, and How to Check and Use Feedback in this Course, followed by completing the required Introductions discussion board. **Note: Replies are NOT required for this discussion.**

Also, in this module, you will find PowerPoint presentations covering various course topics. It is HIGHLY recommended that students review all of these documents as they progress through the course.

Module 1 – APA (Discussion Board & Dropbox Assignments)

Within the APA Module, students will find the Research Question Approval section as well as the Title & Reference Page section. In the Research Question Approval section, first read the Formulating a Research Question document, then access the Research Question Approval form. Upload the completed form to the dropbox by the assignment due date. Due dates are available in the course calendar. **The topic, question, and references provided in this document must be related to healthcare, and will be the basis for the title and reference page, body of paper, and final paper assignments.**

In the Title & Reference Page section, review the sample title page and sample reference list, and the Title & Reference Page instructions. Upload the completed title & reference pages to the dropbox by the assignment due date. Due dates are available in the course calendar.

Finally, there is an APA discussion board that must be completed. Remember, each student is required to post **one** meaningful response to the question, as well as **two** responses to other students for **each topic**. The discussion boards will not open and classmates’ posts will not be visible until you have created your original post. This is an open discussion, but you must keep in mind proper discussion board etiquette. Original posts are due 72 hours before the deadline for replies. Due dates are available in the course calendar.

Module 2 – Plagiarism & Synthesizing (Discussion Board & Dropbox Assignment)

The Plagiarism & Synthesizing Module is separated into two sections. Within the Plagiarism section, students should begin by accessing the Avoiding Plagiarism document and follow instructions to review the Harvard Guide to Using Sources. After reviewing that document, students should review the Plagiarism Evaluation Assignment

instructions and upload the completed document to the dropbox by the assignment due date. Due dates are available in the course calendar.

There is also a Plagiarism & Ethics discussion board that must be completed. Remember, each student is required to post **one** meaningful response to the question, as well as **two** responses to other students for **each topic**. The discussion boards will not open and classmates' posts will not be visible until you have created your original post. This is an open discussion, but you must keep in mind proper discussion board etiquette. Original posts are due 72 hours before the deadline for replies. Due dates are available in the course calendar.

In the Synthesizing section, students must review the Synthesizing notes and Synthesis Defined document. These will be helpful for the Module 4 assignment. There are also additional resources about synthesizing in the Syllabus & Course Resources Module.

Module 3 – Types of Research (Dropbox Assignment)

Within the Types of Research Module, students will review the Types of Research overview, followed by the Types of Research Assignment instructions. There are additional resources available in the Course Resources module if needed. Upload the completed assignment to the dropbox by the assignment due date. Due dates are available in the course calendar.

Module 4 – Body of Paper (Dropbox Assignment)

Within the Body of the Paper Module, students will find the Body of Paper notes, Body of Paper instructions, and information on where to find a sample student paper. All of these documents should be reviewed before beginning the assignment. Upload the completed document to the dropbox by the assignment due date. Due dates are available in the course calendar.

Feedback for this assignment, as well as the title & reference page assignment will be provided by the instructor and **MUST** be reviewed and corrected to complete the final paper assignment in Module 5. Feedback may be included in the D2L gradebook as well as within the review comments in the Word document itself. Failure to incorporate the feedback provided will significantly impact the grade of the final paper assignment.

Module 5 - Final Paper (Dropbox Assignment)

Students should begin by reading the instructions for the final paper. This assignment should be very straightforward. Students should review all feedback provided by the instructor on the research question approval, title and reference page, and body of the paper assignments and correct all mistakes. This will require you to open the previous assignments, review the feedback/comments provided by the professor, and make the requested revisions. This may require some restructuring of the paper, changes in references, etc. The final paper should be free from all previously indicated errors, and substantial effort to improve the previous draft should be obvious to the instructor.

Upload the final document to the dropbox by the assignment due date. Due dates are available in the course calendar.

Evaluation Method:

- Discussion Boards 10%
- Research Question Form 10%
- Title & Reference Page 10%
- Plagiarism Evaluation 10%
- Types of Research Essay 15%
- Body of the Paper 30%
- Final Paper 15%

Grading Scale:

All programs consider a grade of 70 a 'C' for this class

Grade	Range
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	59 or less

The last opportunity to drop this course with a “W” is 4:00 pm October 30, 2023.

In an emergency or extenuating circumstance, a student may request a grade of “Incomplete” in a course before grades are submitted. Please refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin for details about receiving a grade of “Incomplete” in a course.

If the instructor grants the “Incomplete,” the student has until thirty (30) days after the beginning of the next long semester to complete the course requirements. If the student does not complete the course requirements within the deadline, the grade of “Incomplete” will automatically convert into a grade of “F.”

Disability Support Services:

Midwestern State University is committed to providing equal access for qualified students with disabilities to all university courses and programs, and by law all students with disabilities are guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodation of their disability. This guarantee is provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The ADA reads: “No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subject to discrimination by any such entity.” The Director of Disability Support Services serves as the ADA Coordinator and may be contacted at (940) 397.4140, TDD (940) 397.4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center 168.

Conduct/Honesty/Honor System:

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

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available, including Internet sites, handouts, other textbooks & journals, faculty, and peers. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive to lifelong learning.

Specific components of this course are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually and are NOT to be shared. These components include the written assignment submitted for a grade. Submitting someone else's work as your own or improperly cited work constitutes plagiarism. Please see the Midwestern State University Catalog for further discussion of plagiarism. Plagiarism will constitute an F for the course and the student will be referred to administration for further action. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they abided by this rule.

Quizzes and exams are not to be copied in any form or shared in any form. Students caught engaging in such activity will receive an F for the course and be referred to University administration for dismissal.

Cheating includes but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or completing other assignments; or (3) the acquisition of tests or other academic materials belonging to the university faculty or staff without permission.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to: the use of, by paraphrase or direct quotation without correct citation in the text and on the reference list, the published or unpublished works of another person. Students may not submit papers and assignments that they have previously submitted for this or other courses. The use of materials generated by artificial intelligence or agencies engaged in "selling" papers is also plagiarism. Students are encouraged to review the tutorials and suggested websites for more information about plagiarism.

Use of Artificial Writing Generators

The use of any artificial writing generator (ex: Chat GPT) is strictly prohibited. The use of artificial writing generators can and will be deemed a violation of the university's honor system. Any or all parts of a written assignment identified as having elements of writing attributed to an artificial writing source will automatically receive a zero (0) for a grade. ***Students will not be allowed to make up those assignments.*** This program

uses software that detects AI generators. For more policy information regarding cheating and plagiarism, see the Honor System section in this syllabus.

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 shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the students' work to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

Campus Carry:

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Active Shooter:

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [Safety / Emergency Procedures](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "*Run. Hide. Fight.*" which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: "[Run. Hide. Fight.](#)"

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. Director of Interdisciplinary Education – Dr. Randy Case (940-397-4653)
2. The Chair of the student's major program
 - Nursing Department Chair – Dr. Robin Lockhart (940-397-4614)
 - Radiology Department Chair – Dr. Beth Vealé (940-397-4611)
 - Respiratory Department Chair – Dr. Jennifer Anderson (940-397-4656)
3. College Dean – Dr. Jeff Killion (940-397-4594)
4. Dean of Students – Matthew Park (940-397-7500)

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Activity <i>All assignments are due by 11:59pm CST on the indicated due date</i>
Monday, August 28	Classes begin
Monday, September 4	Introductions Discussion Board
Monday, September 11	Research Question Approval Form
Friday, September 22	APA Discussion Original Posts
Monday, September 25	Title & Reference Page Assignment APA Discussion Replies
Friday, September 29	Plagiarism & Ethics Discussion Original Posts
Monday, October 2	Plagiarism & Ethics Discussion Replies
Monday, October 9	Plagiarism Evaluation Assignment
Monday, October 23	Types of Research Assignment
Monday, November 6	Body of the Paper Assignment
Monday, December 4	Final Paper Assignment