Course Syllabus: Research
NURS 3503 / RADS 3503 / RESP 4423
Fall 2024

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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 ability to apply research findings to professional practice issues pertaining to healthcare.

Textbook:
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 2023-2024

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 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.

Methodology/Teaching Strategies:
Independent reading assignments, discussion boards, and writing assignments.

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

Important Dates
Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" November 25th, 2024.
Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

In an emergency or extenuating circumstance, a student may request a grade of "Incomplete" in a course before grades are submitted. 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."

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. Waiting until the last minute to ask for help or reporting incidents AFTER a due date or an exam expires may result in a grade of zero, even if it was a failure of D2L.

- All work submitted to the instructor will be considered complete and final, and will be graded as such.
- All assignments must be written at the baccalaureate level and will be graded for accuracy, completeness, quality, spelling, grammar, and integrity.
- Because of the nature of the assignments, late submissions will not be accepted. *It is the expectation of the faculty that you complete work on time.*
- Rubrics are available for all written assignments and can (and should) be viewed by the students prior to submitting any work.

Discussion Boards:
There are required discussion boards and social discussion boards for this course.

In the social discussion boards, there is a Coffee Shop discussion board for chatting with your classmates. This board is not mandatory and will not be graded; however, you must keep in mind proper discussion board etiquette.

In the required discussion boards, there are three topics provided: Introductions, APA, and Plagiarism & Ethics. 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 you will not be able to see anyone else's posts until

you have created your original post. This is an open discussion; but you must keep in mind proper discussion board etiquette.

Students must post original posts to the discussion board 72 hours before the deadline for replies. This ensures all students have equal opportunity to engage in discussion and read everyone's post. It is also the students' responsibility to facilitate discussion within their own post if classmates have questions or comments. If students wait until the deadline to complete original posts, or fail to facilitate discussion, it is not fair to peers and defeats the purpose of the discussion. Failing to adhere to these policies will result in a loss of credit for the discussion board assignment. Discussion boards are worth 10% of your total grade. Failure to complete discussion boards can negatively affect your grade.

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.

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

Smoking/Tobacco Policy
Refer to: [Smoking and Tobacco Policy](#)

Alcohol and Drug Policy
Refer to: [Alcohol and Drug Policy](#)

Conduct/Honesty/Honor System:
This course adheres to the MSU Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty, however small, creates a breach in 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 life-long learning.

The components of this course are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually and are NOT to be shared. 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 in 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.

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 agencies engaged in "selling" term papers is also plagiarism. Students are encouraged to review the tutorials and suggested websites for more information about plagiarism.

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 product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

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)
   Interim Radiology Department Chair – Dr. Lynette Watts (940-397-4833)
   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)

Course Modules:

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 straight forward. 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.

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Activity *All assignments are due by 11:59pm CST on the indicated due date*
Monday, August 26	Classes begin
Monday, September 2	Introductions Discussion Board
Monday, September 16	Research Question Approval Form
Friday, September 20	APA Discussion Original Posts
Monday, September 23	Title & Reference Page Assignment APA Discussion Replies
Friday, September 27	Plagiarism & Ethics Discussion Original Posts
Monday, September 30	Plagiarism & Ethics Discussion Replies
Monday, October 7	Plagiarism Evaluation Assignment
Monday, October 21	Types of Research Assignment
Monday, November 11	Body of the Paper Assignment
Monday, December 2	Final Paper Assignment