**University of West Georgia**

**School of Nursing**

**NURS 6989 – Evidence-Based Project**

**Fall 2012**

**Description:** This scholarly project provides an opportunity for students to address problems

in health systems leadership or nursing education using evidence-based

approaches.

**Pre-requisite:** NURS 6400 Scholarly Inquiry in Nursing

**Credit:** VariableCredit (1 credit Fall 2012)

**Faculty:** Mary Bishop DNP RN NEA BC FACHE

Assistant Professor of Nursing

678-839-6552 (School of Nursing Main Office)

678-839-6553 (Fax)

561-324-9500 (cell)

[mbishop@westga.edu](mailto:mbishop@westga.edu) or use Course Den mail

**Office Hours:** Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Tuesday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Other hours by appointment

Virtual office hours Thursday 4 p.m. -8 p.m.

or other times by appointment

Email: Monday through Thursday – generally you will receive a response within 24 hours

**Learning Goals:** (Program objectives are noted in parentheses after each learning goal)

1. Utilize theoretical models in the management of health systems and the implementation of educational curricula and teaching strategies. (1)
2. Apply critical thinking skills in implementing changes in health systems or nursing education. (2,3,4,5)
3. Utilize a collaborative approach to improve nursing education, the quality of professional nursing practice, and the health care system. (7)
4. Develop evidence-based approaches to address problems in health systems or nursing education. (2,4)
5. Complete a scholarly investigation culminating in a presentation and/or publication. (2,4,8)
6. Apply new ideas to improve health systems or nursing education. (4,5,6,9,10)

**Textbook:** Graduate level nursing research textbook

APA Manual (6th edition)

**Learning Activities:**

This course provides students the opportunity to continue work on a scholarly project that was begun in NURS 6400.

**CITI Training** - Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) – All students will need to provide evidence of having completed the required CITI modules in order to participate in research projects (UWG Statement follows)

Students working on a research project involving human subjects for a Dissertation, Thesis, etc. require IRB approval. Students, as the PI for the project, must complete both the Human Subjects Research Basic Content Course (for Biomedical Research or Social & Behavioral Research Investigators, depending on the research content area) ***and*** the relevant Responsible Conduct of Research course <http://www.westga.edu/orsp/index_17322.php>

Students will work in small groups to complete the scholarly project. The scholarly project results in an evidence-based poster and paper. Types of projects include but are not limited to the following (as described in the *MSN Handbook*)

Development of an innovative clinical/teaching program

Evaluation of a clinical/teaching program

Participation with a faculty member on a research project resulting in a scholarly paper

suitable for publication

Development of evidence-based systematic review of literature in specific area

Development of an evidence-based clinical protocol

Development of a detailed teaching project

*During this semester group learning activities will include:*

* + Project proposal/description
  + Project management planning, reporting and evaluation
  + Presentation of proposal to appropriate committee/group for approval
  + Preparation and submission of IRB proposal as needed
  + Collaboration within group and with course faculty or other researchers on various aspects of project implementation (activities vary according to type of project)
  + Abstract submission to a regional or national professional conference – preferably one held in spring semester (e.g. SNRS, GANE, STTI, CNL Summit, etc.)
  + Selection of professional journal for manuscript
  + Preliminary layout for a professional poster – to be completed in subsequent semester

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Course grades (A, B, C or F) will be assigned based on the following:

Project Proposal 20 %

Project Management Plan and Reporting 30 %

Abstract prepared for a Professional Conference 20 %

Preliminary Poster Layout 30 %

**Grading System**:

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 75-79

F Below 75

**Format for the Course:**

This course will consist of some face to face class meetings for all students, consultations with faculty, and sustained group work to plan and prepare project assignments, online communication and submission of assignments.

***Cohesive group effort is essential to successfully accomplish the learning goals for this course.*** Members are accountable to each other and each group will develop a project management plan with clear statements of “Shared Expectations” during the first week of the semester.

Because student projects will vary in type, regular and frequent communication within the group and with faculty is essential for meeting course expectations and keeping on track with project completion. Group communication may occur face to face, or through electronic format (asynchronous messages or discussions; or, synchronous text chats or audio chats in WIMBA live classroom; or other methods). Consultations with faculty should be scheduled throughout the semester as needed by the group, also using in-person or electronic methods to communicate.

**Technical Requirements and Online Learning Expectations:**

1. This course will be conducted within Course Den. Students should seek assistance from university resources listed below as needed to increase ease of use of Course Den.

Where and how to receive help with Course Den or any other technical problems [http://www.westga.edu/~distance/webct1/help/](http://www.westga.edu/%7Edistance/webct1/help/)

The Course Den server goes down for mandatory maintenance; see dates here

<http://www.usg.edu/gaview/support/maint-schedule>

Typically, the servers are down from 10pm Fri night until 7am on Saturday.

Link to UWG Online Connection website (includes link to Orientation, basic software/hardware requirements, Online Student Guide, and all student services) - [http://www.westga.edu/~online/](http://www.westga.edu/%7Eonline/)

1. The software and settings for use of Course Den may be found at

<http://www.westga.edu/~distance/webct1/help/techrequirements.html>.

Students are expected to complete the browser check and download the necessary

software on their computers in order to use Course Den most effectively.

1. Efficient internet connectivity will be essential for efficiency in the online environment and is the student’s responsibility. For this course “*dial-up” is not recommended*. The following site describes various options: <http://www.westga.edu/its/index_5243.php>
2. At a minimum, students should be familiar with the use of Microsoft word and power point products. A 2010 version of the Microsoft software is recommended. Word processed assignments must be prepared in Microsoft “word” (not “works”), or submitted in rich text format (.rtf).
3. Students should be able to participate fully in the use of email and threaded discussions, including the ability to attach files to each of these.
4. Online synchronous sessions may be scheduled at mutually convenient dates and times. *These sessions may be conducted using both audio and video format. For audio format students will need either a headset and microphone or a telephone connection with a speaker phone. Use of video format will require use of a web camera.*
5. All assignments are to be submitted in the “Assignment” section within the Course Den site. Assignments will be returned in the same manner.
6. Threaded discussions are to be conducted in the designated Discussion site, identified by topic.
7. Students are expected to check and use Course Den for course related communications, and to submit all assignments. Access to Course Den, as well as the fax number and e-mail address on this syllabus should eliminate the likelihood of late assignments.
8. The UWG Library Distance Learning services are located in the menu at [http://www.westga.edu/~library/](http://www.westga.edu/%7Elibrary/)

For technical assistance, please contact one of the following:

* For problems getting online
  + The University of West Georgia Informational Technology Services <http://www.westga.edu/its/>
  + 678-839-6587 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday, or [servicedesk@westga.edu](mailto:servicedesk@westga.edu)
* For problems accessing or using Course Den
  + The University of West Georgia (UWG) Distance Education (CourseDen) helpline at 678-839-6248 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday or [distance@westga.edu](mailto:distance@westga.edu)
* For 24/7 assistance with Course Den/GeorgiaVIEW Vista
  + Online Support Center (OSC) for the University System of Georgia at 866-588-5293 (speak to a representative)
  + Self help resources at <http://help8.view.usg.edu/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8075>
* The Blackboard/CourseDen company toll-free 24-hour support line at 1-877-855-3238

**School of Nursing Policies**

1. Students are expected to access the School of Nursing MSN Handbook and are responsible for the information and polices in it.
2. The School of Nursing *Grapevine* is located in the course list on Course Den after logging in. This site is used for general student information and messages from the SON administrative staff. It should be checked frequently since it provides timely announcements for all nursing students. The *Grapevine* is not to be used for course related communication with faculty.

3. The SON adheres to the university policy that all electronic communication between the

faculty and students must take place only through the campus e-mail network, utilizing

MyUWG or WebVista.

**Americans with Disabilities Act Statement**

If you are a student who is disabled as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act and requires assistance or support services, please seek assistance through the Center for Disability Services. A CDWS counselor will coordinate those services.

See <http://www.westga.edu/~dserve/> for more information.

# Academic Integrity

 The academic dishonesty policies of this course are the same as those found in the *University of West Georgia Connection* and *MSN Student Handbook, 2010-2011.* Evidence of student cheating, fabrication, or plagiarism, as defined in these policies, (including copying of reference materials directly into class projects or papers without proper citations) will result in failure of the course.

**SACS Compliance Statement regarding Online Course**

This course will be delivered approximately 95% online. This requires the online equivalent of 712.5 minutes of instruction (seat-time) and an additional 1425 minutes of supporting activities.  
  
As such, you will be required to complete the following online activities during this course:  
  
Activity                                        Instructional Equivalent

Project Proposal 20 % (425 minutes)

Project Management Plan, Reporting, Evaluation 30 % (640 minutes)

Abstract prepared for a Professional Conference 20 % (425 minutes)

Preliminary Poster Layout 30 % (640 minutes)

Additionally, it is anticipated that, at a minimum, students will need to work independently in groups for twice the number minutes listed above to complete the online activities and course requirements.

*Updated August 2012*