**UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA**

**SCHOOL OF NURSING**

**NURS 6400**

**Scholarly Inquiry in Nursing**

**Spring 2012**

**Credit**: 3-0-3

**Prerequisites**: NURS 6000 and 6100

**Faculty**: Lucy Megginson, PhD, RN

Assistant Professor

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Cell Phone: 706.766.8435; if you send a text, please identify yourself

**Office Hours**: Office Hours:

*Virtual:* Tuesdays 9am-1pm; by appointment; email or call

*Carrollton*: Mondays 9am-1pm; by appointment

Wednesdays 10-1pm; by appointment

**Course Description**: A course designed to prepare advanced practice nurses with the skills and knowledge needed to use nursing research to provide high quality nursing care, initiate change, and promote evidence-based practice.

**Learning Goals**:

1. Identify the role of the advanced practice nurse related to evidence-based practice. (4)

2. Identify significant nursing problems related to education and leadership and use evidence-based research to solve the problems. (5,6)

3. Evaluate outcomes of nursing interventions using new knowledge obtained from nursing research. (4)

4. Utilize information systems for the storage, retrieval and analysis of data. (1)

5. Critically appraise original research for practice implications in the context of evidence-based practice. (1,2,4)

6. Critically appraise clinical practice guidelines from various sources. (2, 4)

7. Assume the role of change agent to facilitate evidence-based practice changes and engage in practice that reflects caring and holism. (5,9,10)

8. Participate in the translation of evidence-based summaries and clinical practice guidelines into clinical innovations. (4,8)

**Course Content**:

Evidence based practice in nursing and healthcare

Evidence-based nursing research and its relationship to the role of advanced practice nursing

Using new knowledge to improve practice

The mechanics of research: databases, information systems

Evidence-based nursing research process

Developing a proposal for scholarly investigation

Critical appraisal of evidence-based guidelines and systematic reviews of research

**Required Textbooks**:

Polit, D.F. & Beck, C.T. (2012). *Nursing Research: Generating and Assessing Evidence for Nursing Practice* (9thed).Philadelphia: Lippincott.

Polit, D.F. & Beck, C.T. (2012). *Resource Manual To Accompany* *Nursing Research: Generating and Assessing Evidence for Nursing Practice* (9thed). Philadelphia: Lippincott.

APA Manual latest edition

**Computer requirements:**

Students are encouraged to access the University of West Georgia Course Den at <http://webct.westga.edu/>.  Support and WebCT questions can be answered through this site. For technical assistance, please contact, see the following web site: <http://www.westga.edu/~distance/webct1/help/techrequirements.html>

* The University of West Georgia (UWG) Distance Education helpline from 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday 678-839-6248
* After Hours CourseDen help 866-588-5293.

**Web Sites:**

Registered Nurses Association of Ontario has clinical practice guidelines

[www.rnao.org](http://www.rnao.org/)

Agree Instrument

<http://www.agreecollaboration.org/>

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

<http://www.ahrq.gov/>

Cochrane Collaboration

[http://www.cochrane.org](http://www.cochrane.org/)

National Guideline Clearinghouse

<http://www.guideline.gov/>

National Quality Measures Clearinghouse

<http://www.qualitymeasures.ahrq.gov/>

ACE Star Model

[www.acestar.uthscsa.edu](http://www.acestar.uthscsa.edu/)

Critical Appraisal Skills Program

<http://www.phru.nhs.uk/casp/casp.htm>

Critical Appraisal of Guidelines

<http://www.nzgg.org.nz/download/files/agree.pdf>

**Learning Activities**:

Wimba classroom discussion and exercises

Development of a proposal for scholarly investigation

Multimedia presentation and exercises, including use of appropriate computer technology related

to identification, retrieval, and analysis of appropriate data.

Formal and informal learning exercises

Critique of evidence-based guidelines

**Smarthinking**

**http://www.smarthinking.com/**

**Drop Box Assignments:**

**P**repare your assignment using Microsoft Word. Name your assignment with the following convention: last name first initial, assignment title (ex. LastF\_Assignmenttitle). Your paper will be returned to you if you do not have name and assignment clearly identified.

**Participation Expectations and Synchronous Wimba Class Discussions:**

Each Student is required to attend all synchronous classes. Points will be deducted for each absence.

Each participant is responsible for participating in the asynchronous discussions of each assignment. This participation will include being prepared for discussions by reading assigned materials and completing assignments.

Quality of answers is as important as quantity. A participant's comments should add to the discussion. Comments should be supported as required with references cited appropriately.

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Grading Scale: A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 75-79

F = less than 75

Examinations (2 @ 15% each) 30%

Participation in discussion and attendance in F2F and synchronous wimba 15%

Completion of learning assignments 15%

Literature Review 40% **A grade of 70 or better is required** on this paper to pass the course.

This paper MUST be submitted **to smarthinking** prior to submitting to the professor.

**Academic Honesty**:

The academic dishonesty policy of this course is the same as that of the University of West Georgia and is found in the *Connection and Student Handbook*. Evidence of student cheating, fabrication, or plagiarism will result in failure in this course

**Official Communication Statement**

It is University policy that all electronic communication between the faculty and students must take place only through the campus e-mail network. Students at UWG are required to have ready access to computers for their course work and will be expected to use CourseDen as directed by the faculty. Information about needed computer specifications is found at <http://www.westga.edu/~techlife>

N6400/syllabus/ljw

Spring/2012

Revised 1.9.12

**University of West Georgia**

**School of Nursing**

*NURS 6400 Literature Review Grading Sheet*

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| --- | --- |
| **PURPOSE OR SPECIFIC AIMS OF PAPER**  **(5 points)** |  |
| **BACKGROUND (5 points)**   * Paint a broad picture of rationale for undertaking this project * Include any data available to support the need for the project * Describe the practice/policy/procedure and outcomes/implications |  |
| **THE QUESTION (5 points)**   * Pose an answerable question |  |
| **Identify variables (5 points)**   * Independent and Dependent |  |
| **THE SEARCH (5 points)**   * Describe the search strategy * Discuss how potential, relevant research reports were identified * How many studies were included in the appraisal of the evidence |  |
| **REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE/REVIEW OF**  **RESEARCH (50 points)**   * Current literature used (within 5 year period) * Peer reviewed research articles included * Primary resources used * Similar findings grouped together indicating a synthesis of the findings * Research studies support the purpose and problem statement thereby supporting logical flow and sequence of review * Studies reported in enough detail (purpose of study, sample and sample size, specific findings) |  |
| **SUMMARY OF LITERATURE/STATE OF THE SCIENCE (5 points)**  **(**couple of paragraphs summarizing the review) |  |
| **WRITING STYLE AND APA (20 points)**   * Correct punctuation * Appropriate sentence structure * Logical organization * Content appropriate for heading used * Editing, proofing evident * Correct form of in-text citations * Reference list format correct * In text references match those on reference list * APA format used throughout paper |  |

**Literature reviews** should be approximately 10 pages

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