



**Fall 2020**  
**NURS 4329**  
**Evidence-Based Decision Making**

**The Faculty**

***Karen Walker, PhD, RN, MBA***

Office: BRB 2145

Phone: (903) 565-5649

Email: [kday@uttyler.edu](mailto:kday@uttyler.edu)

Office Hours: Virtual/ By Appointment

*\*preferred method of contact Canvas email*

***Katherine Strout, PhD, RN***

Office: (Longview) LUC 225

Phone: (903) 663-8105

Email: [KStrout@uttyler.edu](mailto:KStrout@uttyler.edu)

Office Hours: Virtual/ By Appointment

*\*preferred method of contact Canvas email*

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## Course Title: NURS 4329 Evidence-Based Decision Making

### Course Description

This course introduces evidence-based decision making for the purpose of providing best care to healthcare consumers. The EBP Process is introduced, of which critical appraisal of selected research designs and methods are focused on to gain knowledge and skills in establishing best practices for nursing. Ethical considerations for the implementation of evidence into practice, including addressing human subjects in the conduct of research are integrated throughout the course.

### Prerequisites

Successful completion of NURS 3313, NURS 3615, and NURS 3617. Special permission required by the School of Nursing to take out of sequence.

### Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. **Professionalism:** Demonstrate and apply professional and ethical behavior.
2. **Patient-Centered Care:** Differentiate an individualized plan of care for patients who are acutely ill and for patients of special populations.
3. **Evidenced-Based Practice (EBP):** Synthesize and apply evidence to evaluate and improve patient outcomes.
4. **Informatics & Technology:** Apply informatics and technology in new environments
5. **Quality Improvement:** Critique the effectiveness of quality improvement using a systematic data-guided approach.
6. **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Appraise the effectiveness of teamwork and mutual respect with different communication styles.
7. **Wellness and Prevention:** Critique health, wellness, and prevention programs and their impact on a variety of communities and populations.
8. **Leadership:** Differentiate between leadership styles and how each impact professional practice.
9. **Safety:** Appraise safety and quality measures Implemented in the work environment.
10. **Strengths:** Analyze how strengths (signature talent themes) influence the role of the student nurse and clinical decision-making.

## Textbook Information, Other Readings and Materials

### The required textbooks and course materials are:

Melnik, B. M. & Fineout-Overholt, E. (2019). *Evidence-based practice in nursing: A guide to best practice* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Wolters Kluwer. ISBN-13: 978-1-4963-8453-9

American Psychological Association, (2019). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7<sup>th</sup> ed). American Psychological Association. ISBN-13: 978-1-4338-3217-8

American Journal of Nursing EBP Step-by Step Series:

<http://journals.lww.com/ajnonline/Pages/collectiondetails.aspx?TopicalCollectionId=10>

Booklists and bookstore links may be accessed from the [UT Tyler](#) homepage. You may purchase your textbook from any source you wish or you can purchase it through the [UT Tyler Bookstore](#). The UT Tyler bookstore does offer competitive pricing.

## Grading Information

Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the Modules. Final grades for the course will be determined based upon the following point assignments:

- A - 90-100
- B - 80-89
- C - 75-79
- D - 60-74
- F - Below 60

Final course grades less than 75 are not rounded up.

**Late policy:** 5% may be deducted each day an assignment is past due unless prior arrangements have been made with your course faculty. Extenuating circumstances may apply.

## Course Requirements

| Criteria for Evaluation:  | Percentage of Grade: |
|---|----------------------|
| Learning Activities within Modules (Group and/or Individual work) | 20%                  |
| Assignments: EBP Drafts and Project (Group work)                  | 30%                  |
| Active Participation in Course (Individual work)                  | 10%                  |
| Quizzes (4 @ 10% ea.) (Individual work)                           | 40%                  |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100%</b>          |

### Attendance Policy

This course is online. Make-up for exams, quizzes, assignments missed is at the discretion of the instructor.

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES

### **UT Tyler Honor Code:**

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

### **Students Rights and Responsibilities**

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

### **Campus Carry**

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>

### **UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University**

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quit lines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit [www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free](http://www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free).

### **Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies**

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract. The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment

- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

### **State-Mandated Course Drop Policy**

Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

### **Disability/Accessibility Services**

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

### **Student Absence due to Religious Observance**

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

### **Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities**

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

### **Social Security and FERPA Statement**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

### **Emergency Exits and Evacuation**

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

### **Student Standards of Academic Conduct**

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

- i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
  - copying from another student's test paper;
  - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
  - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
  - possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
  - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
  - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
  - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
  - divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
  - substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
  - paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;
  - falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
  - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
  - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- ii. "Plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the submission of it as one's own academic work offered for credit.
- iii. "Collusion" includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
- iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

### **UT Tyler Resources for Students**

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), [writingcenter@uttyler.edu](mailto:writingcenter@uttyler.edu)
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), [tutoring@uttyler.edu](mailto:tutoring@uttyler.edu)

- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses. [UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (903.566.7254)