



RNBS 3333 Evidence-Based Decision Making

Fall 2021 – First 7 Weeks

Section 060

Instructor: Madeline Cron, MSN, RN
Mobile phone: (214) 422-9451
Email: mcron@uttyler.edu
Office/Hours: Zoom Wednesday 2-5 PM or by appointment

**preferred contact Canvas message or text*

Section 061

Instructor: Amanda Cartwright, MSN, RN
Phone: (903) 780-3935
Email: acartwright@uttyler.edu
Office/Hours: BRB 2350 Tuesday 2-5 PM or by appointment

Course Description

This course advances evidence-based decision making as it relates to the science of nursing. Findings of selected research studies are appraised and presented. Ethical considerations and methods of protection of human subjects are integrated throughout the course. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisites

Admission to the RN-BSN track. RNBS 3303 and RNBS 3312 and RNBS 3415. Special permission is required from the School of Nursing to take out of sequence.

Course Learning Objectives

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

1. Integrate valid and reliable information/evidence from the arts and sciences as the basis for evidence-based decision making across their professional nursing careers.
2. Discuss the role of the evidence-based practice process in organizational and systems decision-making to support safe, quality patient care.
3. Apply principles of evidence-based practice with diverse populations across the lifespan.
4. Use information technology to systematically retrieve evidence that addresses clinical questions.
5. Make evidence-based decisions supported by the appraisal of the scientific evidence that is combined with patient preferences and clinician expertise.
6. Discuss the ethical requirements for implementing/translating evidence in practice, including the ethics of conducting research with human subjects.

Grading Policy and Criteria

Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the Modules. Students will have course grades calculated based on the weighted calculation of exams and other required course work. The weighted calculation must be 75% or above to pass the course. Final course grades less than 75 are not rounded up. 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

Late Policy: Students are expected to adhere to due dates. Late submissions will be penalized at 5% per day unless prior arrangements have been made with your course faculty. Extenuating circumstances may apply.

| <i>Criteria for Evaluation:</i> | <i>Percentage of Grade</i> |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Engagement Points</i> | 5% |
| <i>Quizzes</i> | 5% |
| <i>Discussions</i> | 10% |
| <i>Exams (3)</i> | 30% |
| <i>Learning Activities</i> | 50% |
| <i>Total</i> | 100% |

Repeating a Course

Students repeating this course may not use previously submitted assignments nor utilize the same patients for an assignment. Submitting the same or slightly modified assignments from previous semesters is considered self-plagiarism and is subject to academic discipline, including failing the assignment or the course.

Important Course Dates

Classes Begin: August 23, 2021

Census Date (withdraw without penalty): August 27, 2021

Mid-Term Exam: N/A

Last Date to Withdraw: September 23, 2021

Final Exam Date: October 8, 2021

Classes End: October 9, 2021

Note: The complete course schedule is available in the course site on Canvas.

Attendance and Make-up Policy

Both online attendance and participation is expected. Make-up for missed exams, quizzes, assignments, and discussions is at the discretion of the instructor.

Students are expected to make arrangements for online access to the course while traveling. Since this is an online course, lack of internet access during the travel and other issues which may occur as part of the traveling experience will NOT be considered an acceptable excuse for lack of timely participation in course activities.

Required Textbooks/Materials

This is an online course and content is delivered through the Canvas learning platform, including recorded lectures. Access to Canvas by means of a laptop or desktop computer is necessary. Additionally, some assignments and class meetings may require use of video and audio technology, which are built into most smartphones, laptops, and desktop computers. The required textbook may be purchased as a hard copy or digital version.

1. Melnyk, B. & Fineout-Overholt, E. (2019). Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing and Healthcare: A Guide to Best Practice, 4th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Wolters Kluwer. ISBN-13: 978-1496384539
2. American Journal of Nursing series: EBP Step-by Step Series. *Articles are provided as pdf documents within the modules with related assignments.*
journals.lww.com/ajnonline/Pages/collectiondetails.aspx?TopicalCollectionId=10
3. Purdue Owl for information regarding American Psychological Association (APA) 7th edition requirements for formatting, grammar, and punctuation.
owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html

University Policies and Additional Information (updated 8/2020)

<https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/documents/2020-21-son-student-guide-8.16.20.pdf>

The following course policies may be found at the website posted above: Absence for religious observance, absence for university-supported trips, services to students with disabilities, grade replacement, state-mandated course drop policy, and Social Security and privacy.

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: <https://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Photo/Video/Audio/Chat Release Statement

Students may be expected to participate in photo, video, and/or audio interactions as part of learning or assignment completion in their courses. Through your participation, you are permitting UT Tyler to use such videos, audio, and images for advertising or marketing promotions (print/electronic/outdoor advertising, faculty presentations, and publications). Students are responsible to notify the School of Nursing Administrative Assistant if they do not consent to this policy.

Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Most course recordings are not shared outside of the course. However, occasionally videos are shared with other students/faculty at UT Tyler outside the course. This includes video, audio, and chat discussions within the recorded session. Students are responsible to notify the course faculty if they do not consent to this policy.

All prints, slides, video, audio, chats, and digital images belong to UT Tyler solely and completely.

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.

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 <https://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/>

UT Tyler is a Tobacco-Free University

Any form of tobacco is 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, quitlines, and group support.

For more information on cessation programs please visit:

<https://www.uttyler.edu/human-resources/wellness/tobacco-cessation/?r=/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 <https://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

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 to receive assistance. 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 <https://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 while on campus. Follow posted or stated directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, notify a university official. 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 can 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, or 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 un-administered 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 un-administered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an un-administered 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" is the verbatim, near-verbatim, or summarization of someone else's words or ideas without proper referencing. Plagiarism also includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation of, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another person's work and submitting it as one's own academic work offered for credit. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.
- 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.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- [UT Tyler Writing Center](#) (903) 565-5995, writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- [UT Tyler Tutoring Center](#) (903) 565-5964, 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