Philosophy of Science

NURS 6310.060
Fall 2022

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

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Office Hours: Virtual Office Hours: Mondays 6-9 pm

Course Description: The origins and development of philosophy and science are explored. Includes analysis of current state of the science, ways of knowing, models of knowledge generation, criteria for causation, and argumentation.

Prerequisite: NURS 6341

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:
1. Analyze the bases and applicability of prominent philosopher's and their thinking to modern-day nursing.
2. Compare and contrast world philosophies as advisory to scientific evolution of nursing.
3. Relate the contributions of philosophy to scientific advancements and to global scientific reasoning.
4. Analyze the nature and activity of science and demonstrate application to the generation of nursing science.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

Abbot, E. Flatland, first published in 1914, reissued at intervals, best copy is one with forward by Isaac Asimov, (1984). The book is in the public domain and is available on the Internet. Also available in most public libraries and in used books stores. *copies are available free of charge also (depends on format) Audio versions are also available on YouTube.

American Psychological Association (APA) Publication manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition. Washington D.C.: Author.

Assignments and Weights/Point Values:

Criteria for Evaluation:	Percentage of Grade:
Module 1: Conversing with Socrates	25%
Worldview Paper	5%
Part 1 and 2 Flatland Paper	10%
Module 2: Philosophical Argument Paper	25%
Argument, Logic Persuasion Discussion	5%
Module 3: Philosophical Traditions, Epistemology, and Ontology Synthesis Paper	20%
Total	100%

Grading Scale:

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 - 70-79
D - 60-69
F - Below 60

Grades will not be rounded when calculating the average (79.5 is not rounded to 80 and 89.5 is not rounded to 90). Students are expected to achieve an average of 80% (B) to successfully complete the course. Late policy: *Permission for late assignments must be obtained prior to due dates. If no permission is granted, late submissions will incur a 5 point per day deduction. Extenuating circumstance may apply.*

Exam and homework materials, questions, and problems are the intellectual property of faculty, UT Tyler, or publishers.
- These materials may not be distributed without permission.
- Distributing them or uploading them to online resources destroys the integrity of the assignment and the course, allowing others an unfair advantage by letting them view

the materials.
- Uploading these materials to online resources is a violation of UT Tyler's academic misconduct policies and may result in formal conduct charges.
- Sanctions for uploading or otherwise divulging the contents of these materials can include:
  - a reduced or failing grade on an assignment
  - a reduced or failing grade for the course
  - removal from the Nursing program
  - removal from UT Tyler

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

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.

Attendance and Make-up Policy: Attendance / participation is expected. Make-up for exams, quizzes, assignments, clinical time missed is at the discretion of the instructor.

Graded Course Requirements Information: **Introduction.** *World View Paper* Thinking about your philosophical approach to your nursing practice and your envisioned future, you will complete a template with statements of your worldview of nursing. You will discuss the evolution of your worldview and how it advises your approach to nursing. You will predict the stability of this worldview about your future.

> **Module 1.** *Conversing with Socrates*. For five weeks we will engage in a discussion of different topics from the viewpoint of the philosophers over the centuries. Socrates will post a weekly question that you will answer from the viewpoint of one of the philosophers from the school of thought we are investigating that week. You may choose any philosopher if he (or she) is at the same time and school of thought for that week. You are to post comments on FOUR of the five weeks. Guidelines for postings and grading criteria are available in Assignments on Canvas.

> **Module 2.** *Philosophical Argument Paper.* You will select and address an issue in nursing which has two or more viewpoints. You will use the Toulmin Argument Model to develop this paper. See Instructions/Grading Criteria for more information about format, preparation, and expectations.

> **Module 3.** *Philosophical Traditions, Epistemology, and Ontology Synthesis Paper.* You will select an integrative review that reflects your nursing problem of interest, critique it according to established guidelines, and relate how that review reflects patterns of knowing, ontological perspectives and philosophical traditions that influenced the discipline of nursing.

Discussion Board - Part of your grade will come from your preparation and commitment to the philosophical maturation of your fellow students supported by relevant reading to support your logical, meaningful, and probing analysis on the discussions and responses to the discussion board. You will use integration of materials from a variety of sources, synthesis of materials, and documentation of your strong points to contribute to a scholarly learning environment in the cyber classroom. Promptness of comments and postings will contribute to this grade.

Participation Expectations and Discussion Assignments

Refer to the Grading Rubric posted in the Assignment section in Canvas. Each participant is responsible for participating in the asynchronous discussions of each MODULE. This participation will include posting answers to questions posed by the instructor and replying to other participants' postings.

- A five-week discussion board assignment will occur in Module 1. Discussion postings and response comments should be made in a timely manner. Deadlines are listed in the Course Schedule but posting earlier will give your student colleagues and Socrates a chance to engage in some dialogue of your thoughts.
- Participants should plan on entering the Discussion Board area at least three times a week to read and comment on any postings.
- Quality of comments and responses is as important as quantity. A participant's comments should add to the discussion. Comments should be supported as required with references cited appropriately. The instructor and/or participants may use synchronous chats as the need arises.

NOTE: When posting to any discussion area, please type your comments directly into the discussion. Do not type your comments into a document and then attach it to the discussion-this method is difficult for some students to access. You may type your comments into a Word document, then copy and paste it into the Discussion Board.

Written Assignments

- All written assignments are to be completed in APA format using Microsoft Word and are to be submitted in a timely manner. Deadlines are listed in the Course Calendar and on the Canvas Calendar.
- Please note that all written assignments must be submitted by midnight Central Standard Time on the due date.
- All written assignments should be submitted through the assignment links. If your web connection is down for some reason, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. Internet loss does happen, but not frequently.
- Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Please avoid the consequences of academic

dishonesty by citing all sources that you use in your work.

Assignments/Projects Turn-In Process

Submit all assignments and projects through the assignments link in Canvas. Please see the Canvas guides for instruction.

Important Course Dates:

Census Date: September 9 (deadline for all registrations and schedule changes)

Mid-Term Exam: NA

Last Date to Withdraw: November 7

https://www.uttyler.edu/registrar/registration/withdrawals.php

Final Exam Date: NA

	Module Content	Action/Assignments Due on Tuesdays at 9 pm
Introduction: Pondering Nursing Science		
8/29	Get Started!	**Course Orientation: <u>TBD;</u> Zoom link:** **Read**: syllabus, course calendar, start Flatland *Complete class introduction on DB **Due 9.6** *Complete student info template **Due 9.6**
9/6 9/5 Labor Day	Introduction to Philosophy	**Read:** continue reading Flatlands, Lecture Summary 1
9/12	Pondering	Submit World View Paper **Due 9.20** Submit Part 1 Flatland Assignment **Due 9.27** Part 2 Flatland Live Zoom Session TBA Flatland **Due 9.27**
Module 1: Historical Philosophy: Select 4 of the 5		
9/19	Discussion 1: Greek Philosophers	**Read**: Lecture Summary 2 **Due 10.4**
9/26	Discussion 2: Rationalists	**Read**: Lecture Summary 3 **Due 10.11**
10/3	Discussion 3: Empiricists	**Read**: Lecture Summary 4, 5 **Due 10.18**
10/10	Discussion 4: Logical Positivists	**Read**: Lecture Summary 6, 7 **Due 10.25**
10/17	Discussion 5: Post-Modernists	**Read**: Lecture Summary 8, 9 **Due 11.1**
Module 2: Application of Philosophy		
10/24	Logic, Argument & Persuasion Discussion Integrative review	**Read**: Lecture Summary 10 / View Wieck PPT **Read**: Whittemore, Evolution of the Methods of Philosophy in preparation for the Logical Argument paper. **View**: Purdue Owl Logical Argument Submit Discussion on Argument, Logic, Persuasion **Due 11.7** Locate an integrative review study regarding your nursing problem area in preparation for Module 3! **Due 11.7**
10/31	Develop Logical Argument	Logical Argument Paper **Due 11.15**
11/7		*11/7 LAST DROP DAY with W*
Module 3: Science as a Process and Product		

11/7 – 11-14 week	Synthesis: The nature and activity of nursing science	**Read**: Lecture summary 11, 12, 13 **Begin: Part 1 and Part 2 of Synthesis project**
	Thanksgiving Holiday **11/21 – 11/27**	
11/28	**Epistemology, Ontology, and Philosophical Traditions** **Synthesis Project**	Synthesis Project **Due 12.5: NOTE: THIS IS A MONDAY!**
12/5	**Final Reflections**	**Discussion Board** **Due 12.6**
12/9	**Fall Commencement – It will be your turn before you know it!!**	

Office hours TBD: These hours are NOT mandatory. These meetings do not require professional dress and you can jump in or jump out as needed. I will be available to answer questions and to discuss our readings. This is an informal hour that I hope turns out being a wonderful scholarly exchange.

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information:

https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/student_guide_and_policies.php

Student Resources to assist you in this course:

UT Tyler Student Accessibility and Resource (SAR) Office (provides needed accommodations to students with document needs related to access and learning)

UT Tyler Writing Center

The Mathematics Learning Center

UT Tyler PASS Tutoring Center

UT Tyler Supplemental Instruction

Robert Muntz Library (Links to an external site.) and Library Liaison

Canvas 101 (learn to use Canvas, proctoring, Unicheck, and other software)

Digital Support Toolkit (for supported courses only. Students are automatically enrolled in the toolkit for supported courses)

LIB 422 -- Computer Lab where students can take a proctored exam

The Career Success Center

UT Tyler Testing Center

Office of Research & Scholarship Design and Data Analysis Lab

Resources available to UT Tyler Students

UT Tyler Counseling Center (available to all students)

TAO Online Support Center (online self-help modules related to mental & emotional health)

Military and Veterans Success Center (support for all of our military-affiliated students)

UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry

UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships

UT Tyler Registrar's Office

Office of International Programs

Title IX Reporting

Patriots Engage (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)

University Policies and Information

Withdrawing from Class: Students, you are allowed to withdraw (drop) from this course through the University's Withdrawal Portal. Texas law prohibits students 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 other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Make sure to consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress as well as the financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and financial aid for additional guidance. CAUTION #1: Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule. CAUTION #2: All international students must check with the Office of International Programs before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms.

Final Exam Policy: Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members are required to maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

Incomplete Grade Policy: If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in lieu of a grade only when all of the following conditions are met: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all course work or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor, and (c) the student presents these reasons prior to the time that the final grade

roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average for a student.

The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to complete all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has not been assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F or NC if the course was originally taken under the CR/NC grading basis.

Grade Appeal Policy: UT Tyler's Grade Appeal policy requires the completion of a Grade Appeal form for this action to take place. The grade appeal begins with the instructor of your course. If you do not agree with the decision of the instructor, you may then move your appeal to the department chair/school director for that course. If you are still dissatisfied with the decision of the chair/director, you may move the appeal to the dean of the college offering that course, who has the final decision. Grade appeals must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date of receiving the final course grade. The grade Appeal form is found on the Registrar's Form Library.

Disability/Accessibility Services: The University of Texas at Tyler has a continuing commitment to providing reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Students with disabilities who may need accommodation(s) in order to fully participate in this class are urged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources Office (SAR) as soon as possible to explore what arrangements need to be made to ensure access. If you have a disability, you are encouraged to visit the SAR Portal (https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler/) and complete the New Student Application. For more information, please visit the SAR webpage or call 903.566.7079.

Military Affiliated Students: UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with me if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make me aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. I am willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. Campus resources for military-affiliated students are in the Military and Veterans Success Center (MVSC). The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu or via phone at 903.565.5972.

Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct: The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the

actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the [Student Conduct and Discipline policy](#) in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

FERPA: UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in [University Policy 5.2.3](#). The course instructor will follow all requirements in protecting your confidential information.

COVID Guidance: The UT Tyler community of Patriots respects the rights of others to wear a mask if they desire to do so. COVID guidelines may change as the situation warrants, and students should follow the instructions warranted by the situation.

Absence for Official University Events or Activities: This course follows the practices related to approved absences as noted by the Student Manual of Operating Procedures ([Sec. 1 -501](#)).

Absence for Religious Holidays: Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious holiday are requested to inform the instructor by the second class meeting of the semester.

Campus Carry: We respect the right and privacy of students 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.