Evidence-Based Decision Making
RNBS 3333
Fall 2022 – First 7 weeks

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online/Asynchronous

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*Best way to contact me

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.

Prerequisites: Admission to the RN-BSN track, RNBS 3303, RNBS 3312, and RNBS 3315. Special permission required from the School of Nursing to take out of sequence.

Corequisites: None

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1) **Professionalism**: Integrate valid and reliable information/evidence from the arts and sciences as the basis for evidence-based decision making across their professional nursing career.
2) **Patient-Centered Care**: Apply principles of evidence-based practice with diverse populations across the lifespan; discuss the ethical requirements for implementing/translating evidence in practice, including the ethics of conducting research with human subjects.
3) **Evidence-Based Practice (EBP)**: Make evidence-based decisions supported by the appraisal of the scientific evidence that is combined with patient preferences and clinician expertise.
4) **Informatics & Technology**: Use information technology to systematically retrieve evidence that addresses clinical questions.

5) **Quality Improvement**: Discuss the role of the evidence-based practice process in organizational and systems decision-making to support safe, quality patient care.
6) **Strengths**: Measure how strengths (signature talent themes) influence the role of the student nurse and clinical decision-making.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

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. (The articles are provided as pdf documents in the Canvas course modules.)
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

Special Course Notes:

This is an online course and content is delivered through the Canvas learning management system, 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.

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

1)	Engagement Activities (4)	5%
2)	Quizzes (4)	5%
3)	Discussions (3)	10%
4)	Exams (3)	30%
5)	Learning Activities (8)	50%

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 - 75-79
D - 60-74
F - Below 60

Final course grades less than 75% are not rounded up. The combined weighted calculation of all course assignments, quizzes, exams, and clinical activities must be at least 75% in order to pass the course.

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 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, and missed clinical time is at the instructor's discretion.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

An overview of the graded course requirements is provided below. More detailed information about each assignment will be provided in Canvas.

1. **Engagements activities:** These are short but necessary activities that contribute to the student's accomplishment of the course student learning outcomes and involvement in the online learning environment.
2. **Quizzes:** Quizzes have 10 questions or less and were designed to evaluate the students' understanding of course material on the weeks there is not a course exam.
3. **Discussions:** Three online discussion boards throughout the course provide students with the opportunity to apply and discuss their understanding of selected course content with peers and faculty.
4. **Exams:** Three exams are administered throughout the course to evaluate the student's mastery of the course material and achievement of the student learning outcomes.

5. **Learning Activities:** The learning activities were designed for students to apply their understanding of the Evidence-Based Decision Making process in the sequence in which it is taught.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

Course Schedule				
Week #	*Date*	*Class Topic*	*Readings*	*Assignments Due*
Week 1	M 8/29	Spirit of Inquiry	Canvas course orientation module Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt Ch. 1 Mod. 1 articles	
	F 9/2	*Course Census Deadline*		
Week 2	M 9/5	PICOT Questions and search for evidence	Canvas Module 2 Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt Ch. 2 & 3 Mod. 2 articles	Nursing student forms Video introduction CHUMP assignment Module 1 Quiz
Week 3	M 9/12	Critical appraisal	Canvas Module 3 Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt Ch. 4 & 5 Mod. 3 articles	PICOT Formulation Search strategy Unit 1 Exam
Week 4	M 9/19	Critical appraisal and integration	Canvas Module 4 Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt Ch. 6 & 7 Mod. 4 article	GAO Assignment Module 3 Quiz
Week 5	M 9/26	Research ethics	Canvas Module 5 Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt Ch. 8 & 23	Discussion Board #1 Initial post RCA Assignment Unit 2 Exam
	R 9/29			Discussion Board #1 Peer responses
	F 9/30	*Course Withdrawal Deadline*		
Week 6	M 10/3	Integrate and evaluate outcomes	Canvas Module 6 Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt Ch. 9 & 10 Mod. 6 article	Discussion board #2 initial post Evidence summary Module 5 Quiz
	R 10/6			Discussion board #2 Peer Responses
Week 7	M 10/10	Dissemination	Canvas Module 7 Melnyk & Fineout-Overholt Ch. 20	Discussion board #3 initial post Integrate and evaluate Poster spotlight Module 6 Quiz

	R 10/13			Discussion board #3 peer responses
	F 10/14			Dissemination assignment Unit 3 exam
	Sat. 10/15	*End of 7-week Course*		

Computer Requirements: Access to a current, working computer or laptop with internet access using Firefox or Chrome browser is required for this internet-based course. The Canvas learning system works best using Firefox or Chrome browsers. It is essential to have access to a reliable PC/laptop and internet access for this course.

Internet Instructions: Course modules are online in Canvas (see course calendar). UT Tyler online canvas courses use Java, JavaScript, browser plug-ins, helper application and cookies. Canvas works best using Chrome or Firefox browser. It is essential that you have these elements installed and enabled in your web browser for optimal viewing of the content and functions of your online course content. Lecture videos are optimally viewed in high definition.

- Adobe Reader allows you to view, save, and print Portable Document Format (PDF) files. http://get.adobe.com/reader/
- Java Runtime Environment (JRE) allows you to use interactive tools on the web. http://www.java.com/en/download/
- QuickTime allows users to play back audio and video files. http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

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

Upswing (24/7 online tutoring) - covers nearly all undergraduate course areas

Robert Muntz Library 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 are allowed to [withdraw](#) (drop) 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]().