



NURS 6350: TRANSCULTURAL NURSING RESEARCH (TCNR) Summer 2022

Welcome

Welcome to **Transcultural Nursing Research**! In this course, we will explore the definition of culture and what it means to do research with people from different cultures, locally and internationally. We hope you will develop a foundation for transcultural nursing research from conceptualization to dissemination.

The structure of this course has been arranged to assist you in organizing your time and efforts. The first weeks provide a foundation for and introduction to the course. Then, we will analyze ethical issues related to transcultural research followed by methodological considerations as applied to research with people different from ourselves. Finally, we analyze and synthesize ethical and methodological issues related to conducting research with those of different cultural backgrounds.

I tried to be very clear and concise about expectations. However, what is obvious to me when I developed the assignments and course is obvious to me. Your job is to ask questions and seek consultation any time things are unclear. I want this semester to be inspiring and meaningful to both your educational endeavors as well as your future research.

Please refer to the information contained in this Syllabus anytime you have a question regarding the basic course information.

Introduction



I'm Beth Mastel-Smith. I am excited to share the TCNR with you and look forward to a rewarding and enlightening time. My research interest is health promotion of older adults with neurological conditions and their care partners. One thing that fascinates me about aging is the different cultural values attached to the process, outcomes, and relationships that happen at this stage in life. I certainly learned a tremendous amount when working with Malay, Chinese, and Indian family and professional care partners while living in Singapore. They sparked my curiosity and are my inspiration. I hope you find a similar cultural aspect of your research interest this semester!

Course Description

Research issues within a cultural milieu are explored. The emphasis is on building a community of nurses who lead through the use of culturally relevant scholarship, knowledge, and technology to improve the health status of diverse communities.

Differing world views that shape the delivery of nursing care are acknowledged, recognizing that research undertaken in one culture can have consequences and impacts on another culture.

Prerequisites

Provisional or full acceptance into the doctoral program or permission of the instructor(s) is the only prerequisite for this course.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Discuss historical events in transcultural research and the implications for current programs of research.
2. Assess and analyze culturally relevant issues related to conducting meaningful research within a particular culture.
3. Identify how research practices may be adapted for different cultures.
4. Identify the outcomes of nursing research including the dissemination of findings within the context of culture.

Course Calendar/Schedule

Note: Assignments are due on Tuesday by 12 m/n CST **except for the last assignment**. Readings are located in the corresponding course modules.

Module	Dates	Assignment	% of Total Grade
1	May 16 – May 24	Student Profile, Introductions Self-Awareness Reflection Activity Discussion Board	5
2	May 25 – May 31	Definitions (written) Discussion	5
3	June 1 – June 7	Human Subjects CITI Training	0
4	June 8 – June 21	The Great Ethical Debate	15
5	June 22 – June 28	Mrs. Lacks	10
6	June 29 – July 5	The Constant Gardener	10
7	July 6 – July 12	Synchronous Zoom Discussion Guest Speaker	5
8	July 13 – July 19	Online Methods Module The last day to withdraw without penalty: July 12	0
9	July 20 – July 26	The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down Critique	20
10	July 27 – August 5	Final Critique	30

Textbook Information, Other Readings and Materials

Fadiman, A. (1998). *The spirit catches you and you fall down*. New York, N.Y.: Farrar Straus and Giroux.

Le Carré, J. (Writer, novel), Caine, J. (Writer, screenplay), & Meirelles, F. (Director). (2005). *The constant gardener* [Motion picture]. (Available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)).

Skloot, R. (2011). *The immortal life of Henrietta Lacks*. New York, N. Y.: Crown Publishing.

Grades and Grading

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

Reading Assignments

- Assigned readings in doctoral education are the beginning, not the endpoint, and therefore considered essential. These readings will point you in the direction of continued reading and pondering of your scholarly thoughts. Each participant is responsible for completing the reading assignments in a timely manner.
- Discussion and written assignments are made with the assumption that required reading assignments are completed prior to completion of discussion and written assignments.

PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

DISCUSSION BOARD: During this journey, you will participate in group discussions to help you become familiar with the concepts and principles of ethically and methodologically appropriate transcultural research. Topics vary and are introduced in the relevant modules. Please refer to the details outlined below:

The purpose of the **discussion board** is to take the place of the class interchange that would occur in a face-to-face class. It is your opportunity to demonstrate your mastery of the assigned readings and your ability to supplement those readings with expanded exposure to related (and sometimes contrary) information that you will seek in your self-directed quest to understand and be informed. To that end, we will expect you to share ideas you have gained from the literature noting the source and interpreting into your own words. We will also expect that you will use a complex thought process to dissect and analyze what you read in the literature and in the discussion thoughts of your fellow students as you offer your own insights. We do not care if you use big words or a lot of words (remember, the world values parsimony), but we are eager to read your

thoughtful insights into the questions and statements, your analysis of the words and ideas, and your recommendations for future pathways for nursing and healthcare.

- Each participant is responsible for participating in the asynchronous discussions. This participation will include posting answers to questions posed by the instructor and replying to other participants' postings. Two posts from each student are expected during each discussion unless otherwise stated.
- Postings must be timely. Deadlines are listed in the Course Schedule. Please note that all discussion postings must be completed by midnight Central Standard Time on the due date. Discussion boards terminate on the day following the assignment due date.
- Participants should plan on entering the Discussion area at least three times in order to read and comment on others' postings. Posting answers to the questions posed in the Discussion area should be done in advance of the deadline in order to allow other participants the opportunity to comment.
- Quality of answers is as important as quantity. A participant's comments should ***add to the discussion***. Comments should be supported with references cited appropriately.
- The instructor and/or participants may use synchronous chats as the need arises.
- APA format is expected including grammar, spelling, and punctuation, accurate presentation of reference citations in text and with full citations at the bottom of the post.

Note: When posting to the discussion area, please type in 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.

DISCUSSION BOARD GRADING RUBRIC

CRITERIA	0	12.5	25
Format and logical progression of posting	Spelling and grammar errors detract from the substance of the posting; random thoughts with no sense of a plan to reach a logical conclusion. No clear main idea or direction for flow of information.		Form is superior; obvious attention to proofreading and grammar. Main idea is stated early and clearly; argument or ideas are built using a logical progression of thoughts which are stated clearly and succinctly.
Depth and relevance of post to the topic at hand	Posting shows superficial thinking based on personal experiences or opinions only, there is little consideration of contributions to the topic in the literature or from colleagues. Literature support is not relevant to the topic or major literature contributions are missing. Post strays from topic with much irrelevant information and does not address the intent of the assignment. No references cited.		Posting clearly shows evidence of critical thinking and analysis to a substantial depth expected of a doctoral student. Ideas offered are relevant to the topic and show the ability to extrapolate complex ideas from various sources into a coherent argument or statement(s). Two or more relevant references cited; cited references are appropriate and indicative of the best knowledge on the topic. (NOTE: some discussions DO NOT require two citations. This is clarified in each Module.)
Contribution to the learning community	Posting is largely aimed at self-expression without consideration of the reader. There is no room for dialogue or disagreement and no acknowledgment of the potential contributions of others. The posting is a rehash of old ideas without consideration of how these can advise the future. No evidence is found of making the material consumable or reader-friendly.		Posting shows an astute awareness of the needs of the learning community with an interest in their growth and knowledge acquisition; attempts to move colleagues into meaningful dialogue and presents creative approaches that are open to discussion. Post contributes to the progression of nursing as a scholarly community but is presented in a clear, enlightening, and engaging way..
Punctuality and timeframes	Posting is late leaving little opportunity for student colleague feedback and interchange.		Posted well before deadline with opportunity for student interaction and feedback.

THE GREAT ETHICAL DEBATE: Two groups will debate the ethics of a study that took place in India. The debate will take place over two weeks. The “pro” group will create and post an opening statement, the “con” group will post a rebuttal and both groups will post closing statements. Due dates are posted under the Assignments tab.

You will watch the movie **The Constant Gardener**. During a face-to-face meeting via zoom we will decide on the format of an assignment related to this topic. Come prepared with out of the box ideas.

ANALYSIS TABLES: These assignments require the analysis, application, and evaluation of transcultural research. You will use Meleis’ eight criteria for doing culturally appropriate and rigorous research and Lavery’s eight principles for ethical transcultural research to analyze, (a) a case study example of Lia Lee from *The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down* and (b) compare and contrast two “transcultural nursing research” studies.

Specific guidelines and grading criteria are located in the respective Assignments tab.

Written Assignments

- Deadlines are listed in the Course Schedule.
- Please note that all written assignments must be submitted by midnight *Central Time* on the due date.
- Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Please avoid the consequences of academic dishonesty by citing all sources that you use in your work. Academic dishonesty, such as unauthorized collusion, plagiarism and cheating, as outlined in the [Handbook of Operating Procedures](#), University of Texas at Tyler, will not be tolerated. University regulations require the instructor to report all suspected cases of academic dishonesty to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. In the event disciplinary measures are imposed on the student, it becomes part of the students' official school records. Also, please note that the handbook obligates you to report all observed cases of academic dishonesty to the instructor.
- Late assignments will receive a 5 point deduction for each day the assignment is late. If your Internet connection is down or life happened and you are unable to meet the due date, please email me **before the due date / time** to negotiate an extension. No points will be deducted if you have notified me in advance.

Turnitin

Turnitin is a feature provided by Canvas that is designed to detect plagiarism or non-original student work. This feature is set up so that when you submit papers, they are automatically sent through Turnitin. The program checks your work against a comprehensive database of source material including previous students' work and other papers and materials found on the web. An originality report will be generated that indicates the percentage of non-original material (text that matches existing sources) found in your paper. The purpose of using Turnitin in

your course is to ensure you are writing original papers and to encourage you and all students to properly attribute all sources used.

Assignment Turn-In Process

All assignments and projects will be submitted through the assignments link of Canvas. Use the following process to prepare and submit assignments:

- Prepare your assignment using Microsoft Word. Name your assignment with the following convention: last name first initial, assignment title (ex. Last F_Assignmenttitle)
- Copy and paste the content into the assignment window AND upload your saved assignment document via the assignment link. I prefer to grade in the assignment window but also like to have the option to save so please help me out and cover all the bases. Thanks in advance.

Email

To communicate by email within the course with other participants or all participants, click the Inbox on the left side of the Canvas frame. Click on the leaf in the upper left corner to send a message. You are able to send messages to All Users or Select Users in the course, including the instructor. If you need more instructions on how to send email messages with Canvas please read the student manual located in the Help area of the course.

The course email is bmastelsmith@uttyler.edu Questions or problems other than technical problems (see Technical Requirements in this Syllabus) may be submitted to the email address above.

I will make every effort to respond quickly to your emails. Generally speaking, I check email twice a day during the workweek. Do not expect responses on the weekend. Occasionally, I will be traveling, and it might take up to 48 hours to respond. If I am unavailable for an extended period, I will post an announcement so that you can plan accordingly. One caveat: technical problems in email systems may slow down responses! I am committed to communicate with you in a timely manner, so if there are any problems, I will work to solve them.

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information

https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/documents/son_student_guide.pdf

University Policies

- 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 to 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**
 - *Information for Classrooms and Laboratories:* Students are required to wear face masks covering their nose and mouth, and follow social distancing guidelines, at all times in public settings (including classrooms and laboratories), as specified by [Procedures for Fall 2020 Return to](#)

Normal Operations. The UT Tyler community of Patriots views adoption of these practices consistent with its Honor Code and a sign of good citizenship and respectful care of fellow classmates, faculty, and staff.

Students who are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms such as sneezing, coughing, or a higher than normal temperature will be excused from class and should stay at home and may join the class remotely. Students who have difficulty adhering to the Covid-19 safety policies for health reasons are also encouraged to join the class remotely. Students needing additional accommodations may contact the Office of Student Accessibility and Resources at University Center 3150, or call (903) 566-7079 or email saroffice@uttyler.edu.

- *Recording of Class Sessions:* Class sessions may be recorded by the instructor for use by students enrolled in this course. Recordings that contain personally identifiable information or other information subject to FERPA shall not be shared with individuals not enrolled in this course unless appropriate consent is obtained from all relevant students. Class recordings are reserved only for the use of students enrolled in the course and only for educational purposes. Course recordings should not be shared outside of the course in any form without express permission.
- **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>.