



**UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
COLLABORATIVE BACCALAUREATE
NURSING PROGRAM**
Grande Prairie Regional College
Grant MacEwan College
Keyano College
Red Deer College
University of Alberta

**NURSING 3010
NURSING RESEARCH
COURSE OUTLINE
SPRING 2002**

Developed by:

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Nursing Research

NS 3010 3 (3-0-0) 7 weeks

This course provides an introduction to the process of research through a comparative analysis of selected studies exemplifying different theoretical, methodological and analytical approaches. Emphasis will be on the communicability of research, the needs of the research consumer, and the development of skills of critical appraisal. Prerequisites: (or Co-requisite) Statistic elective

Course Hours: 39 hours

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the process of research through critical appraisals of selected quantitative and qualitative studies. Emphasis will be on understanding the research process and in knowing how to critically read, analyse and begin to apply the knowledge gained from research in practice. This course focuses on: the planning phase of the research process (includes: research problem and purpose, literature review, theoretical/conceptual frameworks, variables, research questions and hypothesis, ethics of research, research designs, and population and samples) and, the implementation phase of research (includes: data collection and analysis, interpretation and utilization of the findings).

Course Objectives:

1. Describe the purpose and importance of research in nursing.
2. Describe how theory, practice, and research are related.
3. Identify a question from nursing practice that can be answered by research.
4. Describe the nurses' role in research.
5. Develop and use a systematic approach for reading and critically appraising selected components of published research reports.
6. Identify and discuss the major characteristics, strengths, and limitations of quantitative and qualitative research.
7. Discuss the types, advantages and limitations of data collection methods used in both quantitative and qualitative nursing research methods.
8. Explain the meaning of and identify the criteria for determining the validity and reliability of measurement tools.
9. Discuss the criteria for determining confirmability of findings in a qualitative study.
10. Describe the four levels of measurement and discuss the difference between type I and II errors and their effect on findings.
11. Differentiate data analysis methods for both quantitative and qualitative research.
12. State the purposes and critically analyse the use of descriptive statistics.
13. Differentiate between the meanings of statistical significance and clinical significance.
14. Determine the applicability of knowledge gained from research for evidence-based practice.
15. Identify and discuss the role of a nurse in promoting research activities and using knowledge from research in the practice setting.

Class schedule:

1st class in classroom H211, 1800-2100h, May 1: Overview of the nursing research process

- ☞ Introduction, expectations, assigned activities, proposed schedule
- ☞ Link between theory, practice, & research
- ☞ Importance of nursing research
- ☞ Role of the nurse in research
- ☞ Methods of inquiry
- ☞ Ethical considerations
- ☞ Framework for critiquing a report
- ☞ Questions from nursing practice
- ☞ Assigned reading & activity for next class

2nd class in classroom H211, 0900-1500h, May 4: Planning phase of the research process

- ☞ Review of assigned reading/activity: Q & A
- ☞ Overview of the planning phase of research
- ☞ Identification of problem statement and purpose statement
- ☞ Literature review
- ☞ Theoretical framework
- ☞ Hypotheses/qualitative research design
- ☞ Assigned reading & activity for next class

3rd class in classroom H211, 0900-1500, May 11: Quantitative research

- ☞ Review of assigned reading/activity: Q & A
- ☞ Introduction to Quantitative research/research design
- ☞ Experimental, quasi, and non-experimental designs
- ☞ Definition of sample and population
- ☞ Sampling (bias, error, size)
- ☞ Assigned reading & activity for next class

4th class in classroom H211, 0900-1500, May 18: Quantitative research

- ☞ Review of assigned reading: Q & A
- ☞ Data collection methods
- ☞ Descriptive statistics and levels of measurement
- ☞ Inferential statistics including: Type I & II errors, tests of statistical significance, and statistical versus clinical significance
- ☞ Evaluating quantitative research (generalizability, limitations of the study)
- ☞ Assigned reading & activity for next class

5th class in classroom H211, 0900-1500, May 25: Qualitative research

- ☞ Review of assigned reading: Q & A
- ☞ Introduction to Qualitative research
- ☞ Qualitative designs: grounded theory, phenomenology, ethnography
- ☞ Interviewer as instrument

- ⇒ Research question
- ⇒ Sampling (determining sample size)
- ⇒ Data collection methods
- ⇒ Rigor in data collection: auditability, credibility, and fittingness
- ⇒ Assigned reading & activity for next class

6th class, June 1 is an independent study day: Qualitative research

- ⇒ Assigned reading & activity

7th class in classroom H211, 1800-2100h, June 5: Utilization

- ⇒ Review of assigned reading: Q & A
- ⇒ Ethical considerations in conducting research
- ⇒ Evidence based practice: research-practice gap, utilization
- ⇒ Promoting research
- ⇒ Barriers & facilitating factors

Final Exam will be held on June 8, 0900-1200 in classroom D308