COURSE NUMBER: GNUR 350

COURSE TITLE: Introduction to Research

CREDIT HOURS: 3

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course is an introduction to the research process. Students will become informed consumers of research as the foundation for evidence-based practice.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

1. Apply the research process.
2. Critique selected research articles.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the principles of research ethics.
4. Identify priorities for research using Healthy People 2020 and the National Institutes of Health.
5. Discuss research as the foundation of evidence-based practice.
6. Demonstrate skills of information literacy to support clinical decision making

LEARNING RESOURCES:

Author: Rose Marie Nieswiadomy
ISBN-10: 0132118572
Publisher: Prentice Hall
Copyright: 2012
Format: Paper; 352 pp
Published: 02/18/2011

Recommended Journals (Available via Loyola library’s online journal site)

Nursing Research
Research in Nursing and Health
WORLD views on Evidence-Based Nursing
Evidence-Based Nursing
Clinical Evidence
Online Journal of Clinical Innovations
Journal of Healthcare Administration
Journal of Advanced Nursing
Journal of Nursing Scholarship
Journal of Theory Construction and Testing
Western Journal of Nursing Research
AORN Journal

Online EBP web sources:

http://www.guidelines.gov
http://www.cochrane.org
http://www.ahrq.gov
http://www.joannabriggs.edu.au/

Loyola Library Online Databases: CINHAL, MEDLINE, Pub Med, PsychINFO

Reference Management Tools: RefWorks & EndNote (Available through Loyola libraries)

LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

Weekly readings, module content, discussions, surveys, assignments and group projects

METHOD OF EVALUATION:

The areas of learning and evaluation are categorized as follows:

Discussion board participation (3 x 10%) 30%
Knowledge Checks (2 x 15%) 30%
Pre & Post EBP Questionnaire Survey 5%
Assignment #1 (Completion of Online Ethics Course) 10%
Assignment #2 (EBP Poster Project) 20%
Module 7 Reflection 5%

Total 100%
GRADING SCALE:

Letter grades will be assigned by the following grading scale

A 100 - 94
A- 93 - 92
B+ 91 - 89
B 88 - 86
B- 85 - 84
C+ 83 - 80
C 79 - 77
C- 76 - 75
D+ 74 - 72
D 71 - 69
F 68 or below

Students must receive C- and above to pass this course.

COURSE POLICIES & REQUIREMENTS:

1. Written assignments are due on the date indicated in the class schedule. Late submission of written assignments will result in 2 points deducted for each day the assignment is late. You must inform the faculty prior to the due date with a genuine reason to receive extension with 2 points deduction. Written assignments must be submitted online through the Assignment tool.
2. Respect for the faculty must be demonstrated at all times.
3. Academic integrity is expected of every student in the Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing. Academic honesty is an expression of an ethic of interpersonal justice, responsibility, and care application to Loyola University faculty, students and staff that demands the pursuit of knowledge in the university community to be carried out with sincerity and integrity. Academic dishonesty is characterized by the failure to apply this ethic, i.e., any action whereby faculty, student or staff misrepresents the ownership of academic work submitted in his or her name. Students failure to practice academic honesty will, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct, result in a sanction ranging from the grade of F for the assignments to expulsion from the University. Please refer to the Undergraduate Nursing Student handbook (version 2011) for details.
4. Policy on Correspondence: All students are required to use their Messages tab in Sakai or Loyola-provided email to correspond during this course. All course announcements will be sent to Loyola-provided email addresses and Announcements tab in Sakai. Be sure to check your e-mails and announcements in Sakai regularly for any course related announcements.
STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS:

- Plan your time efficiently. You should plan to spend 10-12 hours/week dedicated to reading, preparation and submission of weekly assignments. Some topics you will find more difficult and may need to spend additional time preparing for class.

- Stay current with reading assignments. You should complete the assigned readings with each module. In doing so, you will be prepared to ask questions and seek clarification for concepts that may be difficult to understand.

- Relate the content of the course to your clinical experiences. Healthcare research does not occur in isolation. Theory, practice and research are intimately related. As you complete your clinical experiences, seek opportunities to relate the situations you encounter to theory and research.

- Ask questions. Students are sometimes reluctant to ask questions. If you do not understand something related to course work, e-mail/call me for clarification. Asking questions also provides the faculty member with feedback on the presentation of the course content.

- Read research articles. In addition to the required readings outlined in this syllabus, you should strive to read research articles from the journals. The Loyola library databases and online journals are excellent sources for retrieving content related journals. The reading from various research journals is a way for you to connect the content of GNUR350 to your clinical experiences. Research, theory, and practice are interrelated. Start by choosing an article related to an area you are interested in. Later, as you become more proficient in reading research reports, move to more difficult articles, or to areas you may not have as strong of an interest in. Your required text book, journal resources and the databases are excellent resources in answering questions that you may have about various research topics.