061

UT Tyler SCHOOL OF NURSING

Evidence-Based Decision Making
RNBS 3333.P060 and RNBS 3333.P061
Spring 2026 Flex 1 and Flex 2
Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

Flex 1:
Instructor's Name: TBD
Office: TBD
Office Phone: TBD
Email: TBD
Office Hours: TBD

Other times by appointment. Text, Email, or Call for an appointment. Appointments can be in person or on ZOOM.

Flex 2:
Instructor's Name: TBD
Office: TBD
Office Phone: TBD
Email: TBD
Office Hours: TBD

Other times by appointment. Text, Email, or Call for an appointment. Appointments can be in person or on ZOOM.

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 all 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 Readings:

1. 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

2. 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

3. Other articles as posted in Canvas.

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. This course utilizes open education resources (OER) and students are not required to purchase a textbook for the 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.

Artificial Intelligence in course work: Refer to the UT Website for more details @ uttyler.edu - digital learning AI.

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/

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

1. Engagement Activities (7)   25%
2. Discussion Boards (2)   20%
3. Learning Activities (6)   55%

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.

Grade Appeals: Although the university policy allows 60 days for grade appeals, the School of Nursing follows a stricter timeline of 10 days to facilitate students' timely progression through the curriculum. In the case of extenuating circumstances, please consult the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for guidance.

Academic Integrity: Cheating of any kind, as defined in Section 8 of the UT Tyler Manual of Policies and Procedures (MOPP) for Student Affairs (https://www.uttyler.edu/mopp/), will not be tolerated. Consequences may include:

- reprimand
- exam failure
- course failure
- expulsion from the Nursing program
- expulsion from the University
- other consequences as assigned

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.

Grade Replacement: Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

1. **Engagements activities:** These are short but necessary activities that contribute to the student's accomplishment of the student learning outcomes and involvement in the online learning environment.
2. **Discussions:** Two online discussion boards throughout the course provide students with the opportunity to apply and discuss their understanding of selected course content.
3. **Learning Activities:** The learning activities are a series of assignments designed for

students to apply their understanding of the Evidence-Based Decision Making process sequentially.

Important Course Dates:

Date Criteria	7N1 (First 7-week term)	7N2 (Second 7-week term)
Classes Begin	January 8, 2026	March 2, 2026
Census Date (withdraw without penalty)	January 14, 2026	March 6, 2026
Last Date to Withdraw: Please contact your advisor to discuss withdrawing from the course and notify your instructor.	February 11, 2025	April 9, 2026
Classes End	February 27, 2026	April 24, 2026
Final Grades Posted	March 3, 2026	April 28, 2026

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:

Course Schedule				
Week	*Date*	*Class Topic*	*Readings*	*Assignments Due*
Preview	Th	Course Opens for Review	Note: Instructors cannot respond to communication until 2/4/2025	
1	M	Orientation Research Ethics Clinical Practice Guidelines	Canvas orientation module Canvas Module 1 The Belmont Report Declaration of Helsinki Nuremberg Code NIH Clinical Practice Guidelines website	Affirmation Forms due XXXXXX Syllabus Quiz due XXXXXX
		Course Census Date		
2	M	Spirit of Inquiry Sources of Information Basic Research Terms	Canvas Module 2 Igniting a Spirit of Inquiry: An Essential Foundation for EBP Seven Steps of EBP	Video introduction Ethics Discussion Initial Post Module 1 Quiz
	Th			Discussion Peer Responses
3	M	Asking the Clinical Question: PICOT The Search for Evidence & Search strategy	Canvas Module 3 Asking the Clinical Question: A Key Step in EBP Searching for the Evidence: Strategies to Help You Conduct a Successful Search	Module 2 Quiz
4	M	Critical Appraisal of the Evidence Research Terminology	Canvas Module 4 Critical Appraisal of the Evidence: Part I Critical Appraisal of the Evidence: Part II Dincer & Inangil: The Effect of Emotional Freedom Techniques on Nurses' Stress, Anxiety, and Burnout Levels During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Randomized Controlled Trial Shin et al.: Effects of Short-Term Inhalation of Patchouli Oil on Professional Quality of Life and Stress Levels in Emergency Nurses: A Randomized Controlled Trial	PICOT Formulation Search Strategy Module 3 Quiz
5	M	Critical Appraisal of Qualitative Evidence Integrate the Evidence Patient Preferences, Values, and Clinician Expertise	Canvas Module 5 Critical Appraisal of the Evidence: Part III Following the Evidence: Planning for Sustainable Change Muscat et al.: Can Adults with Low Literacy Understand Shared Decision Making Questions? A Qualitative Investigation	GAO Assignment Module 4 Quiz
		LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW	**LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW FROM 7 WEEK COURSE**	**LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW**

6	M	Summarizing the Evidence Evaluation of Outcomes	Canvas Module 6 Implementing an Evidence-Based Practice Change Rolling Out the Rapid Response Team Evaluating and Disseminating the Impact of an Evidence-Based Intervention: Show and Tell	RCA Assignment Patient Preferences Discussion Board Initial Response Module 5 Quiz
	Th			Discussion Peer Responses
7	M	Dissemination of the EBP Results Sustaining EBP through Policy	Canvas Module 7 Evaluating and Disseminating the Impact of an Evidence-Based Intervention: Show and Tell Sustaining Evidence-Based Practice Through Organizational Policies and an Innovative Model	Integrate and Evaluate Assignment
	Th			Dissemination Assignment
	F	**End of 7-week Course**		

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information:

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

Student Resources and University Policies are provided in Canvas.

Artificial Intelligence in course work:

Allowable Use

Microsoft

- Microsoft Bing Copilot (formerly Bing Chat Enterprise), and Azure Open AI (AOAI) are available AI tools with contractual agreements for use by UT Tyler.
- While these Microsoft products have some data protections, we highly recommend against using Bing Copilot on sensitive data sets when it is not necessary to fulfill official University duties or research projects (see UT Tyler Data Classification).
- In all cases, use of Microsoft AI tools should be consistent with the Information Resources Acceptable Use Policy.

ChatGPT and Similar AI Tools – We highly encourage use of the Microsoft products specified above exclusively to fulfill official University duties. However, if that is not possible, use of ChatGPT and similar AI tools is allowed as follows:

- Only data that is publicly available or defined as Published Data (see UT Tyler Data Classification) can be used freely in AI Tools.
- In all cases, use should be consistent with the Information Resources Acceptable Use Policy.
- Students should always adhere to the UT Tyler Policy on Student Conduct when using any AI tool.

- Researchers should always adhere to the UT Tyler Policy [3.2.8 Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activity](#).

Prohibited Use

- At present, any use of ChatGPT or similar AI Tools cannot include any personal, confidential, proprietary, or otherwise sensitive information. In general, student records subject to FERPA, health information (HIPAA), proprietary information, and any other information classified as [UT Tyler Data Classification](#) must not be used with ChatGPT or similar AI Tools.
- Similarly, ChatGPT or similar AI Tools, including the Microsoft products listed above, must not be used to generate output that would not be considered authorized for public or fair use. Examples include but are not limited to generating someone else's proprietary or unpublished research; legal analysis or advice; recruitment, personnel or disciplinary decision making; completion of academic work in a manner not allowed by the instructor; creation of someone else's proprietary instructional materials without authorized use or proper citations; and grading.
- Please also note that the companies that own ChatGPT and Bing Chat Enterprise/Copilot, OpenAI and Microsoft, respectively, explicitly forbid their use for certain categories of activity, including fraud and illegal activities. This list of items can be found in their usage policies below. AI Tools of any sort may not be used for any activity that would be illegal, fraudulent or a violation of any state or federal law, or UT Tyler or UT System policies.
    - [OpenAI usage policy](#)
    - [Microsoft acceptable use policy](#)

Important Information

- No Agreement, No Privacy and Security Terms for ChatGPT and other AI tools: All content entered into with, or generated by, ChatGPT is available to ChatGPT, its parent company, OpenAI, and their employees. There is currently no agreement between UT Tyler and OpenAI or other AI Tools that would provide data security and privacy protections required by UT policy regarding ChatGPT, OpenAI's, or other AI Tools' programming interface. Consequently, the use of ChatGPT or other AI Tools at this time could expose individual users and UT Tyler to the potential loss and/or abuse of sensitive data and information. Some data protections are provided through our agreement with Microsoft, but they are limited.
- ***Personal Liability: ChatGPT and other AI Tools use click-through agreements. Click-through agreements, including OpenAI and ChatGPT and other AI Tools' terms of use, are contracts. Individuals who accept click-through agreements without delegated signature authority may face personal consequences, including responsibility for compliance with terms and conditions***.

Further Guidance on Appropriate Use

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For questions regarding the appropriate use of Microsoft Bing Chat Enterprise/Copilot, Azure Open AI, ChatGPT and other AI Tools, please contact the Information Security Office at utt-infosec@uttyler.edu.

Enforcement

Violation of any UT Tyler policies may result in disciplinary action that may include termination for employees and temporaries; a termination of employment relations in the case of contractors or consultants; dismissal for interns and volunteers; or suspension or expulsion in the case of a student. Additionally, individuals are subject to loss of University Information Resources access privileges, civil, and criminal prosecution.

Fair Use

Fair use is a legal doctrine that promotes freedom of expression by permitting the unlicensed use of copyright-protected works in certain circumstances[1].

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