



**Foundations of Evidence-Based Practice
NURS 6302
Summer 2025**

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

Instructor's Name: Emily Fox DNP, APRN, NNP-BC, CNE

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Virtual Office Hours: Weekly virtual office hours are available, with opportunities for one-on-one appointments upon request. Additional days and times can be arranged to accommodate your schedule. To schedule a one-on-one appointment, please email the faculty. The Microsoft Teams link and schedule for weekly office hours will be provided in Canvas.

Course Description: This foundational course is designed to prepare students for translating evidence into nursing practice. This course includes research principles, models of evidence-based practice (EBP), systematic literature searching, and appraisal of evidence to establish the background and significance of a practice problem.

Prerequisites: Admission to the DNP program

Corequisites: NURS 6301

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Differentiate appropriate use of quality improvement, evidence-based practice, and research methodologies. (AACN, 4.1)
2. Demonstrate an understanding of elements of the research process (AACN, 4.1)
3. Apply knowledge of the research process to evaluate evidence to facilitate the translation of evidence into practice (AACN, 4.1)
4. Implement search strategies using diverse sources of evidence to support a practice problem of interest. (AACN, 4.1 & 4.2)
5. Use evidence to support the background and significance of a practice problem. (AACN, 4.1, 4.2)
6. Identify areas of potential ethical concerns in quality improvement, evidence-based practice, and research (AACN, 4.3)

Required Textbooks & Resources:

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). ISBN-13: 978-1433832161, ISBN-10: 143383216X

Bradshaw, M. J., & Vitale, T. R. (2024). *The DNP project workbook* (2nd ed.). Springer Publishing LLC. ISBN: 978-0-8261-7483-3, eBook ISBN: ISBN: 978-0-8261-7483-3

- Dang, D., Dearholt, S. L., Bissett, K., Ascenzi, J., & Whalen, M. (2022). *Johns Hopkins evidence-based practice for nurses and healthcare professionals: Model and guidelines* (4th ed.). Sigma Theta Tau International. ISBN-13: 978-1948057875, ISBN-10: 1948057875, Used or Rental is acceptable – no requirement to use online resources.
- Polit, D. F., & Beck, C.T. (2021). *Essentials of nursing research: Appraising evidence for nursing practice* (10th ed.). Wolters Kluwer. ISBN-13: 978-1975141851
- Schadewald, D. (2023). *Zaccagnini & White's core competencies for advanced practice nursing: A guide for DNP's* (5th ed.). Jones & Bartlett.
- Sylvia, M. L., & Terhaar, M. F. (2023). *Clinical analytics and data management for the DNP* (3rd ed.). Springer. ISBN: 9780826163233, eBook ISBN: 9780826163240

Microsoft Office 2019 Word

In all clinical courses, students are required to maintain an active Exxat subscription.

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values:

Criteria for Evaluation:	Percentage of Grade
Participation	5%
Quizzes	15%
Application Exercises	15%
Significance Paper	20%
Background Paper	20%
Nature of the Problem Presentation Video	20%
CITI Training Certificate	5%
Total	100%

DNP Project Hours Requirement: To successfully pass this course, students must complete and document a **minimum of 50 DNP Practice Hours** in Exxat. Proper and timely documentation in Exxat is mandatory and will be monitored for compliance.

Students who are applying approved post-baccalaureate clinical/practice hours to the DNP program are permitted to apply a portion of those hours to satisfy **up to 50%** of the required hours for this course, provided that these hours meet the program's criteria and are properly verified.

Within the first two weeks of the course, students must complete the *DNP Practice Hours Plan Attestation form*, specifying the number of hours they plan to apply to this course. The attestation form must also include a statement of the total number of post-baccalaureate clinical/practice hours approved through the *Clinical Hour Verification Request* process, the number of hours applied to previous courses, and the remaining balance of hours available to be applied toward future courses. Failure to complete and submit the attestation form within the required timeframe may result in ineligibility to apply post-baccalaureate hours to the course.

Practice hours must be logged in Exxat within 7 days of completing the activity. Failure to log hours within this timeframe will result in the hours being disqualified for credit, and the activity will need to be repeated to count toward the required hours.

Failure to complete the required hours for the course or to accurately document them in Exxat will result in an

incomplete or course failure, as meeting the hour requirement is essential for progression in the program. Students are responsible for ensuring that all hours are properly logged and verified within the designated timeframe.

Practice Hours and Affiliation Agreement Policy

Students are not authorized to complete any DNP practice hours, including activities related to the DNP project, at any site, including their place of employment, without a fully executed Affiliation Agreement between the academic institution and the practice site.

The Affiliation Agreement is a legal contract that ensures appropriate oversight, liability coverage, and compliance with institutional and clinical site policies. This agreement must be in place before the initiation of any practice hours at the proposed site.

Engaging in practice hours at a site without a formal agreement constitutes a violation of program policy and may result in a delay of hours being counted toward program requirements, academic penalties, or dismissal from the course.

Students are responsible for working with their DNP faculty and clinical placement coordinator to initiate and confirm the Affiliation Agreement process well in advance of the proposed start date for site-based activities.

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 - 70-79
- D - 60-69
- F - Below 60

Grades will not be rounded when calculating the average (79.5 is not rounded to 80, and 89.5 is not rounded to 90). Students are required to achieve an average of 80% (B) to complete the course successfully.

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

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in this course:

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code.

Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased.

Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, AI is permitted only for specific assignments or situations, and appropriate acknowledgment is required. During some class assignments, we may leverage AI tools to support your learning, allow you to explore how AI tools can be used, and/or better understand their benefits and limitations. Learning how to use AI is an emerging skill, and we will work through the limitations of these evolving systems together. However, AI will be limited to assignments where AI is a critical component of the learning activity. **I will always indicate when and where the use of AI tools for this course is appropriate.**

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.

Grading Criteria and Assignment Details:

Detailed information, including grading rubrics, will be provided in Canvas.

Participation (5%): Active engagement is an essential component of this course. Your participation grade will be based on attendance and/or viewing of orientation and webinar sessions, completion and submission of required surveys, and thoughtful reflections on course content.

Quizzes (15%): Quizzes serve as formative assessments to evaluate your understanding of key concepts from the assigned textbook readings. These assessments will reinforce foundational knowledge and help prepare you for application-based assignments.

Application Exercises (15%): These exercises provide an opportunity to apply learned concepts to real-world scenarios. You will integrate knowledge from course readings and discussions to demonstrate critical thinking and practical application of evidence-based principles.

Significance Paper (20%): In this assignment, you will conduct a synthesis of external evidence to establish the significance of your identified practice problem for your DNP Scholarly Project. The paper should clearly define the magnitude and impact of the issue based on relevant literature and clinical evidence.

Background Paper (20%): This paper builds on your significance paper by synthesizing external evidence to provide a comprehensive background of your identified practice problem. You will describe the problem, examine contributing factors, and provide an overview of existing interventions related to your DNP Scholarly Project topic.

Nature of the Problem Presentation Video (20%): In this assignment, you will develop a PowerPoint presentation that integrates all components of Chapter 1 of your DNP Scholarly Project Proposal. You will then record and submit a video presentation of your findings, effectively communicating the problem's nature, significance, and background.

CITI Training Certificate (5%): This requirement ensures that you demonstrate competency in research ethics. You will complete the CITI Training to validate your understanding of the ethical considerations related to conducting research, evidence-based practice (EBP), and quality improvement (QI) projects.

Please Note: Detailed information along with grading rubrics for course assignments will be provided in Canvas.

Important Course Dates:

- Orientation: TBD, Teams link will be provided in the course Modules section
- Census Date: 5/19/25
- Holidays: Memorial Day (5/26/25), Juneteenth (6/19/25), Independence Day (7/4/25)
- Last Date to Withdraw: 7/8/25

Last Day of Course: 8/9/25, you will need to be done before this, check Canvas for this date

Please note that all assignments must be submitted by 11:59 PM Central Time on the due date listed.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates: Details about readings and assignments will be provided in Canvas.

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 (in the Syllabus Module).

NURS 6302 COURSE CALENDAR Summer 2025

All times listed on the schedule and in Canvas are for Central Time and subject to change.

Week Begins	Wk #	Topic/Activities	Assignment/Due Dates
Mon 5/5	1	Module 1: Welcome & Course Orientation and What are QI, EBP, & Research, and Why do I Care? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review <u>Getting Started</u> & <u>Module 1</u> in Canvas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review syllabus & course calendar Review assigned readings, podcast, & lecture Orientation Teams Meeting: TBD Teams Link: will be in the Modules section of the course and in the Announcements 	Due 5/11/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Course Orientation Live/Video Profile Photo Instructions Graduate Affirmation Forms Round Table Discussion: Introduce yourself Module 1 Quiz: QI vs EBP vs Research Module 1 Quiz: Understanding Plagiarism
Mon 5/12	2	Module 2: Literature Searching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review assigned readings & tutorials Literature Searching Orientation - TBD Watch video: Supporting Significance & Background 	Due 5/18/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature Searching video survey Significance & Background video survey Module 2 Quiz: Literature Searching Census Day- 5/19/25
Mon 5/19	3	Module 3: Understanding the Research Process and Its Role in EBP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review assigned readings Watch video: Research Process 	Due 5/25/25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Round Table Discussion: Research Process and Its Role in EBP Module 3 Quiz: Research Process Research Process video survey
Mon 5/26	4	Module 4: Basic Evidence Appraisal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review assigned readings Watch video: Evidence Appraisal 	Due 6/1/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Exercise #1 (Ch 3) Evidence Appraisal video survey
Mon 6/2	5		Due 6/8/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Exercise #2 (Ch 8)
Mon 6/9	6		Due 6/15/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Exercise #3 (Ch 10) Module 4 Quiz: Research Process Appraisal
Mon 6/16	7		Due 6/22/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application Exercise #4 (Ch 12) Module 4 Quiz: Interpretation & Evaluation of Research & Systematic Reviews
Mon 6/23	8	Module 5: Significance & Background of Practice Problem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review assigned readings Work on papers Watch video: PowerPoint Presentation Basics 	Due 6/29/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing due; work on papers
Mon 6/30	9		Due 7/6/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significance Paper
Mon 7/7	10		Due 7/13/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PowerPoint video survey

			Last Day to Withdraw 7/8/25
Mon 7/14	11		Due 7/20/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background Paper • Clinical Attestation Hours
Mon 7/21	12	Module 6: Ethical concerns in QI, EBP, and Research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review assigned readings • Watch video: Ethical Concerns 	Due 7/27/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature of the Problem Presentation Video • Ethical Concerns video survey
Mon 7/28	13		Due 8/3/25: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 6 Quiz: Ethical Concerns • CITI Training Certificate
Mon 8/4	14	Module 7: Course Wrap-Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Course Evaluations