



TRANSCULTURAL NURSING RESEARCH
NURS 6350
Summer 2025
Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

Instructor's Name: Christy Gipson PhD, RN, CNE, ACUE (.560)

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Office Hours: Virtual Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM CST and by appointment for phone call or video conference. Additional days and times may be arranged upon request. Please email me to make arrangements or use this link to book a day and time: [Book time with Dr. Gipson](#)

*Best way to contact me.

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 this course, the student will 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.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

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).

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

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

1. Self-Awareness Reflection Activity	5%
2. Guest Speaker: Implicit Bias	5%
3. Definitions Discussion	5%
4. Human Subjects CITI Training	0%
5. The Great Ethical Debate	15%
6. Henrietta Lacks	10%
7. The Constant Gardener	10%
8. Transcultural Research Methods	15%
9. The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down Critique	15%
10. Final Critique	20%

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.

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.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

- **Self-Awareness Reflection:** You will reflect on personal values, perceptions of other cultures, and interactions with people from different backgrounds. The exercise concludes with a reflection on insights, surprises, and experiences that have shaped your cultural awareness.
- **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 grading rubric associated with discussion assignments.

- **Guest Speaker:** Prepare for and participate in a live online discussion about the concept of implicit bias and explore ways in which biases may affect conducting research with people different from yourself.
- **Definitions Discussion:** Identify and present assigned definitions and their relevance to transcultural nursing research.
- **CITI Training:** You will complete CITI Human Subjects Training and submit your certificate showing completion.
- **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.
- **Mrs. Lacks:** Read and discuss ethical and sociocultural issues related to Ms. Lacks’ story. You will read *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, and make notes regarding the presence/absence of ethical concepts as applied to Ms. Skloot’s ethnographic research. We will meet via Zoom and discuss.
- **The Constant Gardener:** View the movie and discuss ethical issues related to doing research in a developing country. You will write a two-page paper critiquing the research and applying ethical concepts that were lacking / present.
- **Transcultural Research Methods:** Apply methodological considerations to doing research with a group different from yourself. You will be assigned to read one or two articles covering transcultural research methodology and will create a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation summarizing essential information related to transcultural research methods.
- **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 for the final critique assignment.

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

Important Course Dates:**Classes Begin:** May 5, 2025**Census Date (withdraw without penalty):** May 19, 2025**Last Date to Withdraw:** July 8, 2025. Students please notify your course faculty and contact your advisor.**Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:**

Course Schedule			
Week #	Week of/Date of the week	Module Information	Topic(s)/Assignments Due on Tuesdays at 11:59 PM
	May 1-4	Preview Week	Begin readings
1	May 5	Self-Awareness	Course Orientation, Graduate Affirmation Forms, Student profile, Introductions
2	May 12	Self-Awareness	Self-Awareness Reflection Activity
3	May 19	Implicit Bias and Other Concepts	Readings & Group Discussion; Guest Speaker date/time TBD during the first week of class
	May 26	Memorial Day Holiday, all offices closed, no classes held	
4	May 27	Transcultural Definitions	Definitions Discussion
5	June 2	History & Ethics of Transcultural Research	Human Subjects CITI Training; Turn in Certificate
6	June 9	Transcultural Research Ethics	The Great Ethical Debate
7	June 16	Transcultural Research Ethics	The Great Ethical Debate
	June 19	Juneteenth/Emancipation holiday; all offices closed, no classes held	
8	June 23	Transcultural Research Ethics in the US	Short Paper and Group Discussion; The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks
9	June 30	Transcultural Research Ethics-International	The Constant Gardener
	July 4	Independence Day Holiday, all offices closed, no classes held	
10	July 7	Transcultural Research Methods	Presentation & Response
	July 8	Last day to withdraw from one or more courses	
11	July 14	Application & Analysis of Transcultural Research	The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down Analysis Table
12	July 21	Application & Analysis of Transcultural Research	The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down Analysis Table
13	July 28	Application & Analysis of Transcultural Research	Critique and compare two transcultural research studies
14	August 4	Application & Analysis of Transcultural Research	Critique and compare two transcultural research studies

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information:

https://www.utt Tyler.edu/nursing/college/student_guide_and_policies.php

Student Resources and University Policies are provided in Canvas.