

PHAR 7219: Drug Information Retrieval and Literature Evaluation

Fall 2026

Course Description

Students will learn how to critically evaluate and utilize the medical literature to impact pharmacy practice.

Additional Course Information

Content coverage includes the use of primary, secondary, and tertiary literature in pharmacy practice and strategies used to evaluate literature and information resources. The content will build upon drug information, biostatistics, and clinical research concepts learned in prior coursework. Students will develop the skills necessary to critically evaluate literature and other resources to competently respond to medication-related questions. Lastly, students will appreciate the necessity of timely and rigorously analyzed literature as an essential component of formulating and implementing optimal medication management.

Course Credit: 2 credit hours

Pre-Requisites:

- P2 Standing
- PHAR 7274: Biostatistics & Clinical Research Methods

Co-Requisites: Completion or current enrollment in:

- PHAR 7481 Integrated Pharmacotherapy 1: Respiratory & Renal
- PHAR 7582 Integrated Pharmacotherapy 2: Infectious Diseases

Class Meeting Days, Time and Location:

- Thursdays, 10:00 AM – 11:50 AM; W.T. Brookshire Hall Room 136

Course Coordinator:

Amy H Schwartz, PharmD, BCPS

W.T. Brookshire Hall Room 239

Email: aschwartz@uttyler.edu

Phone: 903-566-7168

Office hours:

- Tuesday and Thursday, 12 PM - 1 PM
- Contact directly if other days/times are necessary
- Preferred method of contact: email

Fisch College of Pharmacy (FCOP) and UT Tyler Policies

This is Part 1 of the syllabus. [Part 2](#) contains UT Tyler and the FCOP course policies and procedures. For experiential courses (i.e., IPPE and/or APPE), the Experiential Manual contains additional policies and instructions that supplement the Syllabus Part 1 and 2. Please note, the Experiential Manual may contain policies with different deadlines and/or instructions. The Manual should be followed in these cases.

Required Incoming Knowledge and Skills

Course content will build on and apply the knowledge and skills learned in PHAR 7274. In the schedule below PHAR 7274 prerequisite knowledge and skills related to a PHAR 7219 class session is noted. Students are responsible for maintaining awareness and understanding of PHAR 7274 course content in preparation for PHAR 7219 class sessions.

Required Materials

Course materials are available through the Robert R. Muntz Library or in the class Canvas site. Textbooks are available either online (<http://library.uttyler.edu/>) or on reserve.

1. Malone PM, Witt BA, Malone MJ, Peterson DM. Drug Information: A Guide for Pharmacists, Seventh Edition. McGraw-Hill Education, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-260-46030-8. Available in Access Pharmacy (log in with UT Tyler credentials)
2. Aparasu RR, Bentley JP. *Principles of Research Design and Drug Literature Evaluation*, Second Edition. McGraw-Hill Education, 2020. ISBN: 978-1-260-44178-9. Available in Access Pharmacy (log in with UT Tyler credentials)
3. Canvas course website: uttyler.edu/canvas

Course Format

The course may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Independent study of selected readings
- Individual activities and quizzes
- Individual assignments
- Team assignments

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

	PLO (1-12)	ACPE Appendix 1 (1-4)	SAS Toolkit (1-11)	NAPLEX (1-5)	MPJE (1-4)	CoEPA (1-3)
1. Describe the benefits and limitations of primary, secondary, and tertiary resources, including print and electronic formats.	1, 3	4	5	1	2.3	1.1
2. Understand the fundamental concepts of artificial intelligence (AI) and its applications in practice, including AI benefits, risks, and appropriate use.	1	4	5, 10, 11	1	2.3	1.1, 2.1, 2.2
3. Identify appropriate resources to address specific drug information questions in an efficient manner.	1, 3	4	5, 10, 11	1 - 4	2.3	1.1, 2.1
4. Evaluate the quality and applicability of drug information within a resource.	1, 3	1, 4	5, 11	1	2.3	1.1, 2.1
5. Develop a drug information question response.	1, 3	1, 3, 4	5, 10	1 - 4	2.3	1.1, 2.1, 2.2
6. Communicate drug information with clarity and accuracy at a level appropriate for the audience.	3	3, 4	5, 10	1	2.3	1.1, 2.1, 2.2

Course Assessment Methods

	Assessment Method	Description
1	Midterm and Final Exam - Multiple Choice or Multiple Select Question(s)	Standard multiple choice and select all that apply questions
2	Midterm and Final Exam - Open Ended Questions	Calculations using drug information resources Clinical question development Writing sample evaluation Critical evaluation of primary literature, including interpreting results Application of clinical practice guidelines
3	Projects	Drug information question response (DIQR): Individual drug information question response
		Journal Club (JC): Individual evaluation of primary literature and handout development
4	Oral Presentation	Journal Club verbal presentation

Grading Policy and Grade Calculation

Grades will be determined from student performance on assignments, quizzes, midterm exam, final exam, and other activities. Evaluative processes may encompass multiple-choice, fill in the blank, short-answer, essay, or problem-based questions.

Exams, quizzes, and assignments are cumulative, and course material builds on a trajectory. Students are responsible for material learned during prior courses. The grading scale is noted below. The final course grade will be assigned according to the calculated percentage, which will not be rounded. For additional information, see [Part 2](#) of the syllabus.

During the time the course is in progress, students who obtain less than 75% on any summative assessment or a total course grade of less than 75% during a particular semester will receive an academic alert from the course coordinator and the Office of Academic Affairs and be subject to weekly in-course remediation with the course instructor(s).

Class Attendance and Punctuality Expectations

Students are expected to be on time (start of class and breaks) and attend all class sessions, other course activities, and exams. Certain class activities (e.g. exams) may require arrival earlier than the scheduled start time. Students who are tardy or absent from class, or do not submit a graded activity by stated deadline (quiz, exam, or other assignment) with an acceptable excuse may not be afforded make-up, resulting in a zero grade. See the FCOP Syllabus, [Part 2](#), for details of the attendance and examination policies.

Artificial Intelligence

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task(s) undertaken. Discussions are encouraged regarding the ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications of AI. All use of AI should be acknowledged to align with the University commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using an AI tool.

Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools utilize predictive modeling to generate content. All results should be reviewed for accuracy/correctness, to avoid distribution of incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased information.

An AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to completing assignments or research. Faculty and students are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information shared and/or submitted. Misuse of AI that violates course requirements (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity and the student will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in UT Tyler Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, AI is permitted for specific assignments or situations only. The course includes assignments where artificial intelligence (AI) tools (such as ChatGPT, Copilot or Gemini) are permitted and encouraged. When AI use is permissible it will be clearly stated in assignment directions and must be appropriately acknowledged and cited. Contact the coordinator or instructor if the use of AI is not stated or unclear.

Standard Grade Calculation	
Activities and Quizzes (Individual and Team)	5%
Drug Information Question Response (DIQR)	20%
Journal Club (JC)	15%
Midterm Exam	30%
Cumulative Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

The final course letter grade will be determined according to the following grading scheme:

A	90 - 100 %
B	80 - 89.999 %
C	70 - 79.999 %
D	60 - 69.999 %
F	< 60 %

PHAR 7219 Fall 2025 Course Schedule

Please note that dates, topics, and assignments are subject to change. In the event of a change, ample notification will be provided.

WEEK	DAY	TOPIC	INSTRUCTOR	CLO(S)
1	8/27/26	Course Overview - Importance of Drug Information and Literature Evaluation Ethics: Brief Review of Ethical and Legal Aspects of DI Practice and Professional Writing from PHAR 7217	A Schwartz	1-6
2	9/3/26	Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Types of Biomedical Resources Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Electronic Resources Pharmaceutical Calculations: Using Tertiary Resources for Adult and Pediatric Drug Dosing	A Schwartz	1
3	9/10/26	Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Primary Literature Article Anatomy Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Systematic Approach to Developing Clinical Questions	A. Schwartz	1
4	9/17/26	Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence and its Application in DI practice	A Schwartz	2
5	9/24/26	Professional Communication: Writing Styles, Referencing, and Plagiarism; Writing Professional Drug Information Responses Professional Communication: DIQR Assignment Instructions	A Schwartz	3 - 6
6	10/1/26	Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Navigating Library Resources, Article Citation Anatomy, and Literature Search Strategies Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Selecting Appropriate Resources for Drug Information Question Responses	J LaMott A Schwartz	3, 4
7	10/8/26	Midterm Exam	A Schwartz	1 - 4
8	10/15/26	Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Evaluating Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Journal Club Assignment Instructions	O Shoir A Schwartz	4
9	10/22/26	Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Evaluating RCTs continued	O Shoir A. Schwartz	3, 4

WEEK	DAY	TOPIC	INSTRUCTOR	CLO(S)
10	10/29/26	Professional Communication: DIQR First Draft Due Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Evaluating Non-inferiority RCTs and Review Articles	O Shoaib A. Schwartz	3 - 6
11	11/5/26	Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Evaluating Cohort, Case-control and Cross-sectional Analyses Health Information Retrieval and Evaluation: Interpreting Clinical Practice Guidelines	O Shoaib A. Schwartz	
12	11/12/26	Professional Communication: Journal Club Presentations	A Schwartz Other faculty	3, 4, 6
13	11/19/26	Professional Communication: Journal Club Presentations Professional Communication: DIQR Final Submission	A Schwartz Other faculty	3, 4, 6
14	11/26/26	NO CLASS - Thanksgiving Holiday		
15	12/3/26	Professional Communication: Journal Club Presentations (if necessary) Faculty Grading / Final Exam Review	A Schwartz	4 - 6
16	12/10/26	Cumulative Final Exam	A Schwartz	1 - 6