



Capstone

NURS 5382

Fall 2026

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

Please check Canvas during the first week of class for potential syllabus updates

Instructor Name: J. Michelle Nelson, PhD, RN, CNE, ACUE

Office Location: Online

Email: jenelson@uttyler.edu

Best way to contact: Canvas Inbox

Office Hours:

Virtual hours: Tuesday 8 pm -9 pm CST; other times by appointment (including evening or weekend)

- Join Zoom Meeting: <https://uttyler.zoom.us/j/7356692825>
- No passcode needed because you will wait in the virtual waiting room at this link until I finish up with the previous student, verify your name, and let you into the meeting.
- Please also text me to let me know you are in the waiting room so I can give you an estimated wait time: 281-433-0382

Course Description: Students will synthesize evidence for a clinical problem and develop an evidence-based project, building on work in prior core and clinical courses. This project will comprise evidence-based best practice innovations that will actualize the advanced nursing practice role in educational, administrative, and clinical environments to impact the health of individuals or populations. This course is designed to fall within the final two semesters of the MSN program.

Prerequisites: NURS 5301 and 5302 and at least one-program specialty course.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. Identify a clinical or practice problem and complete an appropriate literature review and synthesis of the available evidence to address the problem.
2. Integrate research evidence, evidence-based theory, ethical considerations, clinical expertise, and patient values into an evidence-based project proposal with the potential to impact health care and health education outcomes.
3. Describe a plan to evaluate your proposed project processes and outcomes for sustainability and cost-effectiveness.

4. Share your evidence-based projects with peers.

Required Textbook:

American Psychological Association. (2020). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). Washington, DC: Author

Open Resource Text:

Thomas, C. (2018). Evidence-based practice in nursing foundations, skills, and roles. Springer Publishing.

This is the Link to the online Text. Keep it handy for easy reference!

[Textbook for this class link.](#)

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Discussion Board Participation | 20% |
| 2. Assignments | 45% |
| 3. Final Scholarly Project | 25% |
| 4. PowerPoint Presentation | 10% |

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.

Late Policy: 5% will be deducted *each day* an assignment is past due unless prior arrangements have been made with your course faculty. ALWAYS let the instructor know in advance of the due date that you need extra time to complete an assignment.

Canvas is set up in this course to do the following settings:

- Missing Assignments: Canvas will ***automatically apply a grade of zero (0) for all missing submissions*** in the Grade book. A submission is labeled missing when the due date has passed, and it has not been submitted.

- Late Assignments: ***If a submission is received after the due date, the Missing label will be automatically replaced by the Late label.*** A submission is labeled late when it has been submitted past the due date.
- Late Assignments: Canvas will ***automatically deduct 5% on all late submissions up to a maximum of 25%.*** The late policy will be applied to a submission when it is graded.
- Late Assignments: For the calculation of the Late Penalty, days late will be rounded up to the next whole number. For example, if a student submits 1.3 days late, the Late Penalty will treat the student as 2 days late.

No resubmissions are accepted unless recommended by your instructor.

Artificial Intelligence in Coursework: 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.** To best support your learning, you must **generate** all graded assignments by yourself to assist in your learning. This exclusion of other resources to help generate assignments includes artificial intelligence (AI). Refrain from using AI tools to **generate** any course content (e.g., text, video, audio, images, code, etc.) for an assignment or classroom assignment.

You may, however, use an AI Writing Assistant (like Grammarly) **to help check for spelling, grammatical errors, and best word choice once your document is written.** If you do use a tool like Grammarly for edits and fine-tuning, you **MUST** acknowledge this in your reference section.

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

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:

The major assignments are

1. Discussion Boards (20%): These discussions allow students to explore concepts and techniques related to the evidence-based practice process.
2. Written assignments (45%): These documents encompass the elements of your Capstone Scholarly Project.
3. PowerPoint Presentation (10%): This presentation allows the final Scholarly Project to be viewed as a professional presentation. It is both an audio and visual presentation via Studio recording.
4. Final Project Paper (25%): This MS Word document is a culmination of the MSN core courses (TS1, TS2, and other degree specific courses) and combines the evidence-based practice process into a final Scholarly Project. It is a professional paper that presents all elements of the evidence-based practice process.

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

Pass/Fail Course Requirements Information:

Program Specific Course Practice Hours:

If Fall 2025 or thereafter marks your first enrollment in the UT Tyler School of Nursing master's or certificate program, you are required to complete 125 practice/practicum hours for this course. If you are in the Nursing Education master's program, these hours will count toward the total required 500 hours. You may not resubmit hours approved for this course in another course. These practice hours are mandated by our accreditation agency, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Completion of 50 practice/practicum hours approved through Exxat are required to pass the course.

Important Course Dates:

Note: The complete course schedule is available on the Course Canvas site.

- **Census Date** (the final date for adding new courses, changing sections, or dropping courses without incurring grades of "W" or "Q"): 9.10.2026
- **Last Date to Withdraw** (final date students are eligible to withdraw from courses for grades of "W"): 11.02.2026

Students, please notify your course faculty and contact your advisor if you plan to withdraw.

- **For forms from the Office of the Registrar:** <https://www.uttyler.edu/current-students/registrar/forms.php>

NURS 5382 Nurse Educator Capstone

Fall 2026 Course Calendar

Preview Dates	August 27–August 30, 2026
Course Dates	August 31–December 13, 2026
Due-Time Standard	All assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. Central Time on the listed date.

Week	Dates	Course Activities and Assignments	Due
Week 0 Preview	August 27–August 30, 2026	- Review the syllabus and course modules. - Begin exploring potential capstone project topics.	—
Week 1	August 31–September 6, 2026	- Readings — Chapter 1: Nursing's Commitment to Best Clinical Decisions - Readings — Chapter 2: Using Evidence to Inform and Reform Clinical Practice - Graduate Affirmation Forms (Complete/Incomplete)	Sept. 6

Week	Dates	Course Activities and Assignments	Due
		• Module 1: Begin to Explore Your Project Topic • Discussion — Introductions and Professional Networking • Discussion — Understanding Evidence-Based Practice	
Week 2	September 7–September 13, 2026	• Labor Day: September 7 • Readings — Chapter 3: Integrating Best Evidence Into Practice • Readings — Chapter 4: Setting the Boundaries of Nursing Evidence • Module 2: Topic Approval	Sept. 13
Week 3	September 14–September 20, 2026	• Readings — Chapter 6: Evidence-Based Practice: Success of Practice Change Depends on the Question • Readings — Chapter 8: How to Read and Assess for Quality Research • Module 3: Searching the Literature	Sept. 20
Week 4	September 21–September 27, 2026	• Readings — See Canvas for readings and media on starting your project and appraising evidence • Module 4: Start Your Project (Title Page and Introduction) • Module 4 Check-In: Start the Evidence Table (Complete/Incomplete)	Sept. 27
Week 5	September 28–October 4, 2026	• Readings — See Canvas for readings and media on appraising evidence • Module 5: Completed Evidence Table	Oct. 4
Week 6	October 5–October 11, 2026	• Readings — See Canvas for literature synthesis resources • Module 6 Check-In: Rationale and Progress on Literature Synthesis (Complete/Incomplete)	Oct. 11
Week 7	October 12–October 18, 2026	• Readings — No assigned readings • Module 7: Final Literature Synthesis	Oct. 18
Week 8	October 19–October 25, 2026	• Readings — Chapter 11: Organizing an Evidence-Based Practice Implementation Plan • Module 8 Check-In: Implementation of Your Plan Phase I (Complete/Incomplete)	Oct. 25
Week 9	October 26–November 1, 2026	• Readings — No assigned readings • Module 9: Implementation of Your Plan Phase II • Discussion — Project Support and Resistance	Nov. 1
Week 10	November 2–November 8, 2026	• Readings — Chapter 15: Evidence-Based Practice: A Culture of Organizational Empowerment • Module 10 Check-In: Data Collection and Evaluation (Complete/Incomplete) • Discussion — Culture of Organizational Empowerment	Nov. 8
Week 11	November 9–November 15, 2026	• Readings — Chapter 16: Nursing Leadership: The Fulcrum of Evidence-Based Practice Culture • Module 11 Check-In: Cost/Benefit Analysis and Conclusions/Recommendations (Complete/Incomplete)	Nov. 15

Week	Dates	Course Activities and Assignments	Due
Week 12	November 16– November 22, 2026	• Readings — No assigned readings • Module 12: Final Draft with Acknowledgments and Executive Summary • Practice Hours Deadline: All 125 practice hours must be completed and logged in Exxat by November 22 at 11:59 p.m.	Nov. 22
Week 13 Break	November 23– November 29, 2026	• University Thanksgiving Break: November 23–November 27 • No assignments are due this week.	—
Week 14	November 30–December 6, 2026	• Readings — No assigned readings • Final PowerPoint and Presentation	Dec. 6
Week 15	December 7–December 13, 2026	• Readings — No assigned readings • Final Capstone Paper (MS Word Version) • Discussion — Share Your Final Presentation with Peers • Course Evaluation (Complete/Incomplete) • Course ends December 13, 2026.	Dec. 9

Helpful Reminders for Students

- Stay engaged weekly and avoid falling behind.
- Use feedback from check-ins to strengthen your final paper.
- Work in your template throughout the course rather than waiting until the end.
- Reach out early if you need support.

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information can be found at the website below.

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

Student Resources and University Policies and Information are provided in Canvas.