



DNP Independent Study
NURS 6199.P004
Fall 2026
Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

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Office Hours: Virtual Office Hours: M/W/F 12 PM CST and by appointment for phone call or video conference. Alternative days and times, including evenings and weekends, may be arranged upon request.

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Course Description: The independent study course offers Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) students the opportunity to explore a specialized area of interest that aligns with their professional goals and scholarly focus. Under the guidance of a faculty mentor, students will develop individualized learning objectives, complete in-depth readings, engage in scholarly inquiry, and produce a tangible academic or practice-based deliverable (e.g., literature review, project proposal, policy analysis, manuscript, or quality improvement plan).

The independent study is designed to foster advanced critical thinking, self-directed learning, and the application of DNP competencies in clinical practice, healthcare systems leadership, informatics, population health, or evidence-based practice innovation.

Prerequisites: Faculty/Program approval

Corequisites: N/A

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Demonstrate a spirit of inquiry and professional maturity to support adaptability, evidence-based decision-making, and lifelong learning. (AACN 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.3, 10.2)
2. Differentiate the appropriate use of quality improvement, evidence-based practice, and research methodologies in healthcare decision-making. (AACN 4.1, 4.2)
3. Use evidence to establish the background, significance, and rationale for addressing a clinical or practice-based problem. (AACN 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1)
4. Synthesize findings from multiple sources of evidence to develop a comprehensive foundation for a practice change initiative. (AACN 2.5, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1)
5. Design evidence-based interventions that mitigate risk, enhance value, and improve access, quality, and cost-effectiveness in healthcare delivery. (AACN 3.3, 3.4, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 7.2, 7.3)

Required Textbooks and Readings: There are no required textbooks for this course. It is recommended that you have the APA manual if your journal requires APA. The APA manual also has good information about presenting your information cleanly and writing well. If your journal uses AMA, MLA, or another style format, you should be able to download basic instructions from the Internet from Purdue Owl. You are expected to identify and get the supportive writing materials you need to guide you from the library or internet. Assigned readings from journals and periodicals may be used to supplement content. Also, many professional nursing journals are now requiring quality improvement manuscripts to be submitted using the SQUIRE 2.0 template ([Link](#)). Review the journal requirements carefully to determine if SQUIRE is the expected template for your manuscript submission.

Recommended Textbooks and Readings: American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.). ISBN-13: 978-1433832161, ISBN-10: 143383216X. Now available for free to students: <https://stylemanual.apa.org/dashboardLinks to an external site.>

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

Participation	10%
Professionalism	5%
Assignments	85%

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). The simple average of all assignment grades must be at or above 80% to pass the course. Students are required to achieve an average of 80% (B) to complete the course successfully (CR).

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

Artificial Intelligence: 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 for specific assignments or situations, as indicated by your course faculty. Appropriate acknowledgment of AI use is required. Learning how to use AI is an emerging skill, and we will work through the limitations of these evolving systems together. To uphold academic integrity and the spirit of scholarly pursuit, when you utilize any generative AI tools to help with the completion of an assignment, it must be properly documented (which tool was used and how it was used). For any assignment requiring [APA formatting and citation style https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/cite-generative-ai-references](https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/cite-generative-ai-references) (or other approved style), use the appropriate Style Guide to cite and reference the use of the generative AI tool. Specific assignments may require additional details; see assignment instructions.

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 and exceptions are at the discretion of course faculty.

Assignment Resubmission Policy: To support mastery learning and academic success, students are permitted to resubmit any assignment on which they initially earned less than 80%, under the following conditions:

- One-time Resubmission: Students may resubmit each eligible assignment only once.

- **Grade Cap:** The maximum grade that can be earned on any resubmitted assignment is 80%, regardless of the quality of the resubmission. All resubmitted assignments will have an automatic 20% deduction from the final grade earned out of 100%.
- **Exclusions:** This policy does not apply to assignments in which the original grade was below 80% due to late submission penalties applied in accordance with the course's Late Policy.
- **Submission Deadline:** Resubmitted work must be submitted within 7 days of receiving the original grade and feedback, unless otherwise approved by the instructor.

Students are strongly encouraged to review instructor feedback carefully and consult with the instructor as needed before resubmitting work.

Missed Assignments Policy: All course assignments are required components of this course and must be completed to receive a passing grade. If an assignment is missed, a grade of zero will be recorded and will remain as the final grade for that assignment. However, the assignment must still be completed and submitted, regardless of the grade penalty, to satisfy course completion requirements. Failure to submit all required coursework may result in a course failure, regardless of the final grade average.

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

Pass/Fail Course Requirements Information: Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the course Modules. Final grade for the course will be either Credit or No Credit (CR/NC).

Program Specific Course Practice Hours: No practice hours are required for this course.

Important Course Dates:

Classes Begin: 08/27/2026

Census Date (withdraw without penalty): 09/09/2026

Last Date to Withdraw: 11/02/2026. Students please notify your course faculty and contact your advisor.

Holidays: 09/07 – Labor Day; 11/23-11/27 – Thanksgiving Holiday

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:

NURS 6199: DNP Independent Study – Fall 2026 Course Schedule

Week #	Dates	Module	Assignments/Due Dates
X	08/27 – 08/30	Getting Started	Preview course/syllabus in its entirety Review DNP Project Resource Hub Schedule 1:1 course orientation w/Instructor
1	08/31 – 09/06	Module 1	Overview 9/6: Participation: DNP Faculty Mentor-Student Communication & Progress Agreement

			9/6: Participation: DNP Affiliation Agreement Requests – Part 1: Request 9/6: Participation: Project Sponsor(s) 9/6: Participation: CITI Updated/IRB Portal access 9/6: Assignment: Updated Implementation Plan
2	09/7 – 09/13	Module 2	9/7: Holiday – University/SON Closed 9/9: Census Day 9/13: Assignment: Synthesis Table 9/13: Assignment: Search for Evidence/Flow Diagram
3-4	09/14 – 09/27	Module 3A	9/27: Assignment: DNP Project Report (SQUIRE 2.0) Section 1 9/27: Participation: DNP Affiliation Agreement Requests – Part 2: Approval (Can be submitted sooner upon receipt)
5-6	09/27 – 10/11	Module 3B	10/11: Assignment: DNP Project Implementation Plan Presentation – Section 1
7-8	10/12 – 10/25	Module 4A	10/25: Assignment: DNP Project Report (SQUIRE 2.0) Section 2
9-10	10/26 – 11/08	Module 4B	11/08: Assignment: DNP Project Implementation Plan Presentation – Section 2
11	11/09 – 11/22	Module 5	Week of 11/16 – 11/20: Schedule (2) virtual practice sessions with Course Instructor
13	11/23 – 11/27		Thanksgiving Holidays
14-15	11/30 – 12/12	Module 6	12/01: Assignment - DNP Project Proposal Presentation (Choose (3) times, send to Course Instructor) 12/04: Edit Presentation based on feedback from Proposal Presentation 12/11: UT-Tyler IRB Submission

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.