



DNP Practice: Writing for Publication
NURS 7343
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.

*Best way to contact me.

Course Description: This outcomes-based course prepares DNP students to develop and produce a scholarly work suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed journal. Students will critically appraise professional writing, identify reputable publication venues, and apply advanced writing strategies to enhance scientific rigor. Through an iterative process of drafting, peer review, and faculty feedback, students will refine their manuscripts for clarity, coherence, and scholarly impact. Emphasis is placed on integrating evidence, addressing writing barriers, and adhering to publication standards to contribute meaningfully to the nursing discipline.

Prerequisites: Permission of the instructor(s).

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Critically appraise diverse forms of professional writing by applying advanced strategies to evaluate accuracy, credibility, and rigor while identifying reputable publication venues, assessing impact metrics, recognizing predatory journals, and ensuring scholarly integrity for the effective dissemination of evidence-based practice. (AACN 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 8.1, 8.2)
2. Formulate a structured plan for developing a scholarly manuscript, addressing potential writing barriers, and adhering to publication timelines. (AACN 4.1, 10.2)
3. Integrate relevant literature and scholarly evidence into a written manuscript to enhance scientific rigor and contribute to the nursing discipline. (AACN 4.1, 4.2, 6.1, 10.2)

4. Evaluate manuscript drafts through an iterative writing process, incorporating peer and faculty feedback to improve clarity, coherence, and scientific impact. (AACN 4.1, 4.3, 6.1, 9.5, 10.2)
5. Produce a high-quality, publication-ready manuscript that meets the formatting and submission requirements of a target peer-reviewed journal. (AACN 4.1, 4.2, 6.1, 6.4, 9.3, 9.5, 10.2)

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.

If you are in a practice course, all students are required to have an active Exxat subscription.

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/dashboard>[Links to an external site.](#)

Special Course Notes:

Progressive writing goals will be individually negotiated to accomplish the following: development of a writing plan; journal selection; completion of a minimum of two drafts; and completion of a manuscript approved by faculty as submission ready.

No numeric or letter grades are given in this course. Substantive feedback will be offered with the aim of improving your product. *You are expected to respond to all suggestions* just as you would to review feedback from a journal, either with changes incorporated or rationale for why you choose not to follow the suggestions. Choosing to not act on some suggestions may be an acceptable response, but there should be substantive rationale provided.

Final grade for the course will be either Credit or No Credit (CR/NC). The grade of “No Credit” will be earned if any of the course requirements are not completed.

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 only for specific assignments or situations, and appropriate acknowledgement is required. AI may only be used in the preparation of your successive drafts for the purpose of improving your writing skills. You may use AI writing assistants to proofread, check grammar, and suggest improvements for clarity and tone. Remember it's likely that each of you will be submitting to a different journal, each with disparate guidelines on the use of AI. To protect your scholarly integrity and reputation, use of AI to develop manuscript content is not permitted in this course.

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values:

Assignments and Point Values

Criteria for Evaluation:

Point Values

Module 1: Preparation

DNP Practice Hours Attestation

25

Assignment: Plan to Overcome Barriers to Writing

100

Journal Evaluation Matrix

100

Manuscript Planning Matrix

100

Module 2: Production

Schedule 1:1 with Course Instructor

Credit/No Credit

Draft Query Letter

100

1:1 Meeting with Course Instructor

Credit/No Credit

Manuscript Outline

75

Module 3: Pursuing Publication

Schedule 1:1 with Course Instructor

Credit/No Credit

Manuscript Draft #1

100

1:1 Meeting with Course Instructor

Credit/No Credit

Manuscript Draft #2

100

Module 4: Wrap-up

DNP Practice Hours End of Semester Report (100 hours)

100

Manuscript Final Draft

Credit/No Credit

Reflection on Publication Process

100

Total

Credit/No Credit

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

DNP Practice Hours Requirement: To successfully pass this course, students must complete and document a **minimum of 100 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). The simple average of all unit exam grades, including a final must be at or above 80% to pass the course. Once the student has achieved a simple unit exam average of 80% or higher, course grades will be determined based on the weighted calculation of exams and other required course work. 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.

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:

Plan to Overcome Writing Barriers	Submit your Plan to Overcome Barriers to Writing
Journal Evaluation Rubric	Evaluate journals using a tool that guides authors to find the journal that most appropriately aligns with their intended subject matter, written product type, etc.
Planning Matrix	Develop, organize, and plan the content of a manuscript before you begin writing.
Draft of Query Letter	Submit a query letter to the editor(s) of journal of choice.
Outline Draft #1	Submit an outline that should be closely aligned with the author's guidelines of selected journal.
Manuscript Draft #1	Submit first draft of manuscript.
Manuscript Draft #2	Submit second draft of manuscript.
Manuscript Final	Submit final draft of manuscript for approval prior to submitting to journal.
Meetings w/Faculty x 2 required; 3rd meeting at discretion of faculty (as needed)	Students are required to meet with course instructor for 1:1 meeting to discuss journal selection, feedback of drafts, and final draft.
Reflections on Publishing Process	

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

1) Practice Hours Required

DNP Practice Hours Requirement: To successfully pass this course, students must complete and document a **minimum of 100 DNP Practice Hours** in Exxat. Proper and timely documentation in Exxat is mandatory and will be monitored for compliance.

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Important Course Dates:

- Classes begin for 15-week session: 08/27/2026
- Orientation: TBD. Teams link will be provided in the course Modules section
- Census Date: 9/09/26
- Holidays: Labor Day (9/07/26); Thanksgiving (11/23-11/27)
- Last Date to Withdraw: 11/02/26

Last Day of Course: 12/12/26; please refer to the course schedule and Canvas for specific due dates.

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:

Week #	Dates	Module	Assignments/Due Dates
X	8/27		Fall 2026 Classes Begin
1	8/31-9/6	Getting Started	8/31: Orientation Session (Teams) @ 7pm CT
2-3	9/7 – 9/20	Module 1	9/07: Holiday – University/SON Closed 9/06: Plan to Overcome Barriers 9/09: Census Day 9/16: Journal Evaluation Rubric 9/20: Planning Matrix
4-5	9/21 – 10/4	2	9/23: Schedule #1 1:1 with Instructor (Teams) – Week of 9/28 9/24: Submit Draft of Query Letter(s) 9/28 (week of): Authors Guidelines/Outline Draft #1 10/4: Outline Final (aligns w/selected journal)
6-7	10/5 – 10/18	3	10/16: Schedule #2 1:1 with Instructor (Teams) – Week of 10/26 10/18: Manuscript Draft #1
8-10	10/19 -11/1		Week of 10/26-10/30 1:1 Sessions Draft 1
11-13	11/2-11/22		11/02: Last Day to Withdraw 11/15: Manuscript Draft #2 11/20: Schedule #3 1:1 with Instructor (Teams) – Week of 11/30 (as needed)
	11/23 – 11/27		Thanksgiving Break for Students & Faculty

14-15	11/30 – 12/12	4	12/6: Manuscript Final 12/11: Submit Reflections on Publishing Process 12/11: Submit Student Evaluation of Course
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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.