Welcome to NURS 5202 – Capstone II!

Welcome to Capstone II! The purpose of this course is to build on your project developed in Capstone I and refine and implement the project. The outcome of this semester will be disseminating the project findings. Are you ready to embark on a journey? This journey will be like no other. It will be exciting, fun, tedious at times, but rewarding. The material you learned and the time you invested in Capstone I will be very useful this semester as you implement your project. Implementation of your project is the journey! The structure of this course has been arranged in six Modules, located in the “Modules” tab in Blackboard. Module 1 prepares you for the implementation of your project. Congratulations on completing your project proposal and evidence tables in Capstone I! In Capstone II, you will be getting ready to implement your project. In Module 2, you will begin the journey of implementation. You will be sharing your experience via the discussion board. The purpose of sharing is to track your progress, identify any "roadblocks," and share your solutions. We can all learn from each other. For Module 3, you will continue your journey of implementation, but your journey is near as you will be finishing your projects. In Module 4, you will be evaluating your project, starting first with assessing the outcome of your project. Module 5 is the culmination of all of your hard work. You will be writing your final project paper. Module 6 is the dissemination piece – a very important part of research! As you can see, you will be very busy with your project, but it will be fun and rewarding. I encourage you to enjoy and embrace the research journey!
Introduction
Dr. Hermanns is a committed educator and researcher. Her research has focused on understanding the illness experience of persons with Parkinson’s disease and their carepartners. Her program of research has expanded to include interventions to promote health in persons with chronic illness (i.e., Parkinson’s disease and persons with cancer). I am very excited and happy to be part of this semester.

Your Faculty
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If you experience any problems that you are not able to resolve by accessing the UT Tyler Blackboard Campus Computing Services, you can contact me via email or office phone (information listed above).

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Title: NURS 5202.060: Capstone II

Course Description
Refinement, approval, and implementation of the project developed in Capstone I. Students will work with interprofessional team members and stakeholders. (2 SCH)

Prerequisites
Capstone I

Course Goals and Objectives
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Collaborate with the selected interprofessional team to implement strategies developed to achieve project goal(s).
2. Recommend future strategies and research based on formative and summative evaluations.
3. Disseminate findings into the public domain.
4. Reflect on how his/her personal philosophy of nursing and healthcare has evolved as a result of graduate nursing education.
Course Outline

Module 1
Students will establish a weekly schedule to meet project goals (Project Goal(s) and Timeframes due); collaborative meetings for approval and project collaboration initiated. Approval documents submitted (Final Approvals).

Module 2
Students initiate implementation of project. Progress Report 1 due.

Module 3
Continue project implementation; Progress Report 2 due.

Module 4
Conduct project evaluations (Project Evaluation due).

Module 5
Final project implementation (Final Research Project Paper due).

Module 6
Dissemination (Project Dissemination due).

Key Assignments

- **Project Goal(s) and Timeframes:** Students will establish a weekly timeframe to reflect activities to achieve project goal(s).

- **Final Approvals:** Students will submit letters of approval necessary to implement the project. This will include certificate of completion of the UT Tyler Ethics training, UT Tyler IRB approval, and/or administrative approvals (i.e., letters of support from facility/institution, etc.).

- **Progress Reports:** Two progress reports will be submitted. Students submit a progress report to faculty describing how the project is complying with timeframe.

- **Final Project Paper:** Paper to reflect the implementation and evaluation of project.

- **Electronic Poster:** This is the dissemination piece – this poster will be for dissemination to a professional audience.

Course Calendar/Schedule
The course calendar and schedule, including assignment due dates and last day to withdraw without penalty may be found in the course schedule link under the “Getting Started” tab in Blackboard.

Textbook
No textbook required; however, due to the diverse nature of your projects, students will be using textbooks from previous courses and relevant literature. The main textbook that will assist you in your project implementation is:


Booklists and bookstore links may be accessed at the UT Tyler College of Nursing Graduate Studies page.

Grading Information

Course Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Goal and Timeframe</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Approvals</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progress Reports [2]</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Evaluation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Research Project Paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Dissemination</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion Board</td>
<td>P/F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Grades and Grading

Specific guidelines and grading criteria are located in the “Assignments” tab in Blackboard. 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

Students are expected to achieve an average of 80% (B) to successfully complete the course.

Discussion Board

The purpose of the discussion board in this course is to facilitate timely communication between the student and faculty to track progress, answer questions and discuss issues that may arise during the course of the project.

Reading Assignments

- Assigned readings in graduate education are the beginning, not the endpoint. These readings will point you in the direction of continued reading and pondering of your scholarly thoughts. Each participant is responsible for completing the reading assignments in a timely manner. Deadlines are listed in the Course Calendar/Schedule.
• Discussion and written assignments are made with the assumption that required reading assignments are completed prior to completion of discussion and written assignments.

Written Assignments
• All written assignments are to be completed in Microsoft Word and submitted in a timely manner. Deadlines are listed in the Course Calendar/Schedule.
• Please note that all written assignments must be submitted by Midnight Central Standard Time on the due date noted on the “Course Calendar/Course Schedule.” No extensions are given without prior faculty approval. There is a 5 point/day penalty for late assignments.
• All written assignments should be submitted through the “Assignment” tab. If your web connection is down for some reason, please contact the course faculty by course email or phone to make arrangements to get the assignment submitted within the posted time constraints.
• Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. Please avoid the consequences of academic dishonesty by citing all sources that you use in your work.

SafeAssign
SafeAssign is a feature provided by Blackboard that is designed to detect plagiarism or non-original student work. Your instructor may set up this feature so that when you submit papers, they are automatically sent through SafeAssign. The program checks your work against a comprehensive database of source material including previous students’ work and other papers and materials found on the web. An originality report will be generated that indicates the percentage of non-original material (text that matches existing sources) found in your paper. The purpose of using SafeAssign in your course is to ensure you are writing original papers and to encourage you and all students to properly attribute all sources used.

Assignments/Projects Turn-In Process
All assignments and projects will be submitted through the “Assignments” tab in Blackboard. Use the following process to prepare and submit assignments:
• Prepare your assignment using Microsoft Word. Name your assignment with the following convention: last name first initial, assignment title (ex. LastF_Assignmenttitle)
• Click on "View/Complete Assignment" in the assignments overview area or project area
• Number 1 - shows the assignment instructions
• Number 2 - is where you add your comments and attach your completed assignment
• Number 3 - when all attached files (your completed assignment files) are uploaded, click submit

When written assignments are received, faculty will open them in Microsoft Word for grading using the “track changes feature.” This will enable us to make comments, ask questions, etc. We will then return your assignment through the Student Gradebook area. We will make an announcement when papers are returned to remind you to check the Student Gradebook. To
see comments about your assignment, click on your grade. If you use an alternative to written assignments, the work will be viewed and graded using the Criteria sheet which will be returned through the Student Gradebook area of Blackboard. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Faculty will grade all assignments and post the grade within one week of the due date, unless otherwise specified.

If you need more instructions on “how-to” submit files through the “Assignment link,” please read the Blackboard Student Manual located in the Tools area.

**Email**
To communicate by email within the course with other participants or all participants, click the Communications link on the left side of the Blackboard frame. Click Send E-mail to send a message. You are able to send messages to All Users or Select Users in the course, including the instructor. If you need more instructions on how to send email messages with Blackboard, please read the student manual located in the Resources area of the course.

The course email is mhermanns@uttyler.edu (If you do not receive an email message within 24 hours, please contact me via the office telephone). Lastly, please do not send emails to my Patriots Email account; send all correspondence to my uttyler.edu email. Thank you.

Questions or problems other than technical problems may be submitted to the email address above. Please refer to the Technical Requirements in this Syllabus.

**Digital Library Resources**
Students enrolled in this course have online access to the UT Tyler Robert R. Muntz Library. Follow this link, and then complete the instructions at those sites for accessing information from a distant site. Many of the database subscriptions funded by student fees give you access to full text journals that you will need for your review of the literature in each course. If a particular journal is not available, the library staff will procure the article for you using the Iliad feature. Please take the time to update your account and get familiar with the resources available. They are awesome.

**Technical Support**
If you experience technical problems or have a technical question about this course, you can obtain assistance by emailing itsupport@patriots.uttyler.edu When you email IT Support, please include a complete description of your question or problem including:

- The title and number of the course
- The page in question
- If you get an error message, a description and message number
- What you were doing at the time you got the error message

You may also visit the “Help” tab in Blackboard for helpful information.

**Link to Important Student Resources**
Plug-ins and Helper Applications
UT Tyler online courses use Java, JavaScript, browser plug-ins, helper application and cookies. It is essential that you have these elements installed and enabled in your web browser for optimal viewing of the content and functions of your online course.

- **Adobe Flash Player** allows you to view content created with Flash such as interactive web applications and animations. [http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/](http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/)

University Policies

[http://lms-media.utyler.edu/fileman/OID/Resource/skills.html](http://lms-media.utyler.edu/fileman/OID/Resource/skills.html)

Students Rights and Responsibilities
To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: [http://www.utyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php](http://www.utyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php)

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies
Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at [http://www.utyler.edu/registrar](http://www.utyler.edu/registrar). Each semester’s Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions that students need to be aware of. These include:
• Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
• Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
• Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a “W” grade)
• Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
• Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date). Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability Services
In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychiatric disabilities. If you have a disability, including non-visible disabilities such as chronic diseases, learning disabilities, head injury, PTSD or ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment you are encouraged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office and schedule an interview with the Accessibility Case Manager/ADA Coordinator, Cynthia Lowery Staples. If you are unsure if the above criteria applies to you, but have questions or concerns please contact the SAR office. For more information or to set up an appointment please visit the SAR office located in the University Center, Room 3150 or call 903.566.7079. You may also send an email to cstaples@uttyler.edu

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities
If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.
Social Security and FERPA Statement
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA); grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation
Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor’s directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Netiquette Guide
"Netiquette" is network etiquette, the ‘do's and don'ts’ of online communication. Netiquette covers both common courtesy online and informal "rules of the road" of cyberspace. Review and familiarize yourself with the guidelines provided.

Course Evaluation
UT Tyler may ask you to complete a voluntary evaluation to help them make improvements and adjustments in their overall online learning forums. Also, an end of semester evaluation specifically for this course will be made available for you to complete in the last week of instruction. Your comments and recommendations will be considered seriously as the course is updated. Your input throughout the semester contributes to our commitment to improve continually the quality and relevance of this course.

Completion Time
You should expect to spend as much time on an online course as you do in a face-to-face course. As a rough guide, you should plan to spend six to ten hours per week on this course. The actual amount of time will vary from individual to individual. This estimate includes the time you spend in reading, discussions, and assignments. Clinical courses will require additional hours to meet clinical requirements.

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You will have access to most of the course materials from the start of the course to the end. You may look and study ahead, or go back and review, at any time during the course. All assignments have set due dates. Due dates are as of Midnight Central Standard Time on that date.

If you experience any problems please contact the UT Tyler Blackboard Campus Computing Services.
**Getting Started**
Please refer to the information contained in this Syllabus anytime you have a question regarding the basic course information. An electronic copy of the Syllabus may be found in the “Getting Started” tab in Blackboard.

Please begin this course by clicking on the “Modules” tab in the navigation bar in Blackboard, and then choose Module 1.

*The content of this syllabus or web-based course is subject to change at the discretion of the faculty according to current learning needs.

**Epilogue from Dr. Hermanns**
It is my hope that this course will encourage you to continue your research journey and discover new knowledge by conducting future projects and research (i.e., development, implementation and dissemination). As Pellecchia states, the goal of a researcher should be “to disseminate the findings, thereby adding new knowledge to the field.” In this course, you will evolve in your role as a researcher, and, you will have the opportunity to disseminate new knowledge in nursing. Remember: One person can make a difference. This course will afford you the opportunity to actively participate in research, discover new knowledge, and use your creativity. You are going to have fun implementing your project while learning a lot along the way. Welcome to Capstone II! It is going to be a wonderful and productive semester.

*Dr. Hermanns*