The University of Texas at Tyler
Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

Course Syllabus

COURSE NUMBER: **NURS 6315**

COURSE TITLE: **Evidence-based Practice I**

COURSE FACULTY

Instructor's Name: Ellen Fineout-Overholt PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN

Office Address: BRB 1150

Telephone: 565-5556

Preferred Email: efineout-overholt@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: virtual and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

EBP paradigm and EBP process are the foundation of this course. Concepts, models and methods for translation and implementation of research into practice are applied. Evaluation methods of the processes and outcomes of implementation and practice change are discussed. Principles of sustainable evidence-based practice change across disciplines and within various healthcare settings are included.

COURSE COMPETENCIES

1. Explain the role of the EBP paradigm in evidence-based decision making.

2. Explain healthcare interventions in the context of the best available external evidence, organizational culture and relevant internal evidence.

3. Translate a body of evidence (evidence synthesis) into a plan for evidence implementation to achieve best healthcare outcomes.

4. Explain mechanisms for evaluating implementation processes and outcomes.

5. Explain the impact of the role of project planning on sustainable implementation of evidence into practice.

6. Analyze legal and ethical issues as they relate to translation of evidence into practice for the purpose of sustainable improvement in healthcare outcomes across settings.

GRADING POLICY

Grades will be based upon the following:

Educational Prescription	5%
EBP Model to Guide EPIP Implementation	10%
Critical Appraisal 1, 2, 3, & 4	30%
Quality Improvement Metrics in EBP Projects	10%
EPIP (DNP Scholarly Project Chapters 1-2)	20%
Discussion Boards (3)	15%
Reflective Journal: Strengths-Focused	10%

GRADING SCALE

Final grades for the course will be determined based upon the following numerical grade scale:

A - 90-100

B - 80-89

C - 70-79

D - 60-69

F - Below 60

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK(S)
Required:

Melnyk, B. & Fineout-Overholt, E. (2015). *Evidence-based practice in nursing & healthcare: A guide to best practice.* (3rd edition). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Davidson, S., Weberg, D., Porter-O'Grady, T., & Malloch, K. (2016). Leadership for Evidence-based Innovation. Jones & Bartlett: Burlington, MA**.**

Recommended:

American Psychological Association. (2010). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author. OR Purdue Owl: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/

COURSE DISCUSSION BOARD

This course is one of the core courses that help you actualize your DNP work. It requires time, efforts, and engagement. As doctorally-prepared clinical leaders, you will rely on each other for wisdom, encouragement and support. The discussions within the course are to simulate a DNP NETWORK, please engage them as such.

Given that this is an online course, we do not have the 10-15 minutes of class that traditional courses usually have to share information, changes, updates and the like; therefore, our **MAIN COMMUNICATION FORUM** will be a designated **COURSE DISCUSSION BOARD (CDB)**, which facilitates timely communication **between students and course faculty** to answer questions and discuss issues of any type that are related to the course. The purpose of a **CDB** versus emailing questions to the instructor is to allow for a central location of all information shared as well as the opportunity for everyone to benefit from the question and answers.

Please note that ANNOUNCEMENTS will be used to have ONE-WAY communication from faculty to students. Using a **CDB** as the primary mode of communication may be new to some students. To facilitate the transition to this form of communication between students and faculty, **students are required to SUBSCRIBE to the CDB to ensure that ALL communication posted there is delivered directly to their email (see directions for SUBSCRIBING on the CDB posts).**

READINGS & OTHER LEARNING ACTIVITIES
Learning is the goal for this course and all higher education. Please consider that assigned readings and learning activities in doctoral education are the beginning, not the endpoint. The learning activities and readings in this course are intended to point you in the direction of **sustainable learning**. Some may foster continued reading and pondering of your scholarly thoughts, while others will be simple knowledge acquisition. **All work within the course are made with the assumption that required readings and learning activities have been completed prior to engaging assignments or discussions.** Similarly, to maximize your learning in the course, complete the readings and other learning activities before engaging any assignment for each module.

Written Assignments
- All written assignments **MUST be completed in Microsoft Word** and submitted in a timely manner. Deadlines are listed in the Course Calendar.
- Please note that all written assignments must be submitted by 11:59pm Central Standard Time on the due date noted on the Course Calendar. No extensions are given without prior faculty approval at least 24 hours prior to the deadline. **There is a 5 point/day penalty for late assignments.** Canvas will indicate when your assignment is late and points will be deducted accordingly. Plan ahead and contact the instructor if you have indication that you may not be able to meet the deadline.
- All written assignments should be submitted through the assignment within the Modules. 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. Avoid the consequences of academic dishonesty by citing all sources that you use in your work.

Turnitin

Turnitin is a feature provided by Canvas that is designed to detect plagiarism or non-original student work. This feature is set up so that when you submit papers, they are automatically sent through Turnitin. 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 Turnitin 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 Submission Process
All assignments and projects will be submitted through the **assignment** within the modules. Use the following process to prepare and submit assignments:
- Prepare your assignment *using Microsoft Word. Name your assignment file with the following convention*: **last name first initial, assignment title** (ex. LastnameFAssignmenttitle)
- 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 – place all materials (tables etc.) **in ONE Word file** (if you are not familiar with how to format Word, please check it out here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PY7Aj113KUE) and then upload your completed assignment file and click submit

When major written assignments are received, faculty will download them from the Canvas site, open them in Microsoft Word, and grade them using the "track changes feature." This will enable instructors to make comments, ask questions, etc. The assignment is then returned through the Student Gradebook (GRADES) area. To see comments about your assignment, click on your grade and download the feedback file. You should review it and use the feedback in the next revision. If feedback is ignored, points will be lost. Please be sure that when you view the feedback file you check under REVIEW and click on *All Markup* to see all edits and comments. Otherwise, you will not get all the feedback provided. Some assignments will be reviewed in Canvas. To see comments about an assignment, click on the Grades tab, click on the assignment and View Feedback.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Faculty will grade all assignments and post the grade as soon as possible after submission. Longer assignments may take as much as 14 days before grading is completed.

Service Learning

At The University of Texas at Tyler, service-learning is a pedagogy whereby students learn through active participation and reflection about purposeful service activities that impact the university, governmental agencies, businesses, faith- based organizations, and non-profit entities in the community/region/state/nation or in our expanding global environment.

Service-learning facilitates learning and growth by:

- Preparing students to change the world
- Empowering students to make an impact

• Giving students the experience, tools, and opportunity to reflect on the outcomes of their efforts in authentic situations

In the DNP program at UTTyler, DNP Scholarly Projects or EPIPs are designed to serve a community stakeholders to ultimately improve patient outcomes by maximizing the strengths of DNP students as they learn to lead and transform health care. This course contains a piece of the DNP Scholarly Project in which students actively engage community partners to improve healthcare outcomes and thereby learn through service.

UT Tyler Course Policies

The following course policies may be found at the website listed below: absence for religious observance, absence for university-supported trips, services to students with disabilities, grade replacement, state-mandated course drop policy, and Social Security and privacy
http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf

University Policies

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://www2.uttyler.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.uttyler.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 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; 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.

A pdf of these policies can be found at:
http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf

The information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grading criteria and absence and make-up policies, may be subject to change with reasonable advance notice as long as the change is without prejudice to the students.