

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Building on skills acquired in Nursing Inquiry, Professional Growth I - V and Nursing Research I, the emphasis of this course will be to enhance nurses' ability to work as scholars. Through praxis, learners will experience ways to critically examine relevant nursing knowledge and explore ways to generate new nursing knowledge. Learners will explore the relationships among knowledge, theory, research and practice. Learners will extend their understanding of the links among knowledge, theory, research, and practice. The goals are that learners will become more cognizant of the process of research inquiry and its contribution to nursing. Hence, learners are expected to critically examine research in terms of its scientific merit, to view individual studies in a particular body of nursing knowledge, and, finally, to discuss implications for nursing.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**Ends-in-View**

The learner will:

1. Understand the process of research inquiry.
2. Examine various scientific, ethical, political, and economic issues that affect the conduction of research.
3. Demonstrate beginning proficiency in applying the research process to clinical problem.
4. Become familiar with a nursing research issue particular to learner practice.
5. Demonstrate beginning competence in examining the ethical and scientific considerations involved in the development of a research proposal.
6. Facilitate evidence-based practice through the process of research dissemination

Process

The course is delivered in a blended format ie. Your learning is enhanced by online bulletin discussions combined with classroom discussions in seminar format and presentations.

Learning activities form the basis for discussion in class seminars and will help you to prepare for writing the final paper for this course. There are 6 bulletin board postings for this course. The postings are described in Learning Activities 1 through 6 in the course syllabus and the due dates are identified.

III. TOPICS/CONCEPTS:

1. Nurses work and research
2. Epistemology/Ontology
3. Knowledge Generation
4. Decision Making
5. Praxis/Inquiry
6. Ethics
7. Rigor
8. Research Utilization
9. Research Dissemination
10. Caring
11. Health Promotion

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:**Required Texts**

Loiselle, C., Profetto-McGrath, J., Polit, D., Beck, C., & Hungler, B. (2004). *Canadian Essentials of nursing research: Methods, appraisal, and utilization*. Philadelphia: Lippincott.

Streubert Speziale, H. & Carpenter, D. (2003). *Qualitative research in nursing: Advancing the humanistic imperative*. Philadelphia: Lippincott.

Suggested Resources

Burns, N., & Grove, S.K. (2002). *Understanding Nursing Research* (3rd ed.). Toronto, ON: Mosby.

Gillis, A., & Jackson, W. (2001). *Research for Nurses: Methods and Interpretation*. Philadelphia, PA: FA Davis.

Munro, B. H. (2002). *Statistical methods for health care research* (4th). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott.

Polit, D.F., & Beck, C.T., & Hungler, B. (2002). *Essentials of Nursing Research* (5th ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott.

Wilson, H.S. (1989). *Research in Nursing*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.

V. ATTENDANCE

Punctual and regular attendance at the various academic exercises is required of all students. If there are extenuating circumstances bearing upon a student's absence, the course professor should be notified. Absences in excess of 20% may jeopardize receipt of credit for the course.

VI. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

A passing grade of 60% is required for all nursing courses. The grade for NURS 4416 will be based on three methods of evaluation.

1. Formal Paper 40%

Due date: December 7, 2004 by 0830 hrs

A research proposal will be developed based on your research problem and literature review. Further details including the evaluation criteria can be found in the NURS 4416 course syllabus for the current school year.

2. Bulletin Board Postings 30%

Due dates: identified on each of the six learning activities as well as on the class schedule in the syllabus.

Six bulletin board postings are required. Details about each bulletin board posting can be found in relation to the six learning activities described in the NURS 4416 course syllabus for the current school year.

3. Final Exam 30%

To be scheduled during the formal exam period. The exam will be predominantly multiple choice questions and some critical appraisal questions.

The school policy on written assignments APA format is required unless specifically stated otherwise. Two copies of the entire assignment must be submitted (one copy may be submitted electronically). Those not submitted by the due date and time will not be accepted. *If, for personal reasons, you are not able to meet the deadlines, it is your responsibility to contact the course professors prior to the due date.* If an extension is granted, you are required to document your situation and request in writing, and submit this request to the course professors within two days of the original request. **Extensions will not be granted on the day that the assignment is due.**

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in post-secondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 – 100%	4.00
A	80 – 89%	3.00
B	70 - 79%	2.00
C	60 - 69%	1.00
D	50 – 59%	0.00
F (Fail)	49% and below	
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field /clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field/clinical placement or non-graded subject area.	
X	A temporary grade limited to situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course.	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office.	
W	Student has withdrawn from the course without academic penalty.	

NOTE:

For such reasons as program certification or program articulation, certain courses require minimums of greater than 50% and/or have mandatory components to achieve a passing grade.

It is also important to note, that the minimum overall GPA required in order to graduate from a Sault College program remains 2.0.

All NURS courses require 60% for a passing grade.

All science courses, including BIOL2105, BIOL2111, CHMI2220 and elective courses require 50% for a passing grade.

VII. SPECIAL NOTES:

Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your professor and/or the Special Needs office. Visit Room E1101 or call Extension 703 so that support services can be arranged for you.

Retention of Course Outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other post-secondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Students who engage in “academic dishonesty” will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Course Outline Amendments:

The professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

VIII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the professor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

IX. DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.