

Course Co-requisites**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

In this course various modes of nursing inquiry will be addressed. Some of these include scientific, empirical, philosophical and historical modes. Relationships between practice, theory, and research will be explored. Past and present contributions to nursing knowledge will be discussed.

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

The purpose of the nursing inquiry course is to provide the student with an opportunity to further explore the process of inquiry in nursing. The focus of this course is on the profession of nursing and knowledge development of the profession. Through readings, the student will have the opportunity to critically examine how nurses “know” and the process of inquiry in nursing. Students will also have the opportunity to explore their own processes of knowing, and to engage as an active participant in the development of the growing body of knowledge in nursing.

Process

Praxis is the underlying process that will be used in the course. Critical reflection on self, values, ways of knowing, experience, context, and theory will be integrated. The intent is that students engage in an interactive process with the nursing literature and their own practice. Preparation, discussion, learning activities, and written exercises will be used.

III. TOPICS:**NURS 3406 - FALL SCHEDULE 2013 (draft #1)**

Week	Activity	Class / LMS / Assignments
Week 1 (09-06)	Introduction to the Course Learning Activity 1 Ontology	Writing pre-test Course/faculty and student expectations Course Introduction and In-class Activities
Week 2 (09-13)	Learning Activity 1 Ontology	Writing Activity: In-class Posting 1 with Discussion
Week 3 (09-20)	Learning Activity 2 Epistemology	Small groups: Thinking, Reading and Writing Activities
Week 4 (09-27)	Learning Activity 2 Epistemology	Posting 2 due at the start of class- Samples for in-class group discussion
Week 5 (10-04)	Literature Review Critiques	In-class discussion and group exercises
Week 6 (10-11)	Literature Review Preparation	In-class discussion and group exercises
Week 7 (10-18)	Learning Activity 3 Conceptual Thinking	Assignment #1 due thru LMS by 0930 Provide your marked 5 articles and accompanying grid in a labeled envelope to faculty at the start of class

NURS 3406 - FALL SCHEDULE 2013

Week	Activity	Class / LMS / Assignments
Week 8 (10-25)	Reading Week	No Class
Week 9 (11-01)	Learning Activity 3 Conceptual Thinking	Posting 3 on LMS: In-class samples for discussions and activities
Week 10 (11-08)	Learning Activity 4 Theory	Review of nursing theory as well as the value with theoretical foundations
Week 11 (11-15)	Learning Activity 4 Theory	Posting 4 on LMS: In-class samples for discussion and activities
Week 12 (11-22)	Learning Activity 5 Praxis	Assignment # 2 due thru LMS by 0930 Provide electronic and hard copy of your paper with all articles and grid in a labeled envelope to faculty at the start of class
Week 13 (11-29)	Learning Activity 5 Praxis	Review/summary in prep for final exam
Week 14 (12-06)	Final exam	In class exam: Multiple choice, multiple/multiple choice, short answer and essay type questions

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Required Resources

Suggested electronically available journal articles will be provided with each weekly learning activity. This will be available and discussed with students at the first class session (no reading requirements for week one). In addition, we will be using the following resources in this (and in all) nursing research course(s) included in our BScN program:

Davies, B. & Logan, J. (2012) *Reading research: A user-friendly guide for health professionals* (5th ed.). Toronto: Mosby.

APA Manual (6th edition) OR online version at: <http://apastyle.org/>

APA Guide at the Online Writing Lab at Purdue University which is available at: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

Course Evaluation

**1. Assignment #1: Literature Review Preparation
(Marks: 20%)**

Due Date: Week 7-October 18, 2013

Grid/table is available on LMS course site

2. Assignment #2: Descriptive Literature Review

(Marks: 50%)

Due Date: Week 12- November 22, 2013

Complete a descriptive literature review on a minimum of **15** articles around a topic that is relevant to your nursing practice. The review must describe knowledge related to your selected topic from refereed nursing research and theoretical journals. The paper should include an introduction that outlines the significance of the topic to nursing and the intention of the review; a review of appropriate literature; a summary of your review, and an outline of the researchers identified gaps in the knowledge (recommendations for future research). The body of the paper is to be **no more than 6** type-written pages (not including your APA reference listing).

3. Final Exam

(Marks: 30%)

The final exam will be held in the University exam period. The questions will be based on the major topics from the course.

Date: Week 14-December 6, 2013 time TBA

***Note: All assignments will be subject to the Laurentian University - School of Nursing marking policy*

Additional Information for Assignments:

1. **Postings (S/U)**

Each of the learning activities has associated discussion questions. Students are required to participate in the post dialogue of these questions on LMS and/or in the classroom (depending on the directions provided). The on-line discussions will enhance the in-class discussion of the knowledge associated Learning Activity each week. Students are encouraged to read and respond to other student's postings to enhance their own understanding of the major course concepts as presented in the nursing literature. APA referencing is required and postings are to be between 250 and 300 words in length (referencing not included in word count).

2. **Assignment 1 (20%)**

Research Knowledge Review Table

Purpose: The purpose of this assignment to deconstruct research articles for *five (5)* studies that will be included in the final limited descriptive literature review. The topic must inform the student's **current** clinical nursing practice.

Process: Please submit the completed table (available on the LMS website for the course). I ask that you include the articles selected which you will get returned to you (to help save on copying costs). I encourage that the table for this assignment include one study from each inquiry paradigms.

3. Assignment 2 (50%)

Limited Descriptive Literature Review Paper

Purpose: The purpose of this assignment is to develop a foundational understanding of nursing inquiry through the development of a limited integrated descriptive review of nursing research. Elements of the literature will relate directly to the topics covered in the weekly classes and postings. This task will require a systematic evaluation and synthesis of a *minimum of fifteen (15)* research articles related to a topic specific to your current clinical nursing practice.

Process: This is a *descriptive* literature review. The ability to describe something is essential before one can critique, therefore, the focus of the review is to describe not critique the nursing research literature chosen for the review. It would benefit you if you choose a topic area where there is available **nursing research** literature.

Criteria for Studies Selected for Assignments #1 and #2:

The research studies you select must be:

- **CURRENT:** You may have a couple seminal articles but otherwise they should be 2006+
- **TOPIC:** Must inform your current clinical nursing practice
- **FOCUS:** Topic must have a narrow focus for NURS 3406
- **NURSING RESEARCH:** Studies must cite a nursing researcher and be from the body of nursing literature
- **JOURNAL:** Study must be a primary research study published in a peer-reviewed nursing journal
- **PARADIGMS:** You must look at a variety of research paradigms and avoid mixed methodologies if possible

Four Major Sections for Your Paper:

- **Introduction** - significance for nursing practice and the relevance of the identified research situation/problem
- **Limited Descriptive Literature Review** - *synthesized* narrative description of the research reviewed in relation to concept identification, research question(s), theoretical frame(s)/ models, paradigm, methodology, context for research setting, inclusion and exclusion factors for sample under study, and research findings.
- **Summary** – briefer narrative series of sentences that generally address the major sections of the description of the review
- **Conclusion** - description provided about suggested future research identified by the authors.

The following semester grades will be assigned to students:

<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%	

F (Fail)	49% and below	0.00
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.	

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Class 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 instructor should be notified. Absences in excess of 20% may jeopardize receipt of credit for the course.

Class Participation and Assignments

All students are expected to be **actively engaged** learners as we progress through NURS 3406 this semester. Because the material covered each week for class serves as a foundation for subsequent classes, it is **ESSENTIAL** that students come prepared for class by completing the pre-class learning activities (located on the LMS portal), participate in on-line activities within the assignment dates/times noted, and turn in all graded assignments on the prescribed due dates which were determined at the start of the semester. **Excepting for emergency situations (emergency as determined by both the student and the teacher)**, no late assignments will be accepted for grading (which means students will earn a zero mark for any assignments submitted after the prescribed due dates/times noted on the weekly guide).

Office Hours

Office Location: D1093; 759-2554 ext. 2468

Office hours will be held before and after class by appointment on Fridays

Please note that the use of the course LMS email system is the faculty preferred form of email communication for NURS 3406, however, my outlook email address for work is maryanne.shannon@saultcollege.ca

VII. COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDUM:

The provisions contained in the addendum located on the portal form part of this course outline. In addition, all nursing students are responsible for complying with the information provided in the current Student Handbook.