



**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This theory-based course will address various modes of nursing inquiry. Some of these modes include scientific, 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**

This course will provide an opportunity for learners to enhance their ability to make connections between nursing practice, theory, and research. Learners will acquire knowledge about a range of research techniques and methods associated with both the positivist and natural paradigms. Learners will participate as research consumers through reading and reviewing nursing research studies and engaging in learning activities to develop skills for critically examining the research process and products

**Process**

The aim of NURS 3416 is to facilitate discovery of personal and collective knowledge. The learner will discover scientific inquiry and gain an understanding of quantitative and qualitative research approaches used in generating and validating knowledge about issues that are important to the nursing profession. The course content and learning activities will address the following concepts: ways of knowing; the research process; research approaches; the literature review; research designs, sampling strategies; data collection and analysis; descriptive and inferential statistics; and research utilization.

The learner will take the role of research consumer to develop skills aimed at reading and critically evaluating research studies. The expectation is that the understanding of research terminology and approaches and the development of research skills are achieved through active participation as a research consumer. Active research consumerism is demonstrated by: attendance at all classes; preparation for class by completing assigned weekly readings; participation in class discussions and learning activities; and submission of all assignments on their due dates

**III. TOPICS:**

1. Introduction to quantitative and qualitative research
2. Research designs
3. Sources of data
4. Producing data: sampling
5. Introduction to qualitative methods
6. Introduction to qualitative analysis
7. Quality (rigor in quantitative and qualitative research)
8. Introduction to descriptive statistics (organizing, displaying and describing data)
9. Introduction to inferential statistics (probability; analysis of findings, confidence intervals, statistical significance)

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

All learners will be required to purchase the required [\*] texts listed below. Weekly readings will be assigned from the textbooks and reserved library readings. In addition, it is expected that learners will make use of the library and the internet to seek out relevant articles in the nursing and health care literature to complete assignments.

\*LoBiondo-Wood, G., & Haber, J. (2005). *Nursing research in Canada: Methods, critical appraisal and utilization*. Toronto, ON: Mosby.

\*Munro, B.H. (2005). *Statistical methods for healthcare research*. Philadelphia: Lippincott.

Loiselle, C.G. and Profetto-McGrath, J. (2004). *Canadian essentials of nursing research*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkin.

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/rsc/funk/barrier1.html>

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/rsc/funk/barriers.html>

Students must also have access to the computer software – Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS)

You will need to seek out other library resources such as journals, and internet sources such as CINHALL, Academic Search Premier and the Cochrane Library pertinent to course content.

**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 instructor 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 3416 will be based on three methods of evaluation. These will be derived from a written assignment, two midterm tests, and a final examination.

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|----|-------------|-----|--|
| 1. | Class tests | 20% |  |
|    |             | 20% |  |

The class tests will be a combination of multiple choice questions and short answer or calculation questions.

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| 2. | Critique of nursing research: | 25% | TBA |
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The school policy on written assignments applies to this written assignment. APA (5<sup>th</sup> ed.) format is required. Students may lose up to 10% of the total possible mark for poor form and writing style. It is expected that students who have experienced difficulties with writing competency in past courses will seek writing assistance before submission of the formal paper.

Two hard copies of the critical literature review must be submitted with one copy of every article used in the literature review; the assignment and articles must be placed in an envelope or folder for submission. A second copy of the assignment must be submitted electronically. Further information about this process will be described in the course syllabus.

***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.***

***\* Note: there will be a deduction of 10% per day associated with all extensions granted unless a medical certificate is submitted with the request.***

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| 3. | Final examination | 35% | Exam Period |
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In this final examination a combination of multiple choice questions and short answer/calculation questions will be used to cover material from the entire course. Test items will be developed from the required readings, and content of in class discussions and presentations.

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 2703 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.

Communication:

The College considers *WebCT/LMS* as the primary channel of communication for each course. Regularly checking this software platform is critical as it will keep you directly connected with faculty and current course information. Success in this course may be directly related to your willingness to take advantage of the *Learning Management System* communication tool.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in the *Student Code of Conduct*. 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 Chair's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.