N505 Evidenced Based Practice  
Credits: 4 lecture  
Semesters Offered: Fall  
Prerequisites: N387R (or equivalent) and STAT 216 (or equivalent)  

Course Description: This course focuses on the various methods and processes used to translate knowledge into evidence based practice. Students explore processes for acquiring, evaluating and using knowledge for clinical practice in both rural and urban areas.

Course Objectives:

1. Articulate methods & processes to apply evidence to practice.
2. Critique evidence, conceptual frameworks, and theories relevant to nursing.
3. Analyze research strategies, designs and methods for application to selected nursing problems.
4. Analyze the legal, cultural, and ethical considerations related to evidence based practice.
5. Examine strategies to effectively evaluate the quality and outcomes of health care in a variety of environments.

Suggested Content:

Basic statistics for clinicians
1. Hypothesis testing
2. Interpreting study results: confidence intervals
3. Assessing the effects of treatment: measures of association
4. Correlation and regression

Evaluating studies
   Therapy or Prevention
   Diagnosis
   Harm
   Prognosis
   Overviews
   Decision Analyses
   Practice Guidelines
   Utilization Analyses
   Variations in Outcomes
   Health-Related Quality of Life Measurements
   Economic analysis
   Systematic Reviews

Understanding Systematic Reviews
How to read a paper

The Medline Database
Deciding what the paper is about
Assessing the methodological quality of published papers
Statistics for the non-statistician. I: different types of data need different statistical tests.
Statistics for the non-statistician. II: "Significant" relations and their pitfalls
Papers that report drug trials
Papers that report diagnostic or screening tests
Papers that tell you what things cost (economic analyses)
Papers that summarize other papers (systematic reviews and meta-analyses)
Papers that go beyond numbers (qualitative research).
Meta-analysis

Getting research into practice
Getting evidence into practice
Making better use of research findings
When to act on the evidence
Finding information on clinical effectiveness
Barriers and bridges to evidence based clinical practice.
Using research findings in clinical practice
Decision analysis and the implementation of research findings
Implementing research findings in developing countries.

Examples of Learning Activities:
Lecture
Student papers
Student presentations
In class discussion
Annotated bibliography / literature review
Identified readings

Approved by GAAC:  April, 2006
Approved by Faculty:  May, 2006