

**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF NURSING  
Master Resource Outline**

NRSNG 387R:            Research in Health Care  
Credits:                3 (2 lecture, 1 Recitation/Discussion)  
Semesters Offered: F, Sp  
Pre-requisites:        STAT 216 or Consent of Instructor

Course Description: Students are introduced to the research process and evidence-based practice. They will develop knowledge, skills, and values necessary to be informed consumers of health related research. Students will engage in research processes, examine research reports, and describe practice applications.

Course Objectives: The student will:

1. Discuss the roles of research in evidence based practice. (F2, 4, 5, 10, 12, 13; T2-4)
2. Recognize researchable health care problems. (F4, 13; T2-4)
3. Critique research reports with a focus on application to nursing practice. (F4, 13; T2-4)
4. Discuss the legal and ethical implications of research. (F4, 6, 12, 13; T2-4, 6, 7, 12)
5. Evaluate the validity of information from a variety of sources. (F4, 5, 13; T2-5, 10)
6. Discuss the importance of evidence as a basis for improving clinical outcomes. (F2, 4, 13; T2-5, 10)
7. Apply aspects of the research process to a selected health care issue. (F2, 5, 13; T2-5, 10)
8. Demonstrate behaviors that are congruent with the MSU Code of Conduct, CON Student Handbook, ANA Code of Ethics, Scope and Standards of Practice, and Social Policy Statements in all class related interactions. (F6-9, 12, 13; T2, 3, 6, 8, 13)

Recommended Content and Concepts:

A. General

1. Perspectives on truth, knowledge & research.
2. Definition of evidence-based practice
3. Relationship among nursing practice, *EBP*, research, and education.

B. Researchable Nursing Problems

1. Research problem statements/questions.
2. Research hypotheses.
3. Critique criteria for problem statements.
4. Nursing problems versus those from other domains (e.g. psychology, medicine).
5. Contemporary issues and research related to patient safety and quality

C. Data Management

1. Literature reviews
2. Ethical issues
3. Systematic methods of data collection
4. Organization of data
5. Evaluation of evidence

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6. Application to nursing practice
- D. Research Process
1. Steps of research process.
  2. Models of research utilization.
  3. Relationship of problem, study, dissemination of findings, and utilization.
- F. Ethical Issues
1. Protection of human participants in research.
  2. Essential elements of informed consent.
  3. Role of Institutional Review Board.
  4. Ethical obligations of nurses as:
    - Investigator
    - Data collector
    - Patient advocate
  5. Vulnerable populations—gero, prisoners, children, ethnic minorities
  6. Animal rights.
  7. Critique criteria for ethical aspects of a study.
  8. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)
  9. Social justice issues and costs/benefits of research to participants
- G. Sources of Information
1. Types of resources (specialty journals, www, clinicians, databases, etc.)
  2. Clinical experts
  3. Literature
  4. Hierarchy of evidence
- H. Clinical application
1. Critique research reports
  2. Steps of research utilization
  3. Interaction with other disciplines.

Suggested Student Learning Activities:

Reading assignments

Actively participate in group discussion

Activities in pairs and small groups

Develop / refine a research problem

Describe researchable problem(s)

Data collection

Video: Deadly Deception

Complete Human Participant Protections Education for Research

Oral and written critique of research reports

Interview professional

Discuss research news reports

Simulated research conference

Visit local libraries

Search using PubMed, CINAHL, and other

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Examples of Research Projects:

Investigate a health care issue  
Research a clinical policy  
Creative project related to nursing

**Approved by UAAC: April 14, 2014**  
**Approved by Faculty: May 1, 2014**