

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

**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