The University of Texas at El Paso College of Nursing

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: N3205  
Nursing Informatics & Technology

Summer 2024  
CRN: 32478

COURSE DESCRIPTION/COURSE OVERVIEW: This course provides an overview of nursing informatics as it relates to the provision of safe, quality patient-centered care. Emphasis is placed on the establishment and provision of evidence-based practice. The use of information management systems in the collection, management, and communication of patient data as well as the maintenance of patient privacy and confidentiality is highly stressed.

COURSE RATIONALE: This course introduces nursing informatics as an integration of nursing, computer, and information sciences for the support of nursing practice. It will acquaint practicing nurses with the effective utilization of technology and its applications throughout all aspects of health care delivery.

COURSE PRE-REQUISITES: Department approval.

CREDIT ALLOCATION: 2-0-0

FACULTY INFORMATION

- Name: Claudia Perez, MSN, RN, CHSE, CNE
- Office Location: HSSN Office 349
- Phone extension: 915-747-7249
- Email: cleon2@utep.edu
- Office Hours: Mondays 0930 – 1100 am or by appointment

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:


COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Discuss nursing and healthcare informatics competencies as they relate to the goals of clinical practice.
2. Recognize the use and importance of nursing data for improving practice.
3. Analyze web-based health content for literacy level, accuracy, and reliability of information for clinical populations.
4. Describe examples of information technologies to expand information communication among nurses, health disciplines and health consumers.
5. Assess the elements of effective electronic health records (EHR) to support and manage nursing practice.
6. Synthesize the key role of clinician’s involvement in the design, selection, implementation and evaluation of applications/systems in Healthcare.
7. Utilize a variety of electronically accessible, credible resources applicable for nursing practice, including evidence-based practice.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES, AACN, DECS, UTEP EDGE:

UTEP CON PLOs (Level 2 Program Outcomes) & QSEN Competencies *: Patient-Centered Care*, Teamwork & Collaboration*, Evidence Based Practice*, Quality Improvement*, Safety*, Informatics*, Professionalism, Leadership, Communication, Systems-Based Practice, Health Promotion & Education

BSN Essentials (AACN): Essential I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX

Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs) for Baccalaureate Degree (BSN) *version year 2010
   Member of the Profession A, B, C, D
   Provider of Patient-Centered Care A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H
   Patient Safety Advocate, A, B, C, D, E, F
   Member of the Health Care Team A, B, C, D, E, F, G

UTEP EDGE Experiences: Learning Communities, Creative Activities, Student Leadership

UTEP EDGE Advantages: Leadership, Problem-Solving, Communication, Entrepreneurship, Social Responsibility, Confidence, Global Awareness, Teamwork, Critical Thinking

TEACHING METHODOLOGIES: Textbook, Articles/News Items, Video, Blackboard LMS, Discussion Board, Quizzes, Reflection Journals, My Learning

GRADING POLICY AND STRUCTURE

- In NURS 3205, all Discussion Boards and Assignments (PowerPoints) are organized in GROUPS. Each student will be assigned to a group. **Each group must create a Group Contract before starting their group work. The contract must also include steps to handle conflict within the group. The student is expected to participate with the group for each DB or PP assignment. If for any reason, there is an issue with professionalism, disrespect, bullying, not doing work, etc., the other group**
member(s) may request the assistance of the course faculty. The faculty will address the situation. If no resolution, the faculty may remove the student from the group for an assignment or for all remaining assignments.

- For a group member to be removed from a course assignment or from all remaining assignments, the other group members must present to the course faculty a written document outlining the issues at hand, solutions to try to resolve the problem, and why it was unsuccessful. This must be done in a timely manner so that the group members can complete the assignment by the due date as required.

- If the student is removed from your group for all remaining assignments, the remaining group member(s) must complete all remaining assignments by the due date(s). If the student is removed from a group for all remaining assignments, the student must complete all remaining assignments or receive a ZERO for each assignment.

**Time Stamps LMS**

- Attendance, participation, and all LMS (Blackboard LMS) postings are counted in Mountain Time (MST). The time stamps in the computer represent MST, regardless of your actual time zone.

- **Alternative Means of Submitting Work in Case of Technical Issues**

  We strongly suggest that you submit your work with plenty of time to spare in the event that you have a technical issue with the course website, network, and/or your computer. It is suggested you save all your work in a separate Word document as a backup. This way, you will have evidence that the work was completed and will not lose credit. If you are experiencing difficulties submitting your work through the course website, please contact the UTEP Help Desk. You can email the course faculty your backup document as a last resort.

**Discussion Boards**

- Discussion Boards will be open from Monday thru Saturday of the scheduled week. Original posts are due by Wednesday at 11:59pm MST of the scheduled week. Peer responses are due by Saturday at 11:59pm MST of the scheduled week.

**Assignments**

- Assignments are due by 11:59pm (MST) on the due date calendar/course schedule. Assignments (PowerPoints) will be accepted after the due date for up to 3 days (72 hours); however, there will be a deduction of 10% from the total assignment points per 24 hours past the due date. Late points start immediately following the due date/time. This is done in fairness to those students who turn in their assignments on time. After 3 days post the due date (72 hours)—no assignments will be accepted, and a zero (0) grade will
be recorded. **Grade deductions due to late submissions will apply to all group members.** The only exception is with extenuating circumstances or events that have been discussed with the instructor PRIOR to the deadline.

In the case of emergencies when you are prevented from logging on, please contact the Course Faculty as soon as possible by phone and/or email. If you know you will be out of town or otherwise prevented from submitting assignments on the due date, make every effort to turn them in early. Anytime you feel that you are falling behind in the course, it is best to contact the Course Faculty immediately to discuss your situation. In regards to dropping the course with a “W”, it is the **student’s responsibility** to make arrangements with the UTEP Registrar and drop by the “withdrawal date” located on UTEP Registrar website.

*Achieving less than 75% in the didactic portion of the course results in course failure.* There is no rounding of grades and fractional points will be dropped. Extra credit is not permitted.

**GRADING SCALE:**

**Grading scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90 - 100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 – 89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 – 79</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 – 74</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 60</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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**Assignments **| **total 100 points**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Assignment Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>DB (Introduction)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Group Contract &amp; Leader Assignments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>DB Original Post (Group) 1-5 **each is worth 5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>DB Peer Response 1-5 (Group)** each is worth 5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Website Evaluation PPT (Group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Website Team Evaluation (Individual)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Resource PPT (Group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Resources Team Evaluation (Individual)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mandatory Complete My Learning Reflection (Individual)</td>
</tr>
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The My Learning Reflection assignment will be a mandatory assignment in all Traditional Pre-Licensure and RN-BSN courses. The assignment will be due at the end of the course. Students who do not submit a completed document will receive an Incomplete in the course and not be allowed to progress until the assignment is completed.
Expectations of the Class

What should you expect from me as the Lead Faculty?

- I will provide you clear instructions on class expectations
- I will check my Blackboard course email at least once a day and will get back to you within 24 hours.
- I will provide graded feedback on your performance within 7 days of the due date.
- I will keep you informed about your graded progress in the class at all times and will make time to discuss your needs.
- I will leave myself open to suggestions about improvement of the class and class related activities.
- I will do all I can to ensure your learning and success in this class.
- The course calendar is a living document and may be adjusted due to events occurring during the class timeframe. If any changes in the course are to be implemented, I will ensure that the class is notified via announcements in a timely manner.

What Faculty expect of their Students:

- At the beginning of each course, students should review the syllabus, calendar, and other items located in the “start here” folder. Students will be expected to complete a “survey” that acknowledges their understanding of the course expectations.
- For academic success, we recommend that students plan to study a minimum of 6 hours per credit hour each week of the course (including lectures, readings, research, and assignments).
- Online courses are designed to ensure that students have access to all the information needed to complete their course work. If you have a question, before contacting the faculty, please take a few moments and try three different places; including the “Ask a Question” discussion board, to find the answer to your question within the course. Then, if you still have a question about the course, please post it to the “Ask a Question “Discussion board. Please indicate in the subject line what topic your question relates to. Then, other students who may have a similar question will be able to find it.
- All written assignments are to be written in APA 7th edition style. Refer to the APA manual and/or Purdue OWL website for guidance. To get started, go to: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/. Posts made to the discussion board should contain citations from the course content or your research, within the body of the discussion post (unless clearly stated otherwise). Include a reference list, if the reference is not a part of the course.
- All students are to review the rules of netiquette and follow in their interaction with fellow students and faculty.

COURSE POLICIES:

**Academic Regulations:** Review in UT El Paso Undergraduate Student Catalog and the School of Nursing Student Handbook the following policies: Religious Observance, Ethical and Responsible Use of Social Media, Policy on Academic Integrity, Progression Policy, and Effective Nursing Practice Policy, Statement on Disability.
Attendance: Students are expected to log-in and check the course (at minimum) every other day to keep up. You will have assignments due every week. Email messages are sent to your UTEP email address, so you will want to check your UTEP email everyday as well.

Blackboard:
- Students are required to subscribe to and access the course Blackboard site. Blackboard is the main source of communication between faculty and students. Students are encouraged to access this site daily. Course syllabus, calendar, topical outline of scheduled lectures, and assigned readings are posted on this site. Grades will be made available ONLY through this site. Email messages will be sent through the Blackboard course site—link labeled “Course Messages”. Please check this email (at minimum) every other day for any communication.

Communication:
- Communication is the responsibility of both students and faculty. The faculty will keep students informed of progress in theory. Students with questions or concerns should:
  - First go to the appropriate faculty member.
  - If not resolved, then follow the appropriate chain of command in the sequence as identified below:
    - Course faculty
    - Director of RN-BSN Undergraduate Education
    - Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education
    - College of Nursing Dean

Grievances:
- Challenges to grades may be pursued only on the basis of malice, bias, arbitrary or capricious grade determination or impermissible discrimination. In no event shall a challenge be pursued only on the basis of the standards employed in setting grades, so long as those standards are employed impartially. Grievances MUST be in WRITING and filed through the course faculty member, the Director of RN-BSN Undergraduate Program, the CON Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education and the Dean of the CON. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome after using the chain of command, the student may consult with and/or file a challenge with the Chairperson of the University Student Welfare and Grievance Committee.

Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty:
- Students are expected to be above reproach in all scholastic activities. Students who engage in scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the College of Nursing and/or university.
- Academic dishonesty is prohibited and is considered a violation of the UTEP Handbook of Operating Procedures. It includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, and collusion. Cheating may involve copying from or providing information to another student, possessing unauthorized materials during a test, or falsifying research data on laboratory reports. Plagiarism occurs when someone intentionally or knowingly represents the words or ideas of another as ones' own. Collusion involves collaborating with another
person to commit any academically dishonest act. Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. All suspected violations of academic integrity at The University of Texas at El Paso must be reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR) for possible disciplinary action. To learn more, please visit HOOP: Student Conduct and Discipline.

- Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students, and the integrity of the College of Nursing and the university, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. See detailed procedure in the Handbook of Operating Procedures available in the Office of the Dean of Students.

- Use a consistent citation method for your written work. The APA Style of citation is preferred for your final paper (see Guidelines on citing according to the APA citation style on Blackboard).

Policy relating to Disability / Pregnancy/ CASS:

- **Disability**: Nursing is a physically and mentally challenging profession. Nurses are required to think critically and quickly in order to respond to patient care needs. Nurses are also expected to be able to assist patients in transfer, ambulation and in activities of daily living. In order to do this, nurses must be able to lift, bend and be on their feet for extended periods of time. Nursing students are expected to be able to perform these functions. It is therefore the responsibility of the student to inform the course manager of any limitations they may have in completing course expectations. Nursing students with limitations in any of the above abilities are advised to discuss these matters with The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) to determine if reasonable accommodations could be provided. Written guidelines r/t accommodations from CASS must be submitted to the course manager PRIOR to the start of the course. If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact CASS at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass. CASS’ Staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.

- **Pregnancy**: It is the responsibility of the student to inform the instructor of pregnancy limitations. Written guidelines related to accommodations from The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) must be submitted to the course manager PRIOR to the start of the course.

Professional Behavior:

- Students are expected to behave professionally at all times with faculty, peers, preceptors, and clients and in any setting in which the student is a representative of UTEP. Bullying, verbal abuse, insubordination, or personal attacks will not be tolerated in any form. Any behavior deemed inappropriate by faculty and/or preceptors will result in faculty conference(s), and completion of a Student Opting for Success (SOS) plan that addresses the student’s areas of needed improvement. Possible activities available to assist the student in attaining the SOS objectives include stress and/or anger management counseling sessions. Inappropriate behaviors may result in an administrative withdrawal from the course and/or dismissal from the program.
Retention: Students Opting for Success (SOS):

- When a student is not progressing in the course as expected, or is not successful on an examination, they will be required to meet with the instructor to discuss strategies for success as outline on the SOS form. The SOS plan will identify recommendations for improving the student’s success potential and will specify time lines for completion of these recommendations. The SOS form (with all recommendations completed and all signatures in place) must be submitted to the course manager by due date. *Students who are not successful in the course should be aware that non-compliance with SOS recommendations jeopardizes eligibility for the opportunity to repeat the course in the subsequent semester.* See respective Blackboard home page for SOS form.

ILLNESS PRECAUTIONS

Please stay home if you have symptoms of a communicable illness. If you are feeling unwell, please notify your course manager, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. For clinical practicum, please see *Clinical Practicum Policy.*

GUIDANCE ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Each student is expected to use critical and creative thinking skills to complete tasks and not rely on computer-generated ideas.

Using AI for brainstorming

Some AI technologies or automated tools, particularly generative AI such as ChatGPT or DALL-E, can be beneficial during the early brainstorming stages of an activity, and you are welcome to explore them for that purpose. However, keep in mind that AI-generated ideas are not your own and may hinder your ability to think critically and creatively about a problem. It is also important to remember that these technologies often “hallucinate” or produce materials and information that are inaccurate or incomplete—even providing false citations for use.

That said, you are not allowed to submit any AI-generated work in this course as your own. Consider how this will affect your credibility as a professional before doing so. *Any direct use of AI-generated materials submitted as your own work will be treated as plagiarism and reported to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (OSCCR).*

ONLINE POLICIES

Being Successful in an Online Class

Online learning is not a spectator sport. It is everyone's responsibility to participate as fully as they can, so everyone can get the most from the experience. Here are some simple rules to follow to ensure your participation and engagement in the learning process:
• **Ask questions:** If you don't know the answer, someone else will. The discussion board is the area for asking questions related to content OR any problems (related to the class) you are having. Make sure that you have clearly indicated the subject of your message.
• **Reach out to others:** Offer a fact, article, link, or other item that can help others learn something you can share.
• **Be appropriate:** The online classroom is not the place for insulting or insensitive comments, attacks, or venting. Inappropriate behavior can be subject to disciplinary action, as well.
• **Be diplomatic:** When sending messages on emotionally charged topics, I recommend that you write the message and then walk away for at least an hour before re-reading the message and then sending it. Re-reading emotionally charged messages ensures that they are constructive instead of destructive. Think of the person at the other end.
• **Stay focused:** Stay on topic to increase the efficiency of your learning.

**Effective Electronic Communication Guidelines**

Keep your messages concise and clearly written. Most ideas can be stated in a couple of paragraphs, although sometimes a longer message may be needed to develop your thoughts adequately. Keep in mind that people are more apt to read and digest shorter messages than long ones.

1. Be respectful of other's ideas, opinions, and beliefs. It's fine to disagree with someone, but please respect his or her right to think differently.
2. Avoid posting simple two or three-word statements such as "I agree" or "Good point". If you think someone has made an especially strong point and you want to say so, and then explain why by adding a few sentences describing your response or adding to the original point.
3. A message that demonstrates substance contributes to the understanding and application of ideas by doing one or more of the following:
   a. **Reflection about meaning:** Describe thoughtfully what something means or new insights it provides, or raise a question as a seed for clarification or further discussion.
   b. **Analysis:** Discusses relevant themes, concepts, main ideas, components, or relationships among ideas. Or, identifies hidden assumptions or fallacies in reasoning.
   c. **Elaboration:** Builds on ideas of others or ideas found in the readings by adding details, examples, a different viewpoint, or other relevant information.
   d. **Application:** Provides examples of how principles or concepts can be applied to actual classroom situations, or discuss the implications of theory for practice.
   e. **Synthesis:** Integrate multiple views to provide a summary, a new perspective, or a creative refashioning of ideas.
   f. **Evaluation:** Assesses the accuracy, reasonableness, or quality of ideas.

**Netiquette**

- At this point in the course, it is also important to share a word of caution, so we can become wiser about interpersonal distance learning communications. As you may know, when communicating electronically, many of the feelings or impressions that are transmitted via body language in face-to-face communications are lost. Consequently,
interpreting emotions and innuendoes is far more difficult. Only what is written, or drawn, carries the message. Often excitement can easily be misinterpreted as anger or an insult. It is important that everyone keep this in mind when communicating electronically. Words in print may appear harmless; however, they can emotionally injure the person reading them. More information can be found at http://www.albion.com/netiquette.

Social Media:

- Student enrolled in the UTEP SoN must practice and behave in a manner that protects clients by exercising reasonable judgment when using social media technologies whether in their personal life or in their professional life. Inappropriate use of Electronic/Social Media can lead to disciplinary action including but not limited to formal reprimand, suspension or dismissal from the program which is contingent upon the nature of the infraction. Student enrolled in the UTEP SoN can also be held personally liable. Such violations may result in civil and criminal penalties including fines or possible jail time in accordance with state and federal laws. http://admin.utep.edu/Portals/1805/PDF/UTEP%20Social%20Media%20Standards.pdf

Computer Requirements

Use the browser checker to ensure you have all of the necessary plugins installed on your computer that you will need in order to access all the content in this course. This browser checker will test browser compatibility, cookies, JavaScript, pop-up and other Java features.

**Browser Performance Hints**

- Clear browser cache
- Allow pop-ups
- Make sure your Java is up-to-date
- Follow the steps at Blackboard Learn browser checker

**Software Requirements**

When creating documents, slide presentations, spreadsheets, etc., you must use Microsoft Office or a compatible program (see [10 Free MS Word Alternatives](#)). If you are using Windows Vista or Office 2007, you may have compatibility problems and others in the course may not be able to view your work. Go to the UTEP-IT website's "Patches & Updates" area to download a "compatibility toolkit" (it is listed under the "Patches and Updates" column). Also check your course syllabus for specific software instructions from your instructor.

**Recommended software**

- Adobe Acrobat
- Adobe Flash Player
- Java
- QuickTime
- Windows Media Player

**Supported Browsers**
TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Some course content is delivered via the Internet through the Blackboard learning management system. Ensure your UTEP e-mail account is working and that you have access to the Web and a stable web browser. Google Chrome and Mozilla Firefox are the best browsers for Blackboard; other browsers may cause complications. When having technical difficulties, update your browser, clear your cache, or try switching to another browser.

You will need to have access to a computer/laptop. You will need to download or update the following software: Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Reader, Windows Media Player, QuickTime, and Java. Check that your computer hardware and software are up-to-date and able to access all parts of the course.

If you do not have word-processing software, you can download Word and other Microsoft Office programs (including Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and more) for free via UTEP’s Microsoft Office Portal. Click the following link for more information about Microsoft Office 365 and follow the instructions.

IMPORTANT: If a student experiences technology issues during an exam, that needs to be brought up to the instructor immediately. If you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP Help Desk as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students.

Learning Resources:
UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Familiarize yourself with the bookmarks on the right-hand side of the Blackboard student portal (visible before entering into a course) as well as the resources below.

- **UTEP Library** - access to a wide range of resources including online, full-text access to thousands of journals and eBooks plus reference service and librarian assistance for enrolled students.
- **RefWorks** - bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet for assistance.
- **University Writing Center (UWC)** - submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources available here
- **Safe Assign** - online submission of paper compares your work to published papers and checks for plagiarism
- **Netiquette** - "Netiquette" stands for "Internet Etiquette", and refers to the set of practices developed over the years to make the Internet experience pleasant for everyone. Please review some of the Netiquette rules and take the Netiquette Quiz (Non-Graded) to see how your personal knowledge of Netiquette is.

**UTEP Virtual Private Network:**
UTEP's electronic resources (i.e. Library resources) are available to registered students when working from outside the campus network. In order to access these resources, you will need to set
up a Virtual Private Network (VPN) that basically recognizes you are a UTEP student and can look for journals and use subscriptions UTEP/You have paid for. Setting up a VPN is simple, click on the following link to see a visual tutorial: UTEP VPN.

**Other BB Learn Student Resources**

**Technical Assistance**

This online class is hosted by UT El Paso. If you have computer, Blackboard problems, or any other kind of technical questions, please contact the UTEP Help Desk via email at helpdesk@utep.edu or by phone at (915) 747-5257. The HELP desk hours are: Mon-Fri 7:00am - 8:00pm (Mountain Time), Sat 9:00am - 1:00pm (Mountain Time), Sun CLOSED.

**Copyright Notice**

Copyright law protects many of the materials that are posted within this course. These materials are only for the use of students enrolled in this course and only for the purpose of this course. They may not be further retained or disseminated.

**Course Resources**

Where you can go for assistance: UTEP provides a variety of student services and support. Please refer to the QR code below for a listing of campus resources or visit https://www.utep.edu/advising/student_resources/student-success-resource-hub.html.