Spring 2023

NURS 5310: Nursing Theory CRN #: 25618 & 25619

Pre-requisites and Co-requisites: Admission to a graduate nursing major or departmental permission.

Credit Hours: This is a 3-credit (45 clock hours) course.

Course Description: This course provides an introduction to the nature of scientific explanation and inquiry related to the nursing discipline. Nursing theory will be examined as the integral foundation of nursing practice and research.

Course Objectives: At the completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Value the emergence of nursing as a scholarly discipline
2. Relate nursing’s patterns of knowing to evidence-based practice and research
3. Analyze a selected concept relevant to evidence-based practice
4. Synthesize theory and concepts in health care for use in evidence-based practice
5. Develop skills for lifelong learning

Meeting Times: See course calendar for weekly activities and assignment due dates. This is a 7-week course offered 100% online, in asynchronous format, virtual/personal/telephone, and group or individual meeting times may be scheduled upon request for long questions; students may also contact faculty via the Bb mail, UTEP Webmail system, or by cell phone at any time without appointment for brief questions.

Faculty
H. Sabrina Kao, PhD, RN, FAAN
Office # 335 HSSN Building
Email: hkao@utep.edu (but Bb mail is preferred)
Office Phone # 915-747-7279 (even I am not in my office, please leave a message as the system will deliver your voice into my UTEP email & I will call back if you leave me your phone number)
Mobile #: 682-472-0958 (the easiest way)

Office Hours
3-5 PM (MT) Thursdays online &/or TBA. You can visit me via online virtual office hours or call me at my cell. If you cannot make it on Thursdays and have questions after Q&A discussions, please call my cell or Bb mail me to quickly answer or set up an online appointment. Do not wait until Saturday to contact me; or you may not have sufficient time to reorganize your thought.
Required Textbooks:

  Chapters and content of the 11th edition are different from previous edition (older edition of the book is not appropriate for this course.)
  older edition of the book is not appropriate for this course.
  This is your first course at UTEP graduate program so we have you purchase it (paperback, instead of electronic version, is recommended) because all written assignments in graduate program will need to use APA as many APA websites may have some unintentional errors (6th edition is inappropriate to use.)

Teaching/Learning Strategies: This is an online course that focuses on creating a dialogue among students and faculty:

1. Students will participate in online individual and/or group discussions through which cooperative learning will ensue.
2. The course includes a range of teaching-learning strategies, including internet literature search, reading journal articles and selected material from texts, discussions and other assignments related to course content.
3. The faculty members serve as co-learners, facilitators and/or resource persons to guide students meet learning objectives. Students are expected to possess a strong commitment to their own learning. Such a commitment includes identifying and working to meet individual learning needs and actively participating in all of the learning opportunities offered in the course.
4. To successfully complete this online course, students must have regular access to the following: Blackboard and related online resources; e-mail, library resources, and computer word processing. For information on computer requirements and technical support call the Help Desk (915-747-help).
5. BB Technical Assistance: The University of Texas at El Paso offers complete technical information and helpdesk support at:
   http://issweb.utep.edu/techsupport/
6. Scholarly Writing Assistance: Graduate student level writing skills are essential and expected. The University of Texas at El Paso offers assistance with writing papers. Contact the University Writing Center (915-747-5112) or type this link on your browser: uwc.utep.edu. Note the links at the top of the screen, click on “consultation” and make an appointment through the web site. You will actually log in with your paper and receive on-line synchronous assistance as well as on-going consultation, but you need to make the appointment as early as possible as it may take some time (also, the tutor may not know APA format 100% correctly due to studying in literature departments. It is your responsibility to check the format). Another alternative is to use
commercial writing software, such as Grammarly, which does not provide as much useful feedback. Therefore, working with the UTEP Writing Center is preferable. Regardless, they are not in nursing and have no idea about nursing theory, you need to take responsibility of the content and they could only help you with grammar, words use etc. Communicate by BB mail within the Bb is the preferred means of communication for faculty. However, if necessary for any reason use hkao@utep.edu

Course Assignments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location verification</td>
<td>Mandatory (no point)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 1 introduction</td>
<td>15 points (extra credit)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 2, 4, 7 short papers</td>
<td>150 points each (\times 3) =450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 3 scholarly paper</td>
<td>250 points (\times 1) =250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module 5 &amp; 6 combined group project (post at the 6th week)</td>
<td>300 points (\times 1) =300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1000 points+15-point extra credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale

- A= 90-100% 900 - 1000 points
- B= 80- 89% 800 - 899 points
- C= 70- 79% 700 - 799 points
- D= 60- 69% 600 - 699 points
- F< 60% below 600 points

Course Participation

Attendance in the course is determined by participation in the learning activities of the course. Your participation in the course is important not only for your learning and success but also to create a community of learners. Participation is determined by completion of the following activities:

- Reading/Viewing all course materials to ensure understanding of assignment requirements
- Participating in engaging discussion with your peers on the discussion boards (grading rubric provided in the “grading information” area of each forum)
- Participating in any scheduled Blackboard Collaborate sessions
- Other activities as indicated in the weekly modules

Because these activities are designed to contribute to your learning each week, they cannot be made up after their due date has passed (unless obtaining permission from the instructor beforehand with proper documentation.)
Technology Requirements

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.

If you do not have a 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 you encounter technical difficulties beyond your scope of troubleshooting, please contact the UTEP Help Desk (915-747-help) as they are trained specifically in assisting with technological needs of students. Please do not contact me for this type of assistance. The Help Desk is much better equipped than I am to assist you!

Incomplete Grades

Students may receive a grade of an "I" for incomplete work only in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the instructor. Students who expect to take an incomplete must develop with the professor a written plan including a timeline for completing the course assignments. Although University policy requires completion of all required assignments within one year, the SON policy may be more stringent, and the instructor may require completion of course requirements within a shorter time period.

Late submissions will not be accepted and/or penalized without prior agreement with instructor (one day late: 10% penalty and two days late: 20% penalty will be incurred. More than two days: would be counted as zero.)

Expectations and Responsibilities of Learner

Students must notify the faculty member if there are problems that interfere with their ability to fulfill the obligations of the course. Issues, problems, challenges with meeting responsibilities must be discussed in advance of assignment due dates.

The majority of learning occurs outside the actual or virtual classroom, during discussions with peers, colleagues, and friends, while researching solutions to practice problems or digesting reading material, and when completing assignments. Participants share, examine, and clarify information and learning within the classroom setting and on the discussion boards. Participants are to be actively involved in learning and helping fellow classmates learn. In order to participate, attending to assignments is essential. Preparation consists of reading assigned text material, reading your own researched literature, including relevant ideas in narrative and citing sources. Sharing of evidence, refuting opinions, collaborating with peers is conducted through the peer reply mechanism.

At a minimum, participants are expected to:

- Complete readings prior to writing papers and to include relevant material from the readings in each paper (with proper APA citations)
- Review peers’ postings and course mail at least five times weekly
• Submit assignments with sufficient time to allow for peers to post their replies (generally, at least one day should be allowed, which would require you to post your paper the day before it is due. For example, many module papers [besides Module 1 and 6] are due Saturday midnight & reply is due Sunday midnight)
• Post replies to at least three peers weekly by the due date; failure to post, posting fewer than 3 replies, or unsubstantial postings will result in point deductions (see rubrics; the group project will require you to ask three different group members questions & reply 3 inquiries as individual scores listed in the group project rubric)
• Communicate clearly and openly with peers and faculty on a regular basis; refer to the netiquette web site as needed for points on proper online etiquette
• Seek any assistance needed to meet graduate level writing standards; this includes contacting the instructor at any time by cell phone (provided)

Scholastic Integrity

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.

Accommodations Policy

The University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and auxiliary services to students, staff, faculty, job applicants, applicants for admissions, and other beneficiaries of University programs, services and activities with documented disabilities in order to provide them with equal opportunities to participate in programs, services, and activities in compliance with sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) of 2008. Reasonable accommodations will be made unless it is determined that doing so would cause undue hardship on the University. Students requesting an accommodation based on a disability must register with the UTEP Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS). Contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services at 915-747-5148, or email them at cass@utep.edu, or apply for accommodations online via the CASS portal.

HIPPA Statement  HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996) is a mandatory federal law that protects patient health information. In keeping with HIPAA guidelines, nursing students shall not, under any circumstance; photocopy, fax, or remove from the agency premises, any component of the patient’s medical record. Failure to comply with HIPAA policies will result in disciplinary action which may include course failure and/or dismissal from the nursing program. In addition, legal action may be taken against the student.
Clinical Clearances

You must comply with current Graduate School of Nursing Clinical Compliance policies.

Safety Statement

Graduate students are registered nurses in good standing. As such, it is expected that students will use the requisite knowledge, expertise, and education to provide safe and effective nursing care to any patients with whom they come in contact in their roles as graduate nursing students.

Plagiarism Detecting Software

This course may utilize third party software that has the ability to automatically detect plagiarism on documents submitted for grading. Many of the materials that are posted within this course are protected by copyright law. They may not be copied without a source citation. If you do not use the software (Safe Assign) to check your assignment, penalty might be incurred.

University and Course Resources

UTEP provides a variety of student services and support:

Technology Resources

- **Help Desk**: Students experiencing technological challenges (email, Blackboard, software, etc.) can submit a ticket to the UTEP Helpdesk for assistance. Contact the Helpdesk via phone, email, chat, website, or in person if on campus.

Academic Resources

- **UTEP Library**: Access 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.
- **University Writing Center (UWC)**: Submit papers here for assistance with writing style and formatting, ask a tutor for help and explore other writing resources.
- **Math Tutoring Center (MaRCS)**: Ask a tutor for help and explore other available math resources.
- **History Tutoring Center (HTC)**: Receive assistance with writing history papers, get help from a tutor and explore other history resources.
- **RefWorks**: A bibliographic citation tool; check out the RefWorks tutorial and Fact Sheet and Quick-Start Guide.

Individual Resources

- **Military Student Success Center**: Assists personnel in any branch of service to reach their educational goals.
- **Center for Accommodations and Support Services**: Assists students with ADA-related accommodations for coursework, housing, and internships.
- **Counseling and Psychological Services**: Provides a variety of counseling services including individual, couples, and group sessions as well as career and disability assessments.