The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

This version produced 20 Dec 2007.

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>.

Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

**Description: Nursing Research**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NUR</td>
<td>3060</td>
<td>66305</td>
<td>2, 2007</td>
<td>EXT</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
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**Academic group:**
FOSCI

**Academic org:**
FOS004

**Student contribution band:**
National Priority Nursing

**ASCED code:**
060399

**STAFFING**

Examiner: Roslyn Reilly
Moderator: Cath Rogers-Clark

**REQUISITES**

Pre-requisite: (CMS1008 and MAT1008 and NUR1140 and NUR1120 and {Co-requisite or Pre-req NUR1200}) or (CMS1007 and NUR1140 and NUR1120 and {Co-req or Pre-req NUR1200}) or (CMS1007 and NUR2010 and NUR1020) or Students must be enrolled in the Program: BNPO

**OTHER REQUISITES**

BNUR (Pre-Reg) students may only enrol in the EXT mode with the permission of the examiner.

**RATIONALE**

Graduates with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing are expected to effectively utilize Nursing Research and actively participate in the Scholarship of Nursing. This course with its theoretical base and applications provides students with opportunities to prepare themselves for their roles in scholarship and research in Nursing.

**SYNOPSIS**

The course provides an introduction to the role of research processes and scholarship activity in the Nursing profession. Content includes an examination of the research process and methodologies (qualitative and quantitative). Issues of validity, reliability, sampling, generalisation and application of findings are addressed from the research consumer perspective. The professional nurse's role in the dissemination of knowledge is examined as a scholarly expectation.

**OBJECTIVES**

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. describe the various approaches to the research process (Research Outline);
2. identify appropriate basic techniques to collect and analyse data at a beginning level (Literature Review);
3. describe the link between nursing research and professional practice (Research Outline & Literature Review, Research Method);
4. critically examine the issues and ethical considerations which impact on Nursing research (Research Method);
5. demonstrate achievement of professional scholarship skills such as scientific writing, formulation of a research proposal and the critique of published studies (Research Proposal).

**TOPICS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The Research Process</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Critiquing scholarly/research articles</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Ethical Considerations</td>
<td>6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Literature Review</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The Research Problem</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Feasibility of a Study</td>
<td>5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Methodologies - the quantitative paradigm &amp; the qualitative paradigm</td>
<td>12.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Data Collection</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Data Analysis</td>
<td>12.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Interpreting Outcomes</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Proposals and Final Reports</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Communicating Research Findings</td>
<td>6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Utilisation of Research in Nursing</td>
<td>6.00</td>
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</table>

**TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED**

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Directed Study</td>
<td>50.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESEARCH IDEA</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>13 Aug 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITERATURE REVIEW</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>24 Sep 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESEARCH METHOD</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>22 Oct 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESEARCH PROPOSAL</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>16 Nov 2007</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTES

1. Research Proposal is optional, and involves the rewriting of Research Outline, Literature Review and Research Method. Students who choose to complete this assignment will be eligible for a full range of grades (eg pass, credit, distinction, high distinction).

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1. Attendance requirements:

   There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2. Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:

   To satisfactorily complete the first three assessment items, students must achieve the 1 mark awarded for each of these items. Since the fourth assessment item is non-compulsory there are no requirements for satisfactory completion.
3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
   If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval then a penalty of
   10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each working day late.

4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must achieve at least 50% of the total
   weighted marks available for the course.

5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the aggregate of the weighted
   marks/grades obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.

6 Examination information:
   There is no examination in this course.

7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   As there are no examinations in this course, there will be no deferred or supplementary
   examinations.

8 University Regulations:
   Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10
   Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene
   University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL
   http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm or in the current USQ
   Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

9 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment
   to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested
   by the Examiner.

10 Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. If requested, students
    will be required to provide a copy of assignments submitted for assessment purposes.
    Such copies should be despatched to USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request to do
    so from the Examiner.

11 In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area,
    such as a Show holiday, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are
    to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's
    convenience.

12 Students can expect that questions in assessment items in this course may draw upon
    knowledge and skills that they can reasonably be expected to have acquired before enrolling
    in the course. This includes knowledge contained in pre-requisite courses and appropriate
    communication, information literacy, analytical, critical thinking, problem solving or
    numeracy skills. Students who do not possess such knowledge and skills should not expect
    to achieve the same grades as those students who do possess them.