



LAMAR UNIVERSITY

LAMAR UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
JOANNE GAY DISHMAN SCHOOL OF NURSING
GRADUATE NURSING STUDIES

MSNC 5311 NURSING RESEARCH
Fall 2017

A Spirit of Caring - A Vision of Excellence

SYLLABUS

Lamar University, a Member of The Texas State University System, is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award Associate, Baccalaureate, Masters, and Doctorate degrees (for more information go to <http://www.lamar.edu>).

Course Title:	Nursing Research
Course Number:	MSNC 5311
Course Section:	8N
Credit Hour Allotment:	3 credit hours (15 week course)
School:	Nursing
Faculty:	Eileen Deges Curl, PhD, APRN-CNS, ANEF
Office Hours:	Wednesday 10:30am to noon & 1:00 to 3:00pm CST
Contact Information:	LU email: Eileen.curl@lamar.edu Office: McFadden Ward 226 Phone: 409-880-8818 FAX 409-880-1865

PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Lamar University. My name is Dr. Eileen Deges Curl, and I will be your instructor of record for MSNC 5311 Nursing Research. By way of a very brief introduction, I earned my BSN at Marymount College of Kansas, master's degree in community health nursing at University of Colorado Health Science Center, and a PhD in Nursing (Adult Health) from University of Texas at Austin. My area of expertise is research, grant writing, gerontology, public health, nursing education/academia, and nursing theory. I joined the faculty at Lamar University in 2002, and I am currently a full Professor and Director of Research for the School of Nursing in the College of Arts and Sciences.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Analyze research methods, focusing on formulating a practice-related research problem, searching the literature, research design, sampling, and evaluation of research instruments, data collection strategies and analysis of data. Students are expected to analyze and

critique research literature for scientific merit, and to discuss the practical application of scientific findings for practice.

ADDITIONAL COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The relationship of nursing research to theory and practice are discussed. Research inquiry methods are explored as the basis to investigate nursing problems, serve as the basis for initiating change and provide a resource for evidence based knowledge that improves nursing practice.

MEASURABLE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, students will:

1. Analyze current issues in health care research.
2. Analyze qualitative and quantitative methodologies to investigate nursing problems.
3. Develop a research prospectus for a nursing issue.
4. Evaluate psychometric properties of measurement tools used in nursing and healthcare research.
5. Critique research focusing on application to advanced nursing practice.
6. Analyze the legal and ethical issues related to nursing and health care research.

ACADEMIC PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES, AND/OR COMPANION COURSES

- MSNC 5310 Nursing Theories is beneficial prior to MSNC 5311 Nursing Research
- Successfully completing a Statistics course is required prior to enrolling in MSNC 5311 Nursing Research

COURSE CONTENT OUTLINE

- I. Introduction to Research in an Evidence-Based Practice Environment
 - A. Research process and Ways of Knowing
 - B. Selecting, organizing and translating research topics through practice questions and hypotheses
 - C. Conducting library and on-line searches of evidence in the literature
 - D. Theoretical Frameworks and Conceptual contexts
 - E. Research Quality and Ethics
- II. Types of Research Methodologies for Analysis and Interpretation
 - A. Describing data through descriptive statistics
 - B. Inferential statistics to test hypotheses
 - C. Multivariate statistics to analyze complex relationships
 - D. Qualitative Analyses
- III. Data Collection, Design and Measurement
 - A. Sampling Designs and Subject selection
 1. Enhancing Rigor
 2. Specific purpose research
 3. Integration of quantitative and qualitative approaches
 - B. Instrumentation and Data Collection quality plans

- IV. Critical Analysis of Research Results
 - A. Integrating research evidence
 - B. Building an evidence base for practice
 - C. Reporting research findings
 - 1. Use of computers (SPSS)
 - 2. Setting up an analysis (SPSS)
 - D. Disseminating research evidence

- V. Evaluating and Critiquing Research Evidence Reports
 - A. Legal and ethical issues in conducting research
 - B. Informed Consent, responsibility and research accountability

- VI. Writing a Research Prospectus/Proposal

TECHNOLOGY PREREQUISITES

Students are not required to have advanced technology training or skills in order to be successful in the class. They should, however, feel confident about their ability to navigate through typical online websites and their ability to use common word processing software in order to submit written assignments.

The minimum technical skills and the system requirements for this course follow:

LU LEARN / BLACKBOARD Learning Management System (LMS)

Students will utilize the Lamar University's Learning Management System (LMS), Blackboard, for online courses. For Blackboard support go to (<https://blackboardsupport.lamar.edu>) for more information.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Computer/Technology Requirements:

1. Students will need regular access to Windows, MAC with a broadband Internet connection. Note: mobile devices (if you have mobile devices there are limitations)
The minimum computer requirements are:
 - Most current version of Firefox is recommended
 - *Please note that Blackboard may not support Internet Explorer, Safari, or Chrome.*
 - 8 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection (cable modem, DSL, or other high speed) required – some courses are video intensive
 - 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
 - Strongly recommended that you have a headset with microphone. You may also use webcam, and speakers
 - Example: Plantronics Audio 628 USB headset
 - Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
 - Students will need some additional free software for enhanced web browsing. Be certain to download the free versions of the software.
 - Firefox (<http://www.mozilla.org>)
 - Adobe Reader (<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>)
 - Adobe Flash Player (<http://get.adobe.com/flashplayer>)
 - Java (<http://www.java.com>)

- QuickTime (<https://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>)
 - Silverlight (<https://www.microsoft.com/silverlight/>)
 - Most home computers purchased within the last 3-4 years meet or surpass these requirements.
2. At a minimum, students must have Microsoft Office 365 (<https://my.wip.lamar.edu>) click on MS Office 365). Microsoft Office 365 is available for all students.

Required Skills:

3. Navigate websites, including downloading and reading files from them.
4. Use e-mail, including attaching and downloading documents/files.
5. Save files in commonly used word processing formats (.doc, .docx).
6. Copy and paste text and other items in computer documents.
7. Save and retrieve documents and files on your computer.
8. Locate information on the Internet using search engines.
9. Locate information in the library using the online catalog.

RESPONSE TIMES

Feedback on all assignments will be provided within 10 days for short assignments and within 2 weeks for critiques, quizzes and papers. Questions posed via email will receive a response within 48 hours (except for weekends, which may take longer).

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Text:

American Psychological Association, (2010). *Publication manual for the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, D.C.: Author. ISBN 10: 4338-0561-5 (will also use in other graduate courses)

Polit, D.F., & Beck, C.T. (2017). *Nursing research: Generating and assessing evidence for nursing practice* (10th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. ISBN 13: 978-1496300232

Recommended Text:

Polit, D.F., & Beck, C.T. (2017). *Resource manual for nursing research: Generating and assessing evidence for nursing practice* (10th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. ISBN 13:978-1496313355 (this reference is highly recommended for students in the ADN to MSN track)

Students may wish to use the textbook from their previous statistics course as well.

GRADING POLICY AND EVALUATION

Grading Scale:

A	B	C	D	F
100-90	89-80	79-75	74-60	59 - below

TEACHING STRATEGIES

LU Learn activities, lectures, discussion board, group process/work, quizzes, readings, library searching, and written assignments

TEACHING LEARNING THEORIES

Bloom's Theory of Learning

Adult Learning Theory

GRADING OF ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS

Quizzes (2)	25%
Critiques (2)	20%
Online Discussions	20%
Prospectus Paper	30%
<u>Computer Exercises</u>	<u>5%</u>
	100%

To be successful in this course, all course requirements must be completed, and a satisfactory level of performance must be attained, as specified by grading criteria.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY FOR ONLINE STUDENTS:

Late work in online courses is not acceptable. The structure of web-based courses provides due dates for assignments. Use of the assignment drop-box adequately informs students when course assignments are due. Penalty for late work is at the discretion of the faculty member. The **penalty will not exceed 10% of the assignment grade per day (typically 5 points a day, including weekends)**. If the online delivery system is not available for submission, then email can be used as a backup submission system. Faculty may make exceptions after individual consultation. An incomplete must be completed in one long semester. Requests for incompletes are granted only if they fall within the Lamar University Policy for Incompletes. Extensions of Incompletes may be granted for extenuating circumstances only.

TIME ZONE FOR ASSIGNMENTS

All assignment due times are based on Central Standard Time

COURSE MANAGEMENT POLICIES

The policies of the School of Nursing are published in the Lamar University Dishman School of Nursing *Graduate Nursing Studies Student Handbook*. The policies are designed to provide guidance through the many processes that accompany the learning experiences in the nursing programs. Students are expected to be aware of and adhere to the policies as published.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Note: Students should log into the course every day and response to peer group members daily. All students are required to actively participate in each threaded Discussion Board activity. Peer feedback on students' performance and being actively engaged in group work will impact individual student's grades for group assignments. Peer feedback indicating individual students have not been actively contributing at a high level will lower individual student's grades by a letter grade or more for each group assignment.

Assignments need to be submitted electronically through LU Learn (Blackboard). Inappropriate use of American Psychological Association (APA) referencing on assignments will result in point deductions on assignments.

DROP DATES

Students are responsible to be officially enrolled in the course. It is also the student's responsibility to officially drop the course. Any student who stops attending class and does not officially drop the course will be given an "F" as the semester grade. Last day to drop or withdraw without academic penalty is **September 29, 2017**. Last day to drop or withdraw with academic penalty is **November 3, 2017**. (See LU Comprehensive Online Catalog <http://catalog.lamar.edu/> for further information).

COURSE EVALUATION

Instruction as well as student performance is subject to evaluation. Procedures for evaluation will be provided near the end of this course via email from the university. Please respond to each evaluation link provided.

LU CONNECT PORTAL

Students are asked to obtain a Lamar Electronic Account username and password so they can log onto the LU CONNECT website. Students may get information on how to get into the LU CONNECT website from the University's homepage (<http://www.lamar.edu>) by clicking on the LU CONNECT link on the left top corner of the screen. Follow the steps to secure your LU CONNECT username and password.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Students may access the Student Handbook online at <http://students.lamar.edu/student-handbook.html>. Students are also expected to be familiar with the Graduate Student Handbook (current copy is located in the online classroom).

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND SERVICES

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Lamar University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center(DRC)is located in the Communications building room 105. Office staff collaborate with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

For students:

- If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g., mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact the DRC at [409-880 8347](tel:409-880-8347) or drc@lamar.edu to arrange a confidential appointment with the Director of the DRC to explore possible options regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.
- If you are registered with DRC and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, we encourage you to contact your instructor early in the semester to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course.

Additional information is available at the DRC website, <http://www.lamar.edu/disability-resource-center/>.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Technical Support can be located at <http://students.lamar.edu/it-services-and-support/index.html>.

Phone: 409-880-2222

Email: servicedesk@lamar.edu

Hours of Operation (CST):

Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m.-12:00 a.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

For LU Learn Blackboard technical support go to <https://blackboardsupport.lamar.edu>.
Phone: 866-585-1738
Phone and chat are available 24/7/365

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Academic Support can be located at <http://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/index.html>.
There are many areas (i. e. Advising, Writing Center, etc.) of academic support. Each area provides their own specific contact information and days and hours of operation.

STUDENT SERVICES

Information on Student services can be located at <http://students.lamar.edu/student-services/index.html>.
There are many resources (i. e. Course schedules, important phone numbers, etc.) available. Each area provides their own specific contact information and days and hours of operation.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

The JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing complies with the University Academic Policy as published in the Lamar University Student Handbook. "Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action." (See the Lamar University Student Handbook at <http://dept.lamar.edu/studentaffairs/handbook.htm#New%20Student%20Orientation>) The Lamar University JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing further defines cheating, plagiarism, collusion, and abuse of research materials and other unacceptable behaviors. The JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing also defines the potential actions/consequences that may be taken if a student engages in dishonest practices including course failure (see Potential Actions, JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing Undergraduate Nursing Studies Student Handbook).

For the complete Academic Honesty Policy, see the JoAnne Gay Dishman School of Nursing Undergraduate Nursing Studies Student Handbook.

Lamar University expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

Plagiarism shall mean the appropriation of another's work or idea and the unacknowledged incorporation of that work or idea into one's own work offered for credit.

Collusion shall mean the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit.

Abuse of resource materials shall mean the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.

Academic work shall mean the preparation of an essay, report, problem, assignment, creative work or other project that the student submits as a course requirement or for a grade.

Students are specifically warned against all forms of plagiarism, which include "purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm." Plagiarism is defined as, "the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or ideas into one's own offered for credit" (82). Students seeking to avoid plagiarism should consult either the course instructor or the most recent addition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* or the most recent addition of the *APA Style Guide*, depending on your College requirements for writing research papers. The course instructor will complete a thorough and impartial investigation of any

instance of academic dishonesty. A student found guilty of academic dishonesty will be notified in writing by the instructor of the violation, the penalty, and the student's right to appeal the determination of dishonesty and/or the sanction imposed. Penalties for academic dishonesty in this course will result in either a lowered letter grade or failure of the course as determined by the instructor. The penalty may vary by instructor. For complete policy: go to

<https://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/academic-policies.html>.

COPYRIGHT POLICY STATEMENT

Copyright is defined as the ownership and control of the intellectual property in original works of authorship which are subject to copyright law. As an institution of higher learning that values intellectual integrity, Lamar University prohibits the distribution of published materials (print or electronic) in violation of copyright law.

NETIQUETTE (ONLINE ETIQUETTE) STATEMENT

Please adhere to the same standards of behavior and professional respect online that you would follow in face-to-face communication with others, but most particularly when writing email and when taking part in collaborative and discussion board activities. Lamar provides access to network resources, including the Internet, in order to support learning and to prepare students for the 21st century world. Students, however, are expected to adhere to the *Lamar University Acceptable Use Policies when Using Networks*. More comprehensive student code of conduct can be found at <https://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/code-of-conduct.html>.

GENERAL GUIDELINES TO RESPECT ALL PARTICIPANTS

- Respect the right of each person to disagree with others.
- Treat people the same as you would face-to-face.
- Respect the time of others.

GUIDELINES WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH OTHERS (EMAIL, DISCUSSIONS, BLOGGING, AND ETC.)

- Always sign your names to any contribution you choose to make.
- Be constructive in your responses to others in the class.
- Do not use all caps (Doing so may be interpreted as shouting).
- Re-read your postings before sending them.
- Always think before you write.
- Respond respectfully.
- Use appropriate grammar and structure.
- Spell-check your postings.
- Use short paragraphs focused on one idea.
- Use appropriate business language at all times.

NETWORK USE:

ACCEPTABLE USE

Students must respect the integrity and security of Lamar University computer systems and network, and the privacy and preferences of other users. Responsibility for learning about and complying with Lamar University Acceptable Use Policy ultimately rests with the individual. The network may be used to download, copy, or store any software, shareware, digital media files or freeware, as long as the use complies with copyright law licensing agreements, and campus policies, such as storage space limitations and network bandwidth restrictions. The network may not be used for any activity, or to transmit any material, that violates United States or local laws.

UNACCEPTABLE USE

The network may not be used for commercial purposes. Advertising and sponsorships on Lamar University websites is restricted. In addition, students may not permit other persons to use their usernames, passwords, accounts or disk space, or disclose their usernames, passwords or account information to any third party. Students may not log on to someone else's account, internet address, or other network codes, or attempt to access another user's files. Students may not create false or dummy accounts to impersonate someone else. Students may not try to gain unauthorized access ("hacking") to the files or computer systems of any other person or organization. Students may not impersonate another person by forging e-mail, web pages or other electronic media. Students who maliciously access, alter, delete, damage or destroy any computer system, computer network, computer program, or data will be subject to disciplinary action by Lamar University, and criminal prosecution as well. Students may not disrupt or attempt to disrupt network traffic, and they may not attempt to monitor or capture network traffic in any way. Finally, students may not intentionally create, store, display, print or transmit information that violates the university's Sexual Harassment Policy.

DISTANCE EDUCATION LIBRARIAN

Distance education students and faculty have access to a dedicated distance education librarian. Access this link, <http://libguides.lamar.edu/distancelearning>, for more information.

INSTRUCTIONAL ASSOCIATES (If used)

If you are in a large class, Instructional Associates/Teaching Assistants may be utilized. In the event they are present in the course, you will be notified, via email, regarding their information. Instructional Associates (Teaching Assistants) have been selected based upon their teaching experiences and accomplishments. University faculty members have ultimate responsibility for all assessments and final course grades. Each semester, faculty members will conduct random reviews of materials to ensure inter-rater reliability among all Instructional Associates (Teaching Assistants).

LAMAR UNIVERSITY PRIVACY POLICY STATEMENT

Student records maintained by Lamar University comply with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 as amended (PL93-380). Detailed information should be accessed through this link: <https://sacs.lamar.edu/catalog/PrefMaterial/V.GenAcademicPol.htm#edurights>.

ACADEMIC CONTINUITY STATEMENT

In the event of an announced campus closure in excess of four days due to a hurricane or other disaster, students are expected to login to Lamar University's website's homepage (<http://www.lamar.edu>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Be sure to update your MyLamar Account with the most current information.

Many types of emergencies can occur on campus instructions for specific emergencies such as severe weather, active shooter, or fire can be found at <http://www.lamar.edu/about-lu/administration/risk-management/index.html>.

These procedures may or may not apply to you:

Severe Weather:

- Follow the directions of the instructor or emergency personnel
- Seek shelter in an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor, putting as many walls as possible between you and the outside
- If you are in a multi-story building, and you cannot get to the lowest floor, pick a hallway in the center of the building
- Stay in the center of the room, away from exterior walls, windows, and doors

Violence / Active Shooter (CADD):

- **CALL-** 9-1-1
- **AVOID-** If possible, self-evacuate to a safe area outside the building. Follow directions of police officers.
- **DENY-** Barricade the door with desk, chairs, bookcases or any items. Move to a place inside the room where you are not visible. Turn off the lights and remain quiet. Remain there until told by police it's safe.
- **DEFEND-** Use chairs, desks, cell phones or whatever is immediately available to distract and/or defend yourself and others from attack.

ACCESSIBILITY POLICIES

Lamar University

<http://www.lamar.edu/about-lu/accessibility.html>

Blackboard

<http://www.blackboard.com/accessibility.aspx>

Firefox

<https://support.mozilla.org/en-US/kb/accessibility-features-firefox-make-firefox-and-we>

Microsoft

<https://www.microsoft.com/enable/microsoft/mission.aspx>

Kaltura

<https://corp.kaltura.com/sites/default/files/Datasheets/Kaltura%20Accessibility%20Datasheet.pdf>

Adobe Acrobat

<http://www.adobe.com/accessibility/products/acrobat.html>

Adobe Flash

<http://www.adobe.com/accessibility/products/flash.html>

Adobe Connect

<http://www.adobe.com/accessibility/products/adobeconnect.html>

Adobe Reader

<http://www.adobe.com/accessibility/products/reader.html>

PRIVACY POLICIES

Lamar University

<http://www.lamar.edu/about-lu/privacy-and-security.html>

Blackboard

<http://www.blackboard.com/Footer/Privacy-Center.aspx>

Firefox

<https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/privacy/>

Microsoft

<https://privacy.microsoft.com/en-US/>

Kaltura

<http://corp.kaltura.com/privacy-policy>

Adobe

<http://www.adobe.com/privacy.html>

Java

<http://www.oracle.com/us/legal/privacy/overview/index.html>

YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/static?template=privacy_guidelines

Course Calendar: see separate document called Course Calendar/Schedule