

**SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY**  
**School of Nursing**  
**Spring, 2004**

<b>COURSE NUMBER:</b>	Nursing 378
<b>COURSE TITLE:</b>	Research in Nursing
<b>COURSE CREDIT:</b>	Two credit hours
<b>CONTACT HOURS:</b>	Two hours class per week
<b>PLACEMENT IN CURRICULUM:</b>	300 level courses
<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	Completion of all 200 level nursing courses
<b>FACULTY:</b>	Karen Hill, PhD, RN Office: Mims Hall, Room 127 Phone: 985-549-3373 Fax: 985-549-2869 E-mail: <a href="mailto:khill@selu.edu">khill@selu.edu</a> (Office hours posted on door)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Focuses on the history, terminology, and the process of nursing research. Emphasizes nursing research as a basis for nursing practice. Students will formulate research questions relevant to clinical nursing practice and critique nursing research findings.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of Nursing 378, the student will:

- a. Value the contributions of nursing research findings in past and current nursing practice.
- b. Examine principles of ethics in nursing research.
- c. Trace the steps of the research process.
- d. Critique selected nursing research findings.
- e. Formulate research questions relevant to clinical nursing practice.

**TEXTBOOK:**

Polit, D.F., Beck, C.T. & Hungler, B.P. (2001). *Essentials of nursing research: methods, appraisal, and utilization* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott.

## **CONTENT OUTLINE:**

The content in this course is organized by course objectives but not necessarily taught in the following sequence. Refer to course schedule for sequencing of content.

### Introduction to Nursing Research

- Definition of Nursing Research
- Significance of Nursing Research to the Profession
- Historical Perspectives
- Future Directions

### Ethics in Nursing Research

- Ethical Principles in Nursing Research
- Determining the Ethical Merits of a Research Study
- Accountability of the Nurse Researcher

### The Research Process

- Background and Significance of the Study
- Problem Statement/Research Topic
- Theoretical Framework
- Literature Review
- Purpose and Hypotheses of the Study
- Variables, Assumptions, and Limitations
- Research Design
  - Quantitative Studies
  - Qualitative Studies
- Sampling Methodology
- Measurement and Instrumentation
- Data Analysis
- Interpretation of Findings
- Discussion and Conclusion

## **LEARNING STRATEGIES:**

- Class discussion
- Small group work
- Critical analysis of research studies
- Library/ search of literature
- Literature Review summary
- Textbook and journal readings
- APA Format review (<http://www.selu.edu/Academics/Nursing/apa.htm>)

## **EVALUATION:**

- a. Requirements to successfully complete the course:

Students must satisfactorily pass the course with a grade of 79% based on points earned divided by total possible points. Students may not progress to the next nursing course unless Nursing 378 has been completed with a “C” or better.

- b. Method of grading and/or grade scale:  
Final grade will be determined by the following:

<b>Exams (3)</b>	130 - 150 points
<b>Individual Work:</b>	
Article summary	10 points
Quantitative Critique	15 points
Qualitative Critique	10 points (part of final)
Article Bibliography	3 points
Two articles for group work	3 points
Submission of Research question	2 points
Group work	2 points
Other Assignments	10-15 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	185-210 points

The final examination will not be comprehensive. Exams will reflect all classroom activities and reading assignments. Please bring a scantron to class the day of the test (Form No. 95142). Scantrons will not be available from the faculty. **Students are not allowed to wear hats of any kind or wear sunglasses during a test. Students should attend to personal needs prior to the exam.**

If you are ill on the day of the test, attempt to notify the instructor first, prior to class time. If you are unable to contact the instructor, call the Nursing Department Secretary (504) 549-2156. Contact the instructor no later than three (3) days after returning to school to present an excuse. Make-up exams are given for excused absences only. Make-up exams may be an alternate form of the exam and may be given at the end of the semester. Make-up tests will NOT be given the same day as the scheduled test.

**GRADING SCALE:**

A = 93 - 100
B = 86 - 92
C = 79 - 85
D = 69 - 78
F = 0 - 68

Grades will be posted on Blackboard when completed by the instructor. Tests may then be reviewed by appointment up to 5 days after the grades are posted. Grades will be posted only when a number is written on your test or answer sheet as directed by faculty. If a grade is not posted, schedule an appointment to obtain your grade from the faculty.

Test grades are not given over the telephone. Please do not call the secretaries about course grades. It is against university policy for grades to be reported over the telephone.

**CLASS ATTENDANCE:**

Refer to <http://www.selu.edu/academics/nursing/attendance.htm> for attendance policy.

**CONDUCT:**

Students are expected to comply with “Standards of Conduct” as outlined in the Special Student Guide. Failure to comply with these standards may result in review by the appropriate disciplinary agency on campus and disciplinary action. Academic honesty is an expectation of all students. Refer to the SLU Catalogue.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Students enrolled in nursing courses who cheat on exams or assignments or commit plagiarism, or copy another students work in any way violate the Academic Dishonesty Policy of the University and will receive an F (0 points) on the test or assignment in question. In addition, they will be reported to the Dean of the School of Nursing and to the Office of the Dean of Students.

**CLASSROOM DECORUM:**

Free discussion, inquiry, and expression is encouraged in this class. Classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the professor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of students to benefit from instruction is not acceptable. Examples may include routinely entering class late or departing early; use of beepers, cellular phones, or other electronic devices; repeatedly talking in class without being recognized; talking while others are speaking; and arguing in a way that is perceived as “crossing the civility line”. Classroom behavior, which is determined inappropriate and cannot be resolved by the student and the faculty member may be referred for administrative or disciplinary review.

**Students arriving late (after the first 10 minutes of class) are asked to wait until the break to enter the classroom unless prior arrangements were made with the faculty. Students are asked to turn beepers on the vibration mode or turn them off during class. Under no circumstance will cellular phones be tolerated during class or a test. In the event of a situation where a student legitimately needs to carry a beeper/cellular telephone to class, prior notice and approval of the instructor is required. Students are asked NOT to bring children to class with them**

**PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:**

In order to meet the objectives of the course, students must meet the Core Performance Standards of Admission and Progression as adopted by the School of Nursing. A copy of the Standards is listed in the student handbook. Students are expected to attend class and be prepared for discussion of the content. Participation points/quizzes cannot be earned if not present for class.

### **CLASS PREPARATION:**

Students are expected to prepare for each class by reading the assigned chapters and completing outside assignments as assigned. The class will be composed of classroom/critical thinking exercises, group activities, and discussion. Students must have a basic understanding of the information to be able to discuss the content and ask questions. Faculty will build upon the students' knowledge to enhance their learning by activities instead of lecture only. This course is designed to be self-directed learning and requires students to prepare prior to each class.

Assignments: Activities will be utilized throughout the course to emphasize important information from various units. These activities will require reflective thinking beyond the book knowledge. Students will be required to apply the information learned from the class. The points assigned to each assignment may vary and are graded according to the discretion of the instructor. Students must acknowledge any reference used if other than the course textbook. These assignments may be given as out-of-class work to be handed in at a specified date. Faculty reserve the right to accept or refuse late assignments.

**Students must turn in individual work reflecting critical analysis.** Failure to present individual work could result in disciplinary action based on the academic honesty policy set forth by the University and/or a zero for the assignment.

### **STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:**

Any student requiring supplemental assistance due to a disability must make these needs known to the professor by the end of the first week of class. Verification of disability must be made available to the professor. If you are a qualified student with a disability seeking accommodation under the *Americans with Disabilities Act*, you are required to self-identify with the Office of Student Life Disabilities Service, Room 202, Student Union.

### **REPORTING OF ARREST OR CONVICTIONS:**

After initial enrollment in the nursing major, any subsequent disciplinary action, arrest, charge, addition, or impairment shall be reported IMMEDIATELY to the Campus Department Head and the Louisiana State Board of Nursing in the same manner as your initial application for progression for determination of continuance in the clinical component of nursing courses. Failure to report any and all subsequent disciplinary actions, arrests, or impairments will ultimately result in denial of licensure as a registered nurse and will constitute falsification of records.

### **SLU PROGRESSION POLICY**

Policies related to progression within the SON are listed in the SLU catalog. You are responsible for understanding these policies as they pertain to your success in the program. Students will be permitted to repeat only two nursing courses. Students will be permitted to enroll in any nursing course only twice. The following requirements for graduation in addition to general University requirements listed elsewhere must be met:

- \* Earn a degree GPA of 2.5 , and
- \* Earn a GPA of 2.3 in the nursing major

Last day to resign from the University or withdraw from classes:

**Friday, March 19, 2004**

**EMAIL Address:**

All students will be required to use their email address provided by SLU. Frequent memos, information updates, etc. will be sent via email. Students are required to check for email from the instructor several times during the week. The posting times for messages will be as follows unless directed otherwise in class.

Wednesday Class                      Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

I do not usually check for emails during the weekend.