



BIRZEIT UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Nursing, Pharmacy and Health Professions

Seminar in Nursing Research and Evidence- Based Practice (NURS334)

Course information

- Course Code: NURS334 (Prerequisite: NURS2231, NURS3221 or NURS232)
- Credit Hours: 3 Credits
- Course Name: Seminar in Nursing Research and Evidence- Based Practice
- Offered: Tuesday & Thursday @2:15-3:30 (PNH103)
- Instructor: Dr. Sahar Hassan PhD, MSN, CNM (Email: sjamal@birzeit.edu)
- Office hours: with appointment

Course description

Principles and concepts of research and its role to promote an evidence-based approach to nursing practice. Basics of research skills such as literature search, review and critique, selecting a research topic, designing research proposal taking into consideration abiding to basic ethical principles of research.

Course objectives:

1. Understand the importance of research to evidence-based nursing practice.
2. Identify the ethical considerations related to human subjects' research.
3. Describe the steps of the research process.
4. Distinguish between quantitative and qualitative research.
5. Identify researchable nursing problem in one area, write and submit a research proposal.
6. Search, read, comprehend, think critically and summarize relevant literature.
7. Enhance Scholarly communication skills.
8. Communicate recommendations for clinical practice based on literature review.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

a-Knowledge and Understanding

1. Name major steps of quantitative and qualitative research.
2. Identify sources of nursing knowledge.
3. Discuss major goals for conducting research.
4. Identify the ethical considerations in scientific research.
5. Describe and evaluate qualitative and quantitative research.
6. Understand various threats to validity of quantitative research.

7. Identify appropriate information to include in a research literature review.
8. Distinguish between and evaluate data collection methods and tools.

b-Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

1. Differentiate among methods used in conducting research.
2. Compare qualitative and quantitative research.
3. Trace the development of ethical codes and guidelines.
4. Appreciate the role of institutional review boards in conducting nursing research.
5. Comprehend published research.

C-Subject Specific Skills

1. Select relevant research literature.
2. Read research article, grasp and summarize key aspects of the “story”.
3. Critique published research.
4. Develop and refine a research problem.
5. Submit a complete research proposal.

d-Transferable Skills

1. Search Internet database for literature.
2. Critique research reports according to the major steps of the scientific research.
3. Abide to the ethical principles of research.
4. Describe the logic and purpose of tests of statistical significance, describe hypothesis testing procedures, and interpret P values.
5. Work effectively as a team.
6. Learn independently.

Course outline

WEEK	OUTLINE	Chapter
1 & 2	Introduction to the course <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to nursing research & evidence-based practice • Key concepts and steps in qualitative and quantitative research. • Research problems, research questions, and hypotheses Formulation of research groups	Ch 1 Ch 3 Ch6
3 & 4	Literature review : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Searching & reviewing evidence in literature • Reading & critiquing research papers • Citation & referencing • APA style (Self-learning) • Citation & referencing (Self-learning) • Plagiarism (Self-learning) Assignment 1: Submission of Research question & hypothesis (group) [Week 3: Deadline: 28.9.2021]	Ch 4 & 7
5 & 6	Planning your study: Research designs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to write your research proposal? • Quantitative research designs • Qualitative research designs and analysis Assignment 2: Submission Literature review (Individual) [Week 5: Deadline 14.10.2021]	Ch 9 Ch 10 & 17
7	Ethics in research Theoretical and Conceptual Frameworks Research proposal writing and follow up Midterm Exam: 4.11.2021	Ch 5
8	Population and sample Research proposal writing and follow up	Ch 12
9 & 10	Data collection methods Research instruments Research proposal writing and follow up	Ch 13
11	Measurement and Data Quality (Rigor & trustworthiness) Assignment 4: Submitting Research proposals (group) 25.11.2021	Ch 14 & 16
12	Data analysis & interpretation Research proposal presentations and defense (group)	Ch 15 & 17

13	Revising & modifying research proposals after feedback + re-submission to instructor (group) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning use of SPSS (Self-learning) 	
14	Submission of research proposals at Ethical Committee for review (Course Instructor)	
15	Final Exam	

Teaching and Learning methods:

- Classroom lectures, discussions & stimulating classroom exercises. Individual and group work and written assignments. Self-learning of specific material relevant to research.

Assessment methods based on outcomes

Weighting of assessments

Criteria	Deadline	Points
Assignment 1: Research question & hypothesis (group)		5%
Assignment 2: Literature review (Individual)		20%
Midterm Exam		25%
Assignment 3: Research proposal (group)		15%
Classroom participation and attendance		5%
Final Exam		30%
Total		100%

REQUIRED TEXT AND READINGS:

Polit D. & Beek C. (2010) Essentials of Nursing research: Appraising Evidence for Nursing Practice. 7th edition. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Course Policies:

Preparation/Attendance: Students are expected to come to class prepared having completed all assigned readings and ready to participate and reflect. If an absence cannot be avoided, contact the course faculty.

Make-up Work and Retakes:

- If a student is unable to attend a test, the faculty member must be notified beforehand either by email via Ritaj.
- Failure to do this may result in a “0” for that test.
- Make-up tests may be in a variety of formats or combination of formats including oral, or written as multiple choice, essay or short answer.
- The decision to allow students to revise assignments and/or re-take examinations will be made at the discretion of the faculty.



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Assignment 2: Literature review [Individual Assignment]

(20%)

Aim: To learn new elements of care from latest nursing research, then shape these aspects into themes (key findings) so they can be effectively introduced into practice in order to improve nursing care provision (evidence-based practice). Moreover, conducting a literature review is mainly concerned with improving your reading skills, using and applying nursing research findings.

Description & guidance:

Topic: Literature review should be relevant to your research topic you agreed as group.

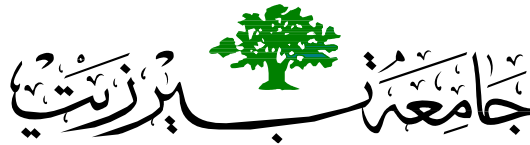
How?

- Search:
 - Define your literature review goal, narrow down your topic of interest.
 - Search databses (i.e. Hinari, CINAHL/Medline/Cochrane) and internet (i.e. PUBMED, OVID, Google Scholar).
- Do your research:
 - Scan & skim reading.
 - Review, read in-depth, & critique.
 - Arrange into categories & subcategories.
 - Identify top scholars, and include most pertinent publications.
 - May include literature from other disciplines if appropriate/relevant.
- Conclusions & summaries:
 - Conclude/summarize what you read.
 - Draw comments and similar findings together & make statements of your own.
 - Argue disagreements.
 - Identify how your findings can be taken into practice areas.
- Drafting:
 - Start drafting as soon as possible, as this helps define and refine your ideas as you read, develop arguments and conclusions.
 - Try to identify headings and subheadings.
 - Any paragraph should not be more than 500 words.
 - Avoid long sentences.
 - Proof reading is necessary. Ask someone to read and check spelling and grammar errors for you. Cite as you write.
 - Include a reference list.

Presentation of your literature review in a written format & mark distribution:

- Total word count: Maximum 1600 excluding cover page, abstract, reference list.
- **Abstract:** (200 words) **5%:** Summary
- **Introduction** (200 words) **10%**
 - Introduction of topic, purpose/goal, justification of your selection, how you gathered your information, type of research designs in papers you selected, dates of published papers, search/key words used.
- **Main body of literature review:** (1000 words) **50%**
- **Conclusion** (200 words) **15%**
- **Submission Guidelines: 20%**
 - Citation and referencing: APA style. Minimum 5-7 references.
 - Layout and format:
 - ✓ Cover page: University, Faculty, program, course name & code, title of the paper, name and registration number of the student, name of the instructor.
 - ✓ Follow APA style. See guide in the link:
 - ✓ https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html
 - ✓ Font: 12-point, Times New Roman.
 - ✓ Margins: One-inch margins, page numbers on top of each page.
 - ✓ Spacing: 1.5 line spacing between all lines. One space only between sentences. Paragraphs are indented 5 spaces.
 - ✓ Headings: Appropriate APA level heading are used. No headings are left alone at the bottom of a page.
 - ✓ Submission: As word document
 - ✓ Name your file as: **YourName_Litreview (Example: SaharHassan_Litreview)**
 - ✓ Submit before/by the announced deadline. Late submission puts you at risk lose grades.
 - ✓ Adhere to BZU academic integrity policy. Any plagiarism will result of a ZERO grade on this assignment.

Submission deadline: 14.10.2021



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Assignment 3: Research Proposal [Group Assignment]

(15%)

Title (cover) page: University, Faculty, program, course name & code, title, name of students, date, submitted to: name of the instructor.

Abstract (research summary): (250 words)

- Background (include broad objective, specific aims and research question), methods, plan of data collection and analysis.

Table of contents: every major section of the proposal must be included, with an accurate headings and page numbers.

Introduction

- Introduce the subject to a stranger and elaborate on its significance of your topic.
- Include statement of problem (specifically what you wants to know) and research questions.
- Purpose of research: explanation of the problem and what the researcher hopes to achieve by conducting the study.
- What is your general objectives, specific aim and research hypothesis.

Background and Significance:

Set the intellectual/scientific context:

- What do we already know about the research question/problem?
- So what? When you finish the project what will we know: that we don't already know, and that is important to know?
- Relate specific aims to broad objectives

Review the literature/other studies:

- The Literature review is relevant to the problem area.
- Relevant literatures from nursing and related fields are reviewed to show awareness of knowledge in the area, and to demonstrate that the researcher has considered a range of possibilities for investigating the problem.
- The literature review should be selective and critical.
- Discussions of work done by others should therefore lead the reader to a clear impression of how you will be building upon what has already been done and how your work differs from theirs.
- A theoretical framework is identified and integrated into the study.

- The description of the study should show clearly how the study would extend previous findings, the theoretical rationale for the hypotheses or research questions is made explicit.
- DO NOT WRITE A BOOK! Be smart!

Conceptual or theoretical framework:

- Definition of Terms: clarification of any terminology in the study that may not be commonly known.
- Define terms conceptually and operationally.

Aim/objectives/hypothesis/research questions

- Write your broad objectives, specific aims, research question and hypothesis.

Methods:

Design: Describe the research design and rationale for selection.

Population and sample: Describe the study population. Sample selection procedure, size and rationale, as well as any limitations. Adequate scientific reasons for choosing the sample are stated. Inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Setting. Describe where the study will be conducted.

Participants: Identify the process for selection, recruitment, inclusion, exclusions, target population, and plans to recruit your sample. The subject sample should be reflective of the population selected for the study.

Instrument/tool of data collection. Describe the research instruments for collecting data with a view to their appropriateness to the research being conducted. How the instrument was acquired or created. Present information regarding their validity and reliability.

Variables: Identify, define, and describe all variables in your study, their types and how they will be measured, including steps taken to control for extraneous variables. Present the nature of any treatment/intervention to be administered/conducted. If any.

Procedure/field work/administrative part: The entire process of data collection and field work should be described. Describe in detail when, how and who will conduct the study. Include a tentative schedule (timeline) for the main steps of your study.

Ethical considerations: Describe how you are going to protect the rights of participants, and obtain informed consent and describe as well as notification of risks for participation. Include a version of your consent form in Arabic.

Data analysis plan: Present your variables, type of data you will be collecting, and what statistical procedures you will use in order to answer your question or hypothesis. Provide a clear description of the statistical process you will use for analysis of data. Try to include dummy tables (empty tables that you would like to complete after your analysis).

Bibliography:

- All ideas and conclusions, which are not the student's original work or considered general knowledge must be cited and credited to the original source.
- Citation form must reflect the APA style 5th ed. (For APA style, check course resources).
- List references cited in the text in APA format.

Dissemination plan

- Include a plan to disseminate and communicate your findings.

Timeline: provide a timeline for implementing of your research

Role of research team: Specify what (responsibilities) each one of you will do / participate in while conducting the study. Include table of responsibilities of each research team member.

Budget:

- How much is the cost of your study and how will you pay? Specify cost items in a table.

Appendices: Make sure to include all the followings:

- Your research tool: Questionnaires, interview guides & scoring instruction.
- Your research implementation timetable. (Tentative).
- Letters of request for permission for institutions/subjects to participate, consent form instructions to be provided to subjects (all in Arabic language).
- Investigator's curriculum vitae (maximum 2 pages)
- Other relevant materials

Format

Length: 15 pages, typewritten on a word processor, double-spaced, proofread and corrected.