

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DENTAL HYGIENE**  
**DENH 5026: Research Principles and Applications**

Fall, 2016

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**CLASS DAYS and TIME:** This course is fully online and therefore has no set class day and time. All learners will be required to post AT LEAST once a week concerning assigned material.

**CLASSROOM:** Does not apply. Course is fully online

**COURSE FACULTY:** Course Director: Melanie V. Taverna MSDH, RDH

**OFFICE LOCATION and HOURS:** By appointment: Cell 210-573-4723, Email office hours are: 8:00am-5:00pm, excluding holidays. Electronic messages will be responded to within 48 hours.

**EMAIL:** Name@UTHSCSA.edu

**TELEPHONE:** Office: 210-567-3858

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**READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY - YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS  
CONTENTS.**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

**Course Description and Rationale:** This course is designed to provide the learner with an opportunity to expand research knowledge. The course will consist of an in depth study of the research process, its contexts, design, data collection and communication techniques. All learners are expected to complete assigned readings and participate in on-line discussions and activities that will complement principles covered in assignments.

Current graduates of dental hygiene programs are required to possess skills needed to continue their professional development and encourage life-long learning. These skills include knowledge of basic research principles sufficient to: facilitate reading and critiquing professional and scientific literature, obtain research information to support current oral health care treatment and preventive procedures, and provide accurate information to their patients. Advanced education learners are preparing for expanded roles in clinical care, public health, education, administration, research and as change agents. To function in any or all of these roles, each learner has a responsibility to understand and possess skills to apply research principles at an advanced level.

**Pre-requisites – Successful enrollment in the MSDH program**

**Semester credit hours – 3 semester credit hours / 45 clock hours**

The objectives for this course are designed to facilitate the learner's progress toward their thesis project.

#### **Course Organization -**

This is a self-paced, asynchronous, full online course facilitated by the Course Director. An "Assignment Manager" is posted to guide the learner expectations, due dates, and posting location. On-campus, or electronic meetings will be arranged with the course director to assure goals are met in a timely manner.

#### **Course Expectations**

The teaching methods used in this course will be a combination of web-based instruction, on-line research, peer teaching, and peer review. Regular posting on the web will provide instructor feedback for discussion and/or grading purposes. This course is focused on learner centered learning. Inherent to this format is the possibility for individualized approaches to learning. Because learners have differing interests and learn on differing time tables, the

management of the course material will be the responsibility of the learner. There are three important points the learner should remember when managing the course material:

- The learner is expected to complete all assignments and submit them to the appropriate destination on time.
- No late work will be accepted.
- It is the responsibility of the learner to inform the course director should the learner need assistance during the semester for any reason.

The learner is expected to locate and read other material related to course topics, in addition to the reading that has been assigned. This additional information will enhance learner learning and should be used and cited as support information in learner discussions and writings.

### **Course Requirements**

All learners are required to:

- Have access to a computer
- Consistent access to the internet so they can access CANVAS and the UTHSCSA Library
- Microsoft Office Suite to include Word 9 (at least) and PowerPoint
- Microsoft Outlook for email communication
- RefWorks: download free from the UTHSCSA Library
- Schedule their time to allow for reading, research of materials, participation in the class; not limited to discussions and submission of activities
- Participate in class discussions and activities

All learners will have the opportunity to demonstrate professionalism by:

- Completing assignments on time
- Being respectful of others learning environment; using appropriate net-etiquette when writing in any venue
- Submitting all work on time and participate fully with classmates

All learners will have the opportunity to demonstrate integrity by:

- Completing assignments individually, unless otherwise instructed
- Collaborating with others through postings to enhance the learning experience
- By not plagiarizing their resources

All learners will have the opportunity to demonstrate the principles of life-long learning by researching and developing products either by expanding upon current knowledge and skills or acquiring new knowledge and skills. Specific requirements are outlined in content of each Module.

### **Learning Activities**

Several different activities will be utilized in this course to assist learners in understanding the research process. Learners will be required to read the assigned text and online materials presented through the course and participate in online discussions. Study questions will be used to evaluate understanding of written material. Critiques of research articles will be utilized for the development of critical thinking and reading skills. An understanding of library resources used in research, such as research data bases and RefWorks will also be developed. Learners will serve as peer reviewers for their classmates as they move through the process of developing a research proposal.

### **COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

Upon completion of this course, the learner will be able to:

1. Differentiate and describe the steps of the research process.
2. Analyze research articles for appropriate research mechanics.
3. Apply APA formatting appropriate to written work.
4. Examine library data bases used for locating research material.
5. Employ an online reference manager for organizing research material.

6. Apply information skills: locating, applying, compiling, managing, analyzing, evaluating, etc.
7. Evaluate peer learning using appropriate assessment and evaluation methods.
8. Demonstrate ethical and professional behavior and values.
9. Engage in life-long learning in order to promote professional development.

## **COURSE OUTCOMES**

The learner will demonstrate an understanding of the research process and possess the skills needed to apply research principles at an advanced level by completing a research grant proposal (Learning Objectives 1-9).

## **CODA Standards**

This course satisfies a portion of the CODA, ADA Accreditation Standards 2-22, 2-23, 2-24, and 2-25. A complete set of Standards for Dental Hygiene Programs may be accessed at: <http://www.ada.org/prof/ed/accred/stand/index.html>

## **Dental Hygiene Competencies**

This course satisfies the following UTHSCSA competencies for the Master of Science Dental Hygiene Program: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.6, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 4.3, 5.2, and 5.3.

**Computer Access** – The learner is required to have a computer, internet access that will be capable of utilizing CANVAS Learning Management System, Microsoft Outlook Email, UTHSCSA.edu website, and UTHSCSA Library resources. The learner is required to have a compatible/ up to date Microsoft Office Suite with Word, and PowerPoint. The learner is responsible for contacting UT IMS at [http://ims.uthscsa.edu/learner\\_support/index.aspx](http://ims.uthscsa.edu/learner_support/index.aspx) or 210-567-7777 to ensure their computer has the appropriate security software installed.

**Reading Assignments** – See attached Assignment Manager for details

## **ATTENDANCE**

**Fully online courses do not have attendance policies.** However attendance in the course will be monitored by discussion board interactions, completed assignments, course analytics, and conferences.

**TEXTBOOKS:** Texts may be ordered from your choice of on-line vendors. Some are available as e-books.

**Required:** – Creswell, J. W. (2015). *Educational Research: Planning, Conducting and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Upper Saddle River: Pearson.

*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, APA, 6<sup>th</sup> ed*, published by the APA, Copyright 2010.

**Recommended:** Dana K. Keller. (2016). *The Tao of Statistics: A Path to Understand (With No Math)*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Los Angeles: Sage Publishing

*Displaying Your Findings: A Practical Guide for Creating Figures, Posters, and Presentation*. (2013) 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Los Angeles: Sage Publishing

*Presenting Your Findings: A Practical Guide for Creating Tables*. (2011). 6<sup>th</sup> ed. Los Angeles: Sage Publishing

**GRADING POLICIES AND EXAMINATION PROCEDURES:** Learners must receive a grade of “B” to pass the course.

900-1000 points=A  
800-899 points=B  
700-799 points=C  
600-699=D

## **Grading System**

The final grade will be based on a possible total of 1000 points as follows:

- (1%) 1. Self Portrait 10pts.
- (9%) 2. Chapter Readings & Postings 90pts.
- (10%) 3. Critical Thinking and Reading Activity 100pts.
- (10%) 4. Data base and Reference Activity 100pts.
- (20%) 5. Article critiques 200pts
- (30%) 6. Research Grant Proposal 300pts
- (20%) 7. Peer Review 200 pts.

## **REQUESTS FOR ACCOMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES**

In accordance with policy 4.2.3, **Request for Accommodation Under the ADA and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA)**, any learner requesting accommodation must submit the appropriate request for accommodation under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA, form 100) to his/her appropriate Associate Dean of their School and a copy to the ADA Coordinator. Additional information may be obtained at <http://uthscsa.edu/eo/request.asp>.

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM**

Any learner who commits an act of academic dishonesty is subject to discipline as prescribed by the UT System Rules and Regulations of the Board of Regents. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an exam for another person, signing attendance sheets for another learner, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a learner or the attempt to commit such an act. Additional information may be obtained at <http://catalog.uthscsa.edu/generalinformation/generalacademicpolicies/academicdishonestypolicy/>

## **TITLE IX AT UTHSCSA**

### **Title IX Defined:**

Title of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. It reads "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

### **University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio's Commitment:**

University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio (UTHSCSA) is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from discriminatory conduct based on gender. As required by Title IX, UTHSCSA does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education programs and activities, and it encourages any learner, faculty, or staff member who thinks that he or she has been subjected to sex discrimination, sexual harassment (including sexual violence) or sexual misconduct to immediately report the incident to the Title IX Director.

In an emergency, victims of sexual abuse should call 911. For non-emergencies, they may contact UPD at 210-567-2800. Additional information may be obtained at <http://learners.uthscsa.edu/titleix/>

## **EMAIL POLICY**

Every learner is issued a University e-mail address and account at the time the learner first enrolls. As a standing University Policy, only the learners' University e-mail address shall be used for any electronic institutional communications of an official nature.

**USE OF RECORDING DEVICES-** Does not apply to online courses

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES-**