

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DENTAL HYGIENE**  
**Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences**  
**DENH 5026 Research Principles and Applications**

Fall 2020

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**CLASS DAYS and TIME:** This course is fully online with asynchronous assignments.

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

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

**OFFICE LOCATION and HOURS:** Scheduled appointments arranged on an individual basis. 2.500.1U  
School of Dentistry, Long Campus

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

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION, RATIONALE, AND OBJECTIVES**

This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to expand their research knowledge. The course consists of an in-depth study of the research process, its contexts, design, data collection and communication techniques. All students 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 students 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 student has a responsibility to understand and possess skills to apply research principles at an advanced level.

**Pre-requisites** – Acceptance in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, MSDH program

**Semester credit hours** – 3.0 credit hours, 45 Seminar hours.

**Course Objectives:** Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Differentiate between 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 ORGANIZATION:**

### **Teaching Methods**

The teaching methods used in this course will be a combination of web-based instruction (CANVAS), on-line research, peer teaching, and peer review. Regular posting on CANVAS will provide instructor feedback for discussion and/or grading purposes.

This course is focused on student centered learning. Inherent to this format is the possibility for individualized approaches to learning. Because students have differing interests and learn on differing time tables, the management of the course material will be the responsibility of the student. There are three important points the student should remember when managing the course material:

- The student is expected to complete all assignments and submit them to the appropriate destination.
- No late work will be accepted
- It is the responsibility of the student to inform the course director should the student need assistance during the semester for any reason
- The student 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 student learning and should be used and cited as support information in student discussions and writings

Each module will be posted under the **Modules** in the drop-down menu in **CANVAS**. Relevant course materials, to include discussion and assignments will be accessible and attached to Modules. In addition, all assignments to be completed will be entered under the **Assignment** menu and will allow students to read the directions, access related worksheets or handouts, and submit the completed assignment for evaluation and feedback.

A variety of Internet links are posted to the Module and provide some of the reading and viewing resources to support the activities. Each of the menu areas should be checked routinely by students to assure access to all required materials.

Reading assignments are selected to enhance each of the areas. All assignments should be submitted by the due date to receive credit for this course: If unusual circumstances arise that interfere with submitting an assignment, please discuss with the instructor. The student is to be mindful of their cohorts' time in responding to Discussion Boards.

## Course Objectives

Specific objectives are included in each Module and can be accessed on CANVAS. Objectives provide guidance to students regarding areas covered in the module, what type of information is important to learn and apply. In addition, objectives may be used as study guides in preparing for class assignments and projects.

## Assignments

Students will be expected to complete the following assignments listed under the **Assignments in CANVAS**.

- 1. Module Assignments:** For most modules, there will be outside resources to supplement the text. The student will read selected articles, discuss pertinent questions with peers using the discussion board, or complete assignment worksheets and submit for grading. Specific guidelines for these assignments will be provided under the Assignments section of the course and incorporated into each **Module guide**.
- 2. Discussion Board:**  
The breadth and depth of this course lies in the discussions associated with each module. Therefore, there will be opportunities for online class discussions related to specific topic areas and sharing of ideas or questions. Because this is an upper level course, it is expected that all students will participate in making this class a productive learning experience by constructing meaningful posts that are based on the literature, the readings along with sharing learner expertise, ideas, concerns, or questions to ponder. It is expected that each member of the class will respect diversity of thought and communicate in a professional, independent manner, using appropriate grammar, spelling, terminology, and sentence structure. Abbreviations, such as those used in text messages, are not appropriate for discussion topics.

## Course Calendar and Announcements

The Course Instructor uses the CANVAS course **Calendar** to provide a quick overview of the course schedule, modules, assignments, and due dates for projects, discussions, assignments, and activities. Students should check the calendar routinely to assure compliance with course requirements.

Course **Announcements** will be posted regularly to keep students updated, answer class questions, provide new information or guide students to newly posted materials. When student's login to the course, any new announcements should "pop up" to alert students to new information. Please read these carefully to assist in completing course requirements.

**Materials** – Resources other than texts and links provided, will be up to the student to provide.

**Computer Resources:** The student is expected to have updated Microsoft (Microsoft 365 is available at TechZone at a discount for students) [http://ims.uthscsa.edu/computer\\_networking/computer\\_store.aspx](http://ims.uthscsa.edu/computer_networking/computer_store.aspx)

**RefWorks:** This is a free software available at our Library  
<https://libguides.uthscsa.edu/c.php?g=578301&p=3989974>

RefWorks will be used to organize and hold your references. It will also aid in formatting in APA. You will use this in this and other courses in the program.

**Computer Access** – The student 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 student is required to have a compatible/ up to date Microsoft Office Suite with Word, and PowerPoint. The student is responsible for contacting UT IMS at

[http://ims.uthscsa.edu/student\\_support/index.aspx](http://ims.uthscsa.edu/student_support/index.aspx) or 210-567-7777 to ensure their computer has the appropriate security software installed.

**Reading Assignments:** Refer to the Modules.

### **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.

### **COURSE OUTCOMES:**

The student will *enhance* their critical thinking and writing skills utilizing the text, online resources and group discussion. They will have opportunities to *apply what they learn* in Journal Clubs where we will discuss pertinent details such as evidence, content and statistical analysis. The course culminates with a Literature Review paper that will *demonstrate* an understanding of the research question, database searching, annotating and organizing a literature review, concise writing, and basic statistical analysis. This course and it's companion course Biostatistics will work together to bolster student understanding.

### **TEXTBOOKS**

#### **Required:**

1. John W. Creswell & Timothy C. Guetterman. (2019) Educational Research. Planning, Conducting and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research. 6<sup>th</sup> Edition ISBN 13: 9780134519364 (paperback)
2. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, APA, 7th Edition, published by the APA, Copyright 2020.

**\*\*Texts may be ordered from your choice of on-line vendors. It is required that you purchase the correct edition. Both books will be important throughout the Program\*\***

### **GRADING POLICIES AND EXAMINATION PROCEDURES**

#### **Grading System**

Online courses have discussion boards, written projects, and continual interaction between students and faculty. All written projects will be graded using the following criteria: overall organization, content, quality of the paper, clarity of writing, appropriate sentence structure, spelling, use of correct citation and reference style.

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

1. Chapter Readings & Postings	160pts. ✓
2. Creating a question for literature review.	100pts. ✓
3. Data base and Concept Mapping Activity	100pts. ✓
4. Journal Club	300pts. ✓
5. References, Literature Review Draft & Paper	500pts. ✓

1060.00

This course will be graded on a letter grade basis. Each student must achieve a minimum grade of "C" to pass the course. If a student encounters serious a problem or an emergency that does not allow completion of the course requirements within the semester's framework, the instructor may give an

incomplete grade. However, the course instructor reserves the right to award an Incomplete based on individual circumstances. Written documentation will be required to confirm the circumstances

**Remember the student must maintain a “B” cumulative average as a graduate student.**

### **Course Evaluation:**

Post course evaluations will be completed by the student. Outcomes assessments will be developed and used to evaluate the content and structured. Adjustments to the course will be made from this.

**Instructor Help:** Any student experiencing problems or who needs help in the course should feel free to ask for instructor help at his/her earliest convenience. Please call or come by the office to set up an appointment.

### **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 student 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 student 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 student, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such an act. Additional information may be obtained at

<http://catalog.uthscsa.edu/generalinformation/generalacademicpolicies/scholasticdishonestypolicy/>

**PLAGIARISM**--All academic work submitted to fulfill course requirements is expected to be the result of each *student's own thought, research, and self-expression*. A student will have committed plagiarism if someone else's work is reproduced *without acknowledging its source*. Examples of sources that must be acknowledged include any verbiage, ideas, or other direct quotes from published articles, chapters of books, computer programs, graphic representations, research papers, and other kinds of work from a source not generated as part of the public domain. Submission of certain assignments will involve plagiarism software and subsequent reports. Initially this will be used to inform the student. It provides excellent feedback. On final submissions it may be part of your grade.

### **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 student, 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://students.uthscsa.edu/titleix/>

**EMAIL POLICY**

Every student is issued a University e-mail address and account at the time the student first enrolls. As a standing University Policy, only the students' University e-mail address shall be used for any electronic institutional communications of an official nature. It is discouraged for students submit assignments through email. They are to be submitted into CANVAS

**EMAIL OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Thursday 8:00-5:00, excluding holidays: Electronic messages sent Monday through Thursday will be responded to within 48 hours. Messages sent Friday after 3 PM or weekends will be responded to by the following Tuesday.

**USE OF RECORDING DEVICES**

Does not apply to online courses

**ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Does not apply to online courses