THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON  
COLLEGE OF NURSING  
RN to BSN ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM  

N4585 Capstone Seminar

Course Description
Synthesis of theories and concepts for professional nursing practice. Focuses on evolution and transition of professional nursing practice in diverse settings within a context of emerging societal issues and trends. The student will select one of three areas (management, clinical or education) of interest for concentrated study. Registered Nurses only.

Course Credit
5 semester credit hours

Placement In Curriculum
Senior Semester

Prerequisite Courses
All junior level courses or concurrent with senior level courses

Course Instructor
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Course Outcomes

1. Analyze selected healthcare issues impacting the healthcare delivery system and professional nursing practice.
   **Program Outcome 1, 2, 3**

2. Identify and analyze a need for education within an agency in order to recommend appropriate action.

3. Synthesize peer reviewed literature in order to use the information in a clinical agency.
   **Program Outcome 2, 3**

4. Evaluate the appropriate communication level for the target audience’s educational experience in order to improve communication with staff, administration, or clients in their practice area.

5. Create a presentation in order to satisfy an identified need within an agency.

6. Analyze clinical research articles in order to determine the usefulness of the research in evidence-based practice.

7. Apply specialized knowledge from area of focus in order to enhance nursing practice.

UTA College of Nursing Grading Criteria

In order to successfully complete an undergraduate nursing course at UTA, the following minimum criteria must be met:

- 70% weighted average on proctored tests
- 70% weighted average on written assignments (i.e., non-proctored, written, computerized assignments, etc.)
- 90% on practicum skills check off (if applicable)
- 90% on math test (if applicable)

In undergraduate nursing courses, all grade calculations will be carried out to two decimal places and there will be no rounding of final grades. Letter grades for tests, written assignments, end-of-course grades, etc. shall be:

- **A**: 90.00 - 100.00
- **B**: 80.00 - 89.99
- **C**: 70.00 - 79.99
- **D**: 60.00 - 69.99

The existing rule of C or better to progress remains in effect; therefore, to successfully complete a nursing course, students shall have a course grade of 70.00 or greater.

All due dates are listed in your syllabus. There will be **5 points deducted per day for late submissions**, with the time established for each day. All work turned in late must be given to your Coaches so that a time and date can be put on the paper by her to establish specific time of turn in. **5 rubric points for each day any assignment is late with maximum grade**
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Reduced to 50%. Students must complete all course assignments and submissions for successful completion of the course.

Papers/Projects: Papers and projects are not optional. All papers must be turned in to pass the course. Papers must be turned in on time. Five points will be deducted per day for each day the paper is late. No papers or any parts of papers will be allowed to be re-written for extra points.

Course Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components to Be Graded</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussions (5)</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflective Journal Entries (4)</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journey Paper</td>
<td>22%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capstone Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outcomes and Content</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation and Evaluation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Resume or C.V.</td>
<td>6%</td>
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Late Penalties

NOTE: All assignments and discussion posts are expected to be completed on time. You will not be allowed to submit late work without prior approval and permission from your Academic Coach, and your grade on any assignment or discussion post submitted late will be reduced.

For example, if the rubric points for an assignment total a maximum of 10 points, the highest number of points you would be awarded for submitting it one day late is 5 points. That is equivalent to the “grade” of “50%,” so you can see the huge negative impact for failing to submit your assignments on time. (If the rubric points total for an assignment is 5 points or less, you will receive a grade of “0” if it is not submitted on time.)
Course Planning Calendar

**IMPORTANT NOTE**: This is the final course for most students in this RN-BSN program. In order to finalize grading in time for eligible students to participate in any graduation ceremony that is scheduled in Week 5 of this course, assignment and discussion board due dates are different than the other RN-BSN courses you have taken in this program. As the course progresses, your assignments’ due dates will occur earlier each week so that **ALL Week 5 assignments will be due at 2359 Monday of Week 5 for ALL students**. Please look ahead and complete assignments on time. All assignments and discussion board postings MUST be submitted prior to the posted due dates and times to AVOID LATE PENALTIES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1: Reflect and Identify Area of Interest</strong></td>
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</table>
| Self-Assessment -  
  • Learning Styles: VARK  
  • Temperament: Keirsey Temperament Sorter  
  • Leadership Legacy Assessment | Tues 0800 Week 1 |
| Discussion -  
  “Before I began my RN-BSN journey, I wish I had known…” | First post TUES 0800 Week 1  
Replies FRI 0800 Week 1 |
| Assignment: Reflective Journal -  
  Past – When you completed ADN | FRI 0800 Week 1 |
| **Week 2: Design and Research** | |
| Discussion -  
  Article for project – Citation, summary, connection to different area of nursing | First post TUES 0800 Week 2  
Replies FRI 0800 Week 2 |
| Assignment: Reflective Journal -  
  Present – Self-image, 2-year goals, actions | FRI 0800 Week 2 |
| Assignment: Capstone Project – Indications, Implications, Outcomes and Content | FRI 0800 Week 2 |
| **Week 3: Format and Develop** | |
| Discussion -  
  Article for project – Citation, summary, connection to different area of nursing | First post TUES 0800 Week 3  
Replies FRI 0800 Week 3 |
| Assignment: Reflective Journal -  
  Past and present – Generational traits | FRI 0800 Week 3 |
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4: Disseminate Knowledge</th>
<th>Assignment: Capstone Project – Structure</th>
<th>FRI 0800 Week 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion -</td>
<td>First post TUES 0800 Week 4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Post your project; critique at least two projects</td>
<td>Replies FRI 0800 Week 4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment: Reflective Journal -</td>
<td>FRI 0800 Week 4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Future: 5-10-year goals, self-awareness</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Assignment: Capstone Project – Presentation</td>
<td>FRI 0800 Week 4</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment: Capstone Project – Evaluation</td>
<td>FRI 0800 Week 4</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 5: Synthesis and Planning for the Future</th>
<th>Discussion - Famous quotation, disagreement with another post</th>
<th>First posts MON 0800 Replies MON 2359 Week 5</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment: Journey Paper</td>
<td>MON 0800 Week 5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment: Resume or Curriculum Vitae</td>
<td>MON 0800 Week 5</td>
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#### UTA Information

**Student Code of Ethics**

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing supports the Student Code of Ethics Policy. Students are responsible for knowing and complying with the Code. The Code can be found in the College of Nursing Student Handbook.

**Academic Integrity**

It is the philosophy of The University of Texas at Arlington that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University.

“Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.” (Regents’ Rules and Regulations, Series 50101, Section 2.2). For additional information, please refer to the College of Nursing Student Handbook.
Statement for Americans with Disabilities Act
The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of federal equal opportunity legislation; reference Public Law 93112-The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. With the passage of new federal legislation entitled Americans with Disabilities Act – (ADA), pursuant to section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act, there is renewed focus on providing this population with the same opportunities enjoyed by all citizens.
As a faculty member, I am required by law to provide “reasonable accommodation” to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Student responsibility primarily rests with informing faculty at the beginning of the semester and in providing authorized documentation through designated administrative channels. Information regarding specific diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability. Also, you may visit the Office for Students with Disabilities in Room 102 of University Hall or call them at (817) 272-3364.

Student Support
The University of Texas at Arlington supports a variety of student success programs to help you connect with the University and achieve academic success. They include learning assistance, developmental education, advising and mentoring, admission and transition, and federally funded programs. Students requiring assistance academically, personally, or socially should contact the Office of Student Success Programs at 817-272-6107 for more information and appropriate referrals.

E-Culture Policy
The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University email address as an official means of communicating with students. Through the use of email, UT-Arlington is able to provide students with relevant and timely information, designed to facilitate student success. In particular, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation may be sent to students through email.
All students are assigned an email account and information about activating and using it is available at www.uta.edu/email. New students (first semester at UTA) are able to activate their email account 24 hours after registering for courses. There is not additional charge to students for using this account, and it remains active as long as a student is enrolled at UT-Arlington. Students are responsible for checking their email regularly.

Online Conduct
The discussion boards should be viewed as a public and professional forum for course-related discussions.
Students are free to discuss academic matters and consult one another regarding academic resources. The tone of postings should be professional in nature.
It is not appropriate to post statements of a personal or political nature, or statements criticizing classmates or faculty.
Inappropriate statements/language will be deleted by the course faculty and may result in denial of access to the discussion board.
Refer to UTA College of Nursing Student Handbook for more information.
APA Format

APA style manual will be used by the UTASON with some specific requirements for the undergraduate courses. [www.uta.edu/nursing/APAFormat.pdf](http://www.uta.edu/nursing/APAFormat.pdf)

Grade Grievance Policy

In attempting to resolve any student grievances regarding grades, it is the student’s obligation first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the individual with whom the grievance originated. Individual course instructors retain primary responsibility for assigning grades. The instructor’s judgment is final unless compelling evidence shows discrimination, preferential treatment or procedural irregularities. If students wish to appeal, their request must be submitted in writing—on an appeal form available in departmental or program offices—to the department chair or program director. The student has one calendar year from the date the grade is assigned to initiate the grievance. The normal academic channels are the department chair or program director, academic dean and the office of the provost. However, before considering a grievance, the department chair or program director (dean) will refer the issue to a departmental or program (college/school) committee of faculty. If the committee cannot reach a decision acceptable to the parties involved, the matter will follow the remaining academic channels. The decision of the provost is final. Information specific to the procedures to be followed in each academic unit is available in the office of the academic dean.

The dean of the college or school in which a student is enrolled, or the director of the University Advising Center if the student has not declared a pre-major or major, has jurisdiction over the student’s program of study, degree requirements and all other academic matters including grievances. However, students taking a course in a college or school other than the one in which they are primarily registered are subject to the dean of the college or school in which the course is offered concerning the course and academic grievances regarding the course.

No Gift Policy

In accordance with Regents Rules and Regulations and the UTA Standards of Conduct, the College of Nursing has a “no gift” policy. A donation to the UTA College of Nursing Scholarship Fund would be an appropriate way to recognize a faculty member's contribution to your learning. For information regarding the Scholarship Fund, please contact the Dean’s office.

Policy on Invasive Procedures

These policies may be found on the College of Nursing Website under the Student Handbook.

The Student Handbook can be found by going to the following link: [http://www.uta.edu/nursing/handbook/toc.php](http://www.uta.edu/nursing/handbook/toc.php) or by going to the nursing Web site [http://www.uta.edu/nursing/](http://www.uta.edu/nursing/) and using the link provided under current students.