Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS
NURS 225
RESEARCH IN NURSING

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides an overview of the nursing process including methodology, design and interpretation of findings. It focuses on acquiring the beginning knowledge and skills essential for critical evaluation of research reports as well as guidance in the production of a poster presentation which incorporates evidence based knowledge related to a specific clinical problem.

RATIONALE
In order for nursing to progress as a discipline, it must be guided by research findings rather than intuition or tradition. This course prepares the student to be a knowledgeable research consumer as well as a research participant.

I. PREREQUISITE
For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING
A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
C. Microsoft Word
   (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Compare the fundamental differences and the advantages and disadvantages among the major types of nursing research designs, including quantitative and qualitative methods.
B. Apply research to nursing practice and the improvement of patient care.
C. Define roles of the nurse to meet the health care needs of individuals, families, groups, and communities from a variety of social, cultural, and economic backgrounds based on formal inquiry and research.
D. Distinguish ethical, legal, social, economic, and cultural considerations as applicable to nursing research and practice.
E. Analyze basic and applied research projects relevant to the field of nursing.
F. Evaluate the effects of a Christian Worldview on nursing research.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
B. Course Requirements Checklist
   After reading the Course Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
C. Discussion Board Forums (4)
   Discussion Boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be a minimum of 300 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be a minimum of 200 words.
D. Research Critique
   Part 1
   The student will submit the title and reference information for a quantitative research article which will then be critiqued. The student will also include a 200–250 word rationale explaining why this article has been chosen for critique.
   Part 2
   The student will complete a 3–5-page critique of the chosen research article, utilizing sections A–H from the textbook.
   Part 3
   The student will complete a 3–5-page critique of the chosen research article, utilizing sections I–P from the textbook.
E. Evidence Based Practice, 4-part Wiki Project (based on the Iowa Model of Evidence-Based Practice Implementation)
   Part 1
   While working within a group, the student will help to create a wiki page that addresses the elements of triggers, a PICO formatted question, identifying the strengths and weaknesses of group/team members, and the creation of an annotated bibliography on the group’s chosen topic.
   Part 2
   While working within the same group, the student will help to create a wiki page that addresses the following actions detailed by the Iowa model: select outcomes to be achieved, collect baseline data, design evidence-based practice guidelines,
implement evidence-based practice on pilot units, evaluate process and outcomes, and modify the practice guidelines.

Part 3

Each group will be given the option of choosing whether to base a practice change on “other” types of evidence or to conduct their own research. If the group decides to base a practice change on “other” types of evidence they will need to create a wiki page that discusses levels of evidence, case reports, expert opinion, scientific principles, and theory. If the group decides to initiate their own research project they will need to create a wiki page that discusses research design, goals, impact, findings, and sources of funding.

Part 4

While working within the same group, the student will help to create a wiki page that addresses the following elements of monitoring and analyzing structure, process, and outcome data: environment, staff, cost, and patient & family. The group will also discuss to whom to disseminate the results of their implementation project.

F. Worldview Self-Reflection paper

The theme of this paper is the Christian worldview and its potential to influence personal decisions regarding research participation, activities, and funding.

G. Quizzes (4)

Each quiz will cover the Reading & Study material for the modules/weeks in which it is assigned. Each quiz will be open-book/open-notes, contain 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a 2-hour time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

| Course Requirements Checklist | 10 |
| Discussion Board Forums (4 at 75 pts ea) | 300 |
| Worldview Self-Reflection paper | 100 |

Research Critique

| Part 1 | 25 |
| Part 2 | 75 |
| Part 3 | 75 |

4-part Wiki project

| Part 1 | 75 |
| Part 2 | 50 |
| Part 3 | 50 |
| Part 4 | 50 |

Quiz 1 (Modules 1–2) 50

Quiz 2 (Modules 3–4) 50
Quiz 3 (Modules 5–6) 50
Quiz 4 (Modules 7–8) 50
Total 1010

B. Scale
A = 930–1010   B = 850–929   C = 770–849   D = 680–769   F = 0–679

C. Late Assignment Policy
If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email.
Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the course will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.

D. Disability Assistance
Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.
# COURSE SCHEDULE

**NURS 225**


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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module/Week</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Study</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Fain: chs. 1–2</td>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
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<td>Worldview Self-Reflection Paper</td>
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**DB** = Discussion Board  
**EBP** = Evidence Based Practice

**NOTE:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.

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