Instructor: Peg Radke RN, MSN  
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Course Description:
This course provides a review of nursing theories upon which practice is built and prepares the RN to become a consumer of research as it applies to the practice of nursing. Students develop an understanding of both qualitative and quantitative research and how to determine appropriate methodology for a chosen study. Students develop skills for evaluating and critiquing existing research and learn how to apply ethical considerations to the practice of research. Upon completion of the course, students will understand the role of research in continuously improving health care. Prerequisite: NRS 2aa

Text: Understanding Nursing Research in Evidence-Based Practice 3rd Edition  
Author: Cherie Rebar, Carolyn Gersch, Carol L. Macnee, Susan McCabe  
Publisher: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins  
ISBN: 1605477303  

Course Objectives:
The students will be able to:
1. Describe the process of research development  
2. Differentiate between qualitative and quantitative research  
3. Apply ethical considerations to the practice of research  
4. Develop critical thinking skills to evaluate and critique existing research  
5. Discuss how research impacts current nursing practice

Learning Strategies to Accomplish Course Objectives
Learning Objectives will be attained through:
1. Lecture of each of the sections of a research article  
2. Weekly reading assignments for the students  
3. Obtaining current research utilizing nursing databases  
4. Critiquing in class current research articles  
5. Class discussion of current research articles that apply to current local nursing practice  
6. Class discussion regarding the ethics of nursing research
Class Attendance:
Attendance is required. Absences are subject to the discretion of the instructor. If you know you are going to be absent, please notify the instructor prior to class.

Grading:
Students will be expected to complete the assigned readings, attend and participate in class discussions, complete a final project, and present their final project to the class.

Grades for the course will be determined by the following:
1. Attendance: 10%
2. Class participation: 20%
3. Final Project: 70%
   a. Final Project is worth 100 points.
      i. 50% based on written summary of the research report and includes 10% for use of APA format
      ii. 30% based on evaluation of the research report
      iii. 20% based on class presentation of your research article with promotion of class discussion of your findings
4. Late assignments: Late assignments by one class period will result in the grade lowered by one letter grade. Late assignments by the second class meeting after due will result in a zero for the assignment.
5. Final letter grades will be calculated by aggregating the scores for the above criteria
   a. A equals 93-100%
   b. B equals 85-93%
   c. C equals 84-77%
   d. D equals 76-70%
   e. F equals less than 70%
6. Doane College Academic Integrity Policy
   a. The Doane College Academic Integrity Policy will be adhered to in this class. All projects and tests will represent your own work. Any use of others’ ideas and words without proper citation of sources is plagiarism and will result in penalties to be determined by the instructor and/or the dean of undergraduate studies