



Introduction

Welcome

Welcome to Research Methodologies (NURS 3044). The aim of this course is to assist you in developing an understanding of research principles and processes that support professional nursing / midwifery practice. Nurses and midwives are among the most important professions within the health care industry and are skilled in providing health care within a variety of settings throughout the world. Understanding research and implementing up-to-date evidence into practice is a requirement for your registration and practice. Therefore, as a Registered Nurse or Midwife, you are required to understand, evaluate and appropriately use research evidence to deliver optimal, holistic and evidence-based care. Research contributes to every aspect of nursing and midwifery, including (but not limited to) direct care, practices and policies.

We invite you to look at the 'big picture' of research, starting with the historical context of knowledge and research development, and how each of these influences the other. When looking at the factors that have influenced knowledge development and health practices to date, we can see how far we have come, but also how much further we need to go. This course will assist you to develop the skills for critiquing and evaluating research to support evidence-based practice, and will enable you to recognise good research by providing an entry-level guide to the main research methodologies used in nursing and midwifery.

The Course Outline provides all information about the course, including objectives, assessment requirements, relevant legislative requirements, University policies and the course calendar. Please read this Course Outline **carefully** and ensure that you understand what is required of you so that you can gain maximum benefit in completing this course.

Most communication will occur through the on-line News Forum on the course home-page, so please access it regularly. Student emails will be sent to your university account only and we make the assumption that students read their emails on a regular basis.

We hope that you will find this course will stimulate your interest in the important role that research plays in the development of knowledge in health care, and how this leads to best practice for health consumers and health care providers. Whether you undertake research, are a consumer of research, or you are at the forefront of implementing research into practice and leading change, research will be an important (and hopefully enjoyable) part of your practice.

Kind regards

Dr Angela Kucia,
Course Coordinator

Dr. Craig Phillips,
Associate Course Coordinator

Course Teaching Staff

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* Please refer to your Course homepage for the most up to date list of course teaching staff.

School Contact Details

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Course Overview

Prerequisite(s)

Bachelor of Nursing

NURS 2033 Experiential Learning Activity: Acute Care Practicum 3

Corequisite(s)

There are no corequisite courses to be completed in conjunction with this course.

Course Aim

To develop students' knowledge and understanding of the research process, research methodologies and research methods.

Course Objectives

On completion of this course, students should be able to:

CO1. Explain the relationship between knowledge, research and practice.

CO2. Describe the different approaches to research methodologies

CO3. Discuss the ethical principles that underpin research

CO4. Using a research question, access academic databases to source contemporary research literature

CO5. Apply a critical approach to reviewing the literature

CO6. Analyse research findings relevant to a research question

Upon completion of this course, students will have achieved the following combination of Graduate Qualities and Course Objectives:

Graduate Qualities being assessed through the course							
	GQ1	GQ2	GQ3	GQ4	GQ5	GQ6	GQ7
CO1	•		•				
CO2	•	•	•				
CO3	•						
CO4	•	•		•			
CO5	•	•	•			•	•
CO6	•	•	•	•	•		

Graduate Qualities

A graduate of UniSA:

GQ1. operates effectively with and upon a body of knowledge of sufficient depth to begin professional practice

GQ2. is prepared for life-long learning in pursuit of personal development and excellence in professional practice

GQ3. is an effective problem solver, capable of applying logical, critical, and creative thinking to a range of problems

GQ4. can work both autonomously and collaboratively as a professional

GQ5. is committed to ethical action and social responsibility as a professional and citizen

GQ6. communicates effectively in professional practice and as a member of the community

GQ7. demonstrates international perspectives as a professional and as a citizen

Course Content

Relationship between knowledge, research and evidence-based nursing / midwifery practice; nature of research and research process; research terminology; qualitative and quantitative research methods; alternative approaches to research (including mixed method and systematic reviews); identifying a research problem; process of literature review; approaches to critical literature reviews; research data analysis; ethical issues and conduct; role of human research ethics committees.

Teaching and Learning Arrangements

Tutorial	2 hours x 8 weeks
Seminar	1 hour x 8 weeks

Unit Value

4.5 units

Further Course Information

Communication with Students

The University's primary method of communication with students is electronic, through the UniSA student email account and the student portal. For further information refer to Guidelines on Electronic Communications with Students at the following website: https://i.unisa.edu.au/siteassets/policies-and-procedures/docs/guidelines_electronic_communications_with_students_fp.pdf

Student Workload

4.5 unit workload

The assumed student workload for a 4.5 unit course is 35 hours per unit which is 157.5 hours for a 15 week study period. This equates to approximately 10 hours/week of contact and non-contact hours and includes approximately:

- 7.5 hours/week for activities such as attendance at lectures, tutorials, workshops, participation in online activities, self-directed and independent course related reading and reflection to enable deep engagement with the course materials.
- 2.5 hours/week for researching, further reading and completing course assessments for submission.

Student Access Plans

Student should contact the Course Coordinator **before** the start of **each** course if they have a current student access plan and believe they may need any adjustments to the course. This includes extending timelines for assessment tasks and predicted absence from course activities. The Student Access Plan and course requirements will be reviewed with a course specific plan developed before the student commences the course.

Academic staff illness

Academic staff and visiting speakers may be unable to attend their scheduled teaching session due to illness or unanticipated life events. When this occurs the Course Coordinator will make every effort to ensure that the teaching session takes place supported by an appropriate member of staff. In the event that cancellation of the session becomes necessary, students will be notified by email and alternative arrangements made. To avoid an unnecessary journey, as a result of cancellation, students need to routinely check their student emails **PRIOR** to lectures, tutorials and workshops.

Public Holiday Arrangements

Internal students: If your Tutorial and Seminar day falls on a Public Holiday, you will be invited to attend another class for that week. Please refer to details on the course learnonline website.

External students: If your Virtual Classroom day falls on a Public Holiday, it will be rescheduled for a different

day by arrangement with your lecturer/tutor.

Learning Resources

Textbook(s)

There are no textbooks listed for this course.

Reference(s)

Health databases

MEDLINE ([Ovid MEDLINE](#)) or [PubMed](#)

Emcare ([OVID Emcare](#))

EMBASE ([Ovid EMBASE](#))

PsycINFO ([EBSCO PsycINFO](#))

Several nursing and health care databases can be located in UniSA Library at <http://www.library.unisa.edu.au/services/databases/dbsubjectlist.aspx#N>

Referencing

Follow the Roadmap to referencing at <http://roadmap.unisa.edu.au/> to help you decide what your source is and how to reference it according to Harvard-UniSA style.

Materials to be accessed online

learnonline course site

All course related materials can be accessed through your learn**online** course site which you will be able to access from the my Courses section in myUniSA.

myUniSA

All study related materials can be accessed through: <https://my.unisa.edu.au>

Assessment

Assessment Details

Details of assessment submission and return are listed under each assessment task. Assessment tasks will be returned to you within two to three weeks of submission.

If the Course Coordinator allows submissions in hard copy format, you will be required to attach an Assignment Cover Sheet which is available on the learnonline student help (<https://lo.unisa.edu.au/mod/book/view.php?id=1843&chapterid=567>) and in myUniSA.

Assessment Summary

#	Form of assessment	Length	Duration	Weighting	Due date (Adelaide Time)	Submit via	Objectives being assessed
1	Assignment	2000 words	-	45%	22 Mar 2019, 5:00 PM	learnonline	CO2, CO3, CO5
2	Assignment	2500 words	-	55%	12 Apr 2019, 5:00 PM	learnonline	CO1, CO2, CO3, CO4, CO5, CO6

Feedback proformas

The feedback proforma is available on your course site.

Assessments

Assignment 1 (Graded)

Note: **IBMW** students have a due date of **Friday 22nd March** for Assessment 1

IBNU students have a due date of **Friday 29th March** for Assessment 1. The assignment due date will appear as Friday 22nd March with an automated one week extension to Friday 29th March.

The aim of this assessment is to assist you to develop knowledge and skills in recognising the different approaches to research and the varying forms of evidence.

Course Objectives being assessed:

CO2: Describe the different approaches to research methodologies

CO3: Discuss the ethical principles that underpin research

CO5: Apply a critical approach to reviewing the literature

Assessment details:

Assessment 1 will be in the form of a template. The template for Assignment 1 can be accessed from the Assessment Folder in the learnonline course website.

You will be required to complete the template as follows:

SECTION 1: Read the background information and view the video. Complete the questions in Section 1.

SECTION 2: Read the four journal articles provided. Complete the information sections in the table relating to each of the articles in Section 2.

SECTION 3: Complete the discussion section in Question 3.

Assessment 2 (Graded)

Note: IBMW students have a due date of **Friday 12th April** for Assessment 2

IBNU students have a due date of **Friday 19th April** for Assessment 2. The assignment due date will appear as Friday 12th April with an automated one week extension to Friday 19th April.

The aim of this assignment is to assist you to develop knowledge and skills in assessing the quality of evidence.

Course Objectives being assessed:

CO2: Describe the different approaches to research methodologies

CO3: Discuss the ethical principles that underpin research

CO5: Apply a critical approach to reviewing the literature

CO6: Analyse research findings relevant to a research question

Assessment details

Assessment 2 will be in the form of a template (Assessment 2 Template) that is available on the course learnonline website in the Assessment Folder.

You will be required to complete the template as follows:

PART 1 (1500 word-equivalent)

1. Read the background information.

2. After reading the background information, you will be given a **choice** of selecting for review an article with (a) a quantitative study method; **or** (b) a qualitative study method. These can be accessed via the Assessment 2 Template.

3. You will then select **one** corresponding template (qualitative or quantitative) to use in critiquing the article that you have selected. These can be accessed via the course learnonline website in the Assessment Folder.

4. Complete the template.

PART 2 (1000 words)

Part 2 is a reflective piece that is guided by a set of questions. These can be found at the bottom of your quantitative/qualitative critiquing template.

*Note regarding the word count: You will note that the template word count is included in the instructions on your quantitative/qualitative critiquing. The word count of the template is additional to the 2500 words (ie. the word count of the template does not count toward your word count).

Submission and return of assessment tasks

See above under Assessment details.

Negotiable assessment methods

Academic Writing Requirements

Please refer to information in the assessment folder on the learnonline course site

Re-marking

Re-marking will occur as per section 5.1 of the Assessment Policies and Procedures Manual <http://w3.unisa.edu.au/policies/manual/>

Assessment Extension Request Policy

Extensions to assessment task will follow the University of South Australia Assessment Policies and Procedures Manual (APPM) clause 7.3 - Extension to complete an assessment task.

<http://w3.unisa.edu.au/policies/manual/>

All assessment extensions requests must be:

- submitted via the Learnonline site to the Course Coordinator
- lodged **two (2) working days prior to the time and date that the assessment item is due**
- **include a reason for the extension request plus supporting documentation** for example, medical certificate.

Requests for an extension greater than 7 days will only be granted under extenuating circumstances and at the discretion of the Course Coordinator and relevant Program Coordinator and/or Program Director.

Late applications for an extension will be rejected.

Late Submission of Assignments

Late submission of assignments will result in a penalty. The penalty for late submissions will be:

1. a deduction of **10 marks per day or part day**, for each day that the assignment is late up to a maximum of 5 days.
2. assignments which are **more than 5 days late** will not be marked and will be assigned a **zero grade** inclusive of non-graded pass work.

Example 1: If you submit a paper one and a half days late you will receive a penalty of 20 marks. Your paper will be marked and the 20 marks will be deducted from the mark which you would have obtained if your paper was submitted by the due date. A paper which was given a mark of 70/100 but was submitted 2 days late will receive a final mark of 50.

Example 2: A paper due 11.45 pm on Monday and submitted after 11.45 pm on Saturday will not be marked and assigned a zero grade. Considerations of unexpected or exceptional circumstances are as per Assessment and Policy Procedure Manual Sections 7.8 – 7.11

Once an extension is granted, the extended due date is final.

Re-submission

PLEASE NOTE: Re-submission is NOT available for either assessment.

Exam Arrangements

This course does not have an exam.

Variations to exam arrangements

Extra time in exams (ENTEXT) and the use of a dictionary is available to some students (for example, Indigenous Australian students and those of non-English speaking background) as follows:

- extra time for reading or writing. This will be an extra ten minutes per hour for every hour of standard examination time, and
- the use of an English language or bilingual print dictionary (without annotations). (APPM 7.2.2)

More information about variation to assessment is available in section 7.2 of the Assessment Policy and Procedures Manual. <http://w3.unisa.edu.au/policies/manual/default.asp> (section 7)

Supplementary Assessment

Supplementary assessment or examination offers students an opportunity to gain a supplementary pass (SP) and is available to all students under the following conditions unless supplementary assessment or examination has not been approved for the course:

1. if the student has achieved a final grade between 45-49 per cent (F1) in a course
2. if a student who has successfully completed all of the courses within their program, with the exception of two courses in which they were enrolled in their final study period, a supplementary assessment or examination may be granted where the final grade in either or both of these courses, is less than 45 percent (F1 or F2) and all assessments in the courses were attempted by the student. Supplementary assessment will not be available for a course under investigation for academic integrity until the investigation is completed, and determined that it did not constitute academic misconduct.

More information about supplementary assessment is available in section 7.5 of the Assessment Policy and Procedures Manual.

<http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>

Supplementary assessment will be available for this course.

For further information and criteria regarding supplementary assessment refer to the section 7.4 of the Assessment Policies and Procedures Manual

Important information about all assessment

All students must adhere to the University of South Australia's policies about assessment: <http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>.

Additional assessment requirements

There are no additional assessment requirements identified for this course.

Students with disabilities or medical conditions

Students with disabilities or medical conditions or students who are carers of a person with a disability may be entitled to a variation or modification to standard assessment arrangements. See Section 7 of the Assessment Policy and Procedures Manual (APPM) at: <http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>

Students who require variations or modifications to standard assessment arrangements should make contact with their Course Coordinator as early as possible in order to ensure that appropriate supports can be implemented or arranged in a timely manner.

Students can register for an Access Plan with UniSA Access & Inclusion Service. It is important to make contact early to ensure that appropriate support can be implemented or arranged in a timely manner. See the Disability Hub for more information: <http://www.unisa.edu.au/Disability/Current-students>

Students are advised there is a deadline to finalise Access Plan arrangements for examinations. Further information is available at: http://i.unisa.edu.au/campus-central/Exams_R/Before-the-Exam/Alternative-exam-arrangements/

Deferred Assessment or Examination

Deferred assessment or examination is not available for this course. APPM 7.6.4

Special Consideration

Special consideration is available for this course. Note: Special consideration cannot be granted for a deferred assessment or examination, or a supplementary assessment or examination. APPM 7.7.6

Variations to assessment tasks

Variation to assessment methods, tasks and timelines may be provided in:

Unexpected or exceptional circumstances, for example bereavement, unexpected illness (details of unexpected or exceptional circumstances for which variation may be considered are discussed in clauses 7.8 - 7.10 of the Assessment Policy and Procedures Manual). Variation to assessment in unexpected or exceptional circumstances should be discussed with your course coordinator as soon as possible.

Special circumstances, for example religious observance grounds, or community services (details of special circumstances for which variation can be considered are discussed in clause 7.11 of the Assessment Policy and Procedures Manual). Variations to assessment in expected circumstances must be requested within the first two weeks of the course (or equivalent for accelerated or intensive teaching).

Students with disabilities or medical conditions please refer to **Students with disabilities or medical**

conditions.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the foundation of university life and is fundamental to the reputation of UniSA and its staff and students. Academic integrity means a commitment by all staff and students to act with honesty, trustworthiness, fairness, respect and responsibility in all academic work.

An important part of practising integrity in academic work is showing respect for other people's ideas, and being honest about how they have contributed to your work. This means taking care not to represent the work of others as your own. Using another person's work without proper acknowledgement is considered Academic Misconduct, and the University takes this very seriously.

The University of South Australia expects students to demonstrate the highest standards of academic integrity so that its degrees are earned honestly and are trusted and valued by its students and their employers. To ensure this happens, the University has policies and procedures in place to promote academic integrity and manage academic misconduct. For example, work submitted electronically by students for assessment will be examined for copied and un-referenced text using the text comparison software Turnitin <http://www.turnitin.com>.

More information about academic integrity and what constitutes academic misconduct can be found in Section 9 of the Assessment Policies and Procedures Manual (APPM): <http://i.unisa.edu.au/policies-and-procedures/codes/assessment-policies/>. The Academic Integrity Module explains in more detail how students can work with integrity at the University: <https://lo.unisa.edu.au/mod/book/view.php?id=252142>

Action from previous evaluations

At the completion of this course, you will be asked to complete the **myCourseExperience** questionnaire. This questionnaire asks for your opinions and evaluation of the course and your lecturer's teaching methods. It is important for you to complete these evaluations as modifications are regularly made to courses on the basis of student feedback.

These questionnaires will be available via a link on the online learning resources page and course home page normally during the final three weeks of the study period. You will need to enter your domain/username and password to access the questionnaires.

Unplanned learnonline outages (text version)

The information below shows the suggested alterations/considerations for assessment items dependent on the duration of the unplanned outage

less than 1 hour outage: No impact on either assessment

1 to 4 hour outage: **Assessment** - Consider an extension. **Examination** - No impact.

4 to 24 hour outage: **Assessment** - 24 hour extension.

Over 24 hour outage: **Assessment** - 48 hour extension.

Course Calendar

Study Period 2 - 2019

	Weeks	Topic	Comments	Public Holidays
1	18 - 24 February	IBMW Topic 1: The relationship between knowledge, research and practice	First teaching week for IBMW Students	
2	25 February - 3 March	IBMW Topic 2: Levels of evidence and evidence-based practice IBNU Topic 1: The relationship between knowledge, research and practice	First teaching week for IBNU students	
3	04 - 10 March	IBMW Topic 3: Developing the question/ finding the evidence IBNU Topic 2: Levels of evidence and evidence-based practice		
4	11 - 17 March	IBMW Topic 4: Components of a research article and their significance IBNU Topic 3: Developing the question/ finding the evidence	Students with a tutorial/ seminar on 11th April please see learnonline site for instructions about attending a class on another day for this week only.	Adelaide Cup Day 11 Mar 2019
5	18 - 24 March	IBMW Topic 5: Quantitative research application and evaluation IBNU Topic 4: Components of a research article and their significance	IBMW students: Assignment 1 due Friday 22nd March 2019.	
6	25 - 31 March	IBMW Topic 6: Qualitative research application and evaluation IBNU Topic 5: Quantitative research application and evaluation	IBNU students: Assignment 1 due Friday 29nd March 2019.	
7	01 - 7 April	IBMW Topic 7: Ethical Issues in Research IBNU Topic 6: Qualitative research application and evaluation		

8	08 - 14 April	<p>IBMW Topic 8: Translating evidence to practice</p> <p>IBNU Topic 7: Ethical Issues in Research</p>	<p>IBMW students: Assignment 2 due Friday 12th April 2019.</p>	
9	15 - 21 April	<p>IBNU Topic 8: Translating evidence to practice</p>	<p>IBNU students: Assignment 2 due Friday 19th April 2019.</p> <p>IBNU students with a tutorial/seminar on 19th April please see learnonline site for instructions about attending a class on another day for this week only.</p>	<p>Good Friday 19 Apr 2019 Easter Saturday 20 Apr 2019</p>