Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
Syllabus Summer 2020  
NURS 6310  
TITLE: DNP Practicum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FACULTY:</th>
<th>Tammy Walker-Smith, DNP, MHA, MSN, APRN, FNP-C CNS, CEN Assistant Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OFFICE:</td>
<td>On-line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OFFICE HOURS:</td>
<td>By Appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TELEPHONE:</td>
<td>361-825-4223 (email is preferred)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMAIL:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tammy.Walker-Smith@tamucc.edu">Tammy.Walker-Smith@tamucc.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREDITS:</td>
<td>3 semester hours</td>
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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Expanded development of expertise in the management of health problems in selected populations through clinical practice experiences.

**PREREQUISITE:** Graduate standing, admission into the DNP program and computer literacy. In addition: NURS 6300, NURS 6200, NURS 6221, NURS 6301, NURS 6302, NURS 6303, NURS 6304, NURS 6320, NURS 6201, NURS 6211, NURS 6321.

**COURSE PURPOSE:**

This course is required for students enrolled in the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi College of Nursing and Health Sciences Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Course activities and learning experiences are designed to guide students as leaders of a transformational DNP Capstone Project in collaboration with the faculty, DNP Committee, and key stakeholders.

This course is web-based and the principles of asynchronous distance learning apply to both the course and any field experiences. You must have access to the Internet to successfully communicate with the faculty and students enrolled in this course. Web-based courses do not reduce the amount of time you are likely to spend completing course requirements. Rather, the time spent in the course is set by your personal learning style, not a lecture schedule. If you encounter challenges related to web-based learning should inform Dr. Reinhardt promptly.
**Student Learning Outcomes**

2. Implement evidence based practices to optimize health care outcomes and reduce disparities (AACN Essentials III, VI, VII, VIII).
3. Function as a practice specialist in leading the evaluation of a quality improvement project (AACN Essentials II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII).
5. Translate and disseminate findings from evidence based practice to improve health systems outcomes (AACN Essentials III, V, VI, VIII).

**REQUIRED TEXTS AND RESOURCES:**


Additional readings from the current literature specific to each clinical area or problem in a designated population will be required.

**RECOMMENDED TEXTS**


*Students are expected to supplement their assignments with readings from relevant journals.*

**Website:**

Online delivery: This course is delivered exclusively through online technology and may be accessed at http://Bb9.tamucc.edu. Students will need to provide PowerPoint, word processing, and other software as needed to complete requirements of this course and may need to download collaborative tools such as the WebEx application.

**TEACHING METHODS**
A variety of distance learning strategies are used in this Web-based course. Guided independent reading assignments, discussion, written exercises, and self-assessment quizzes are incorporated into the Blackboard courseware package. Students should be guided in the identification of personal learning needs by the course objectives and lessons. Students should exhibit self-direction and demonstrate that learning has occurred by the successful completion of coursework which may include field experiences. Students are responsible for documenting time in field experiences in the DNP portfolio.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Students are expected to have access to a computer that can support Blackboard applications. A backup plan should be in place if normal computer access becomes unavailable, i.e. arrange use of a computer elsewhere. Any problems with technology, computer, internet browsers, internet connections, Bb or other applications should be dealt with through the IT (information technology) helpline at (361) 825-2692 or computer.helpline@tamucc.edu.

2. Email communication should occur through the Blackboard structure. Students should review email at least every 48 hours.

3. All assignments are due on the scheduled date. Students should review the syllabus throughout the semester to ensure that class assignments are completed correctly and by the due date. Any problems understanding the assignments or due dates should be brought to the attention of the instructor, preferably within the first week of class. All assignments are due by 11:59 pm on the scheduled date unless other arrangements have been made with the instructor before the due date. *Late work will be penalized with a 10% grade deduction/day for up to 3 days* and will not be accepted after the 3rd late day. However, exceptions will be considered for extreme emergencies where pre-planning was not possible.

4. Respectful and timely participation in discussion forums is required. Since it is assumed each student will be prepared for discussions, all contributions will be considered knowledgeable contributions. Disrespect in any form will NOT be tolerated and could result in dismissal from the course. All information disclosed through course chats or discussions is confidential and should not be shared with others outside the context of this course.

5. Students are expected to complete a course evaluation at the end of the course. Faculty members of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences place great value on evaluative feedback from students. Evaluation of courses, instructors and clinical facilities provides the College with important data which are used to strengthen the program. Data are analyzed to identify trends and themes and are important to curriculum and sequencing decisions.
All evaluations for courses can be completed online. The online mechanism allows for the opportunity to tabulate and store information essential in identifying trends and patterns in student experiences. Please be assured that this information is secured and not released until after grades are submitted. No student names are available to faculty. The College is anticipating that students will thoughtfully participate in the evaluation process which will assist the faculty with the growth of the program. A link to evaluations will be available to students through Blackboard in the last two weeks of a semester. Thank you in advance for your assistance with the evaluation process.

This is primarily a clinical course; therefore, the student must successfully complete all of the following clinical requirements to pass the course:

- Ensure that all immunization and CPR requirements are up to date.
- Review guidelines and requirements for practice experiences, as in the DNP Handbook (pages 15-18, 57-68)
- Submit all signed clinical contracts with appropriate signatures by the required date as indicated by the course instructor. The need for clinical contracts with a facility are determined on a case-by-case basis and may or may not be required.
- Complete the required number of practicum hours, a minimum total of **240 Immersion hours by the end of the semester**.
- Obtain the attestation signature and date of the preceptor (if indicated-determined on a case-by-case basis) and Project Chair and submit completed documents by the required date (at the end of the semester – see the date in the course calendar).
- Complete documentation of clinical hours in Typhon by date in course calendar.

**COURSE GRADE COMPONENTS**

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences grading scale for the course is:

- A = 90 -100
- B = 83 - 89
- C = 75 – 82
- D = 67 – 74
- F = below 67

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF COURSE REQUIRES A GRADE OF B OR BETTER

Courses not passed with at least a B may result in an alternate degree plan and delay program completion.
### Assignments

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journaling x 3</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of PPOs</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document clinical hours in Typhon</td>
<td>REQUIRED (Pass/Fail)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion of Clinical Evaluation</td>
<td>REQUIRED (Pass/Fail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elevator Speech</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portfolio submission</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNP paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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### NETIQUETTE

**Student-to-Student Etiquette:** Academic Discourse encompasses the process of using open dialogue to facilitate a high level of communication in the academic setting. It is a tool to convey thoughts and opinions and influences the formation of your professional views in the field of nursing. It is an expectation of the course that students will adhere to the following values when conducting written correspondence online whether through email, course mail, bulletin board postings, assignments, or any other collaborative written work.

- **Respect:** Each student’s viewpoint is valued as an opinion. If a response is perceived as offensive, seek clarification first. Ask yourself if you would be comfortable saying in person what you have written online.

- **Confidentiality:** Use appropriate discretion when discussing topics online. Think twice before using the names of children, teachers, and/or colleagues. Do not use names of people or names of facilities when sharing your experiences.

**Student-to-Instructor Etiquette:** Papers should be submitted in a timely manner. If a problem arises that precludes timely submission, the instructor must be notified in writing preferably at least 24 hours prior to the deadline or as soon as possible. Concerns about a course assignment should be discussed directly with faculty in a prompt and professional manner.

**Instructor-to-Student Etiquette:** Emails will be answered within a 48-hour timeframe, excluding weekends and holidays. Appointments may be set for phone or video conversations with 24 hours prior notice. Assignments will be graded and returned within 14 days of submission. Emails and phone messages will not be returned on weekends or holidays, unless in emergent circumstances.
**Topic Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class Date</th>
<th>Content Focus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jun 1-14</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assigned Reading: Dreher Chapters 10-13&lt;br&gt;Journal 1 due 23:59 Jun 14th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>June 15-June 28</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assigned Reading: Dreher Chapters 14-18&lt;br&gt;Elevator Speech due 23:59 on June 28th&lt;br&gt;Journal 2 due 23:59 on June 28th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>June 29th-July 12th</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assigned Reading: Dreher Chapters 19-22&lt;br&gt;Elevator Speech Assignment due June 29th&lt;br&gt;DNP paper due 23:59 on Jul 12th</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 4</strong></td>
<td><strong>July 13-26th</strong>&lt;br&gt;Assigned Reading: Dreher Chapters 23-25&lt;br&gt;Journal 3 due 23:59 on Jul 19th</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Portfolio due to Bb NLT 23:59 on Jul 30th</strong>&lt;br&gt;<strong>Completion of PPOs due NLT 23:59 on Jul 30th</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Final Due Dates</strong></td>
<td><em>Final Clinical Evaluation Due August 1, 2019</em>&lt;br&gt;<em>Log clinical hours in Typhon by August 1, 2019.</em></td>
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**COURSE WORK GUIDELINES AND GRADING CRITERIA**

**Reflective Journaling**
This course will have one reflective journaling assignment in narrative format using the Gibbs reflective cycle. Students will be assigned to answer an assigned question and will deliver the journal in a narrative format to a live student and faculty audience. See "Assignments" for more details on each session's journal requirements.
GUIDELINES FOR FORM AND STYLE OF WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

Students are expected to follow instructions associated with the assignments for this course. If you are confused about an assignment, you should contact course faculty prior to completing an assignment to prevent delays in your successful performance. Assignments are due on the scheduled date indicated in the course syllabus. Unless otherwise instructed, you should use the APA Publication Manual, 6th Edition as a reference for formatting and organizing written assignments. Assume all required papers are scholarly products and, as such, should adhere to APA scholarly report guidelines.

COURSE POLICIES
Evaluation Input from Students

The faculty of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences places great value on evaluative input from students. Evaluation of courses, instructors and clinical facilities provides the College with important data which is used to strengthen the program. Data is analyzed as to trends and themes and is important to curriculum and sequencing decisions. All evaluations for courses posted are online. The online mechanism allows us the opportunity to tabulate and store information in order to analyze trends within the curriculum. Please be assured that this information is secured and not released until after grades are submitted. No names are available to faculty. In order to garner some reliability and validity, the College must have representative data from the student population. That representation, based on the literature, has been set at 70%. The College is anticipating that students will thoughtfully participate in the evaluation process which will assist the faculty with the growth of the program. A link to evaluations will be available on Blackboard toward the end of the semester. Thank you in advance for your assistance with the evaluation process.

Academic Integrity/Honesty/Plagiarism. University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in (F).

It is expected that University students will demonstrate a high level of maturity, self-direction, and ability to manage their own affairs. Students are viewed as individuals who possess the qualities of worth, dignity, and the capacity for self-direction in personal behavior. University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to a penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is intentionally, knowingly, or carelessly presenting the work of another as one’s own). Please see the following sites for additional information:

University Student Handbook and Code of Conduct: http://www.tamucc.edu/~students
University catalog related to academic integrity and honesty: http://catalog.tamucc.edu/
Dropping a Class

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. **Please consult with your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course.** Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. See the TAMUCC academic calendar for the last day to drop a course with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

**Preferred methods of scholarly citations: APA**

Students are expected to follow instructions associated with the assignments for this course. If you are confused about an assignment, you should contact course faculty prior to completing an assignment to prevent delays in your successful performance. Assignments are due on the scheduled date indicated in the course syllabus. Unless otherwise instructed, you should use the APA Publication Manual, 6th Edition as a reference for formatting and organizing written assignments. Assume all required papers are scholarly products and, as such, should adhere to APA scholarly report guidelines.

**Classroom/professional behavior**

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

Statement of Civility (can be in place of classroom/professional behavior)

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.
If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**Grade Appeals**

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

**Disabilities Accommodations**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

**Statement of Academic Continuity**

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

**Title IX**

As part of the Texas A & M Corpus Christi University policy, pregnant students are urged to contact the Title IX office for facilitation of academic issues impacted by
pregnancy, delivery and subsequent complications. Contact information: Mr. Samuel Ramirez, Title IX Coordinator or Ms. Rosie Ruiz, Deputy Title IX Coordinator (825-5826).

Active Military Duty

Active duty military personnel, military spouses, and veterans with special circumstances (eg: deployment, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these, in advance if possible, to the course and clinical instructor.

Support Services

Students are encouraged to seek faculty assistance in accessing University Services, including tutoring, health services, personal counseling, degree counseling, financial aid, learning resources, job/work placement, career guidance, and computer/technical support/instruction. If a student is interested in other support services provided by the University, the student is encouraged by the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and the University to seek these services.