Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
College of Nursing and Health Sciences
NURS 6311: Summer 2020
Capstone Project and Seminar Syllabus

FACULTY: Yolanda Keys
OFFICE: Island Hall, 349
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 10a-12noon and by Appointment
TELEPHONE: 361-825-2164
EMAIL: yolanda.keys@tamucc.edu
CLASS LOCATION: Online Only.

Communication guidelines for online course:

The BlackBoard Mail tool is the required method for communicating with faculty about course matters. Messages sent within the course email tool will not get lost and will always be "course related." This will allow the instructor and your co-learners to access assignments, questions, and course material more efficiently. Use the Discussion Tool to discuss topics of interest to the whole class. Please use tamucc email for emergencies.

CREDITS: 3 (3:0)

Course Description:
Demonstration of advanced role competencies through the design and implementation of a project with potential to have a positive impact on patient or systems outcomes.

Pre-requisites: NURS 6210 & NURS 6321

General Information:
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 (DNP) program. Learning activities are designed for registered nurses in advanced practice to enhance their competencies to incorporate prior course content and demonstrate scholarly practice at a doctoral level.

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 the course. Web-based courses do not reduce the amount of time you are likely to spend completing...
course requirements. The time spent in the course is set by your personal learning style, life, and not a lecture schedule. It is vital to communicate any difficulties with the work required to complete this course in a timely manner as completion of the capstone project and program of study is contingent on passing this course. If you encounter challenges related to web-based learning or the course requirements, please inform your instructor as soon as possible.

Course Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to support and guide students as they demonstrate the necessary knowledge, skills and experience to position themselves into the doctoral role to lead evidence-based changes in practice and provide the foundation for future scholarship. The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree provides the opportunity to collaborate on research studies lead by advance practice nurses with a PhD.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate competence with AACN Essentials (1-8).
2. Demonstrate scholarly reasoning and writing skills.
3. Compilation of a specific project demonstrating synthesis of the student’s doctoral work.

Learning Experiences & Teaching Methods:

Students will meet course objectives through successful completion of all assignments, utilizing resources provided by the instructor, the assigned text books, and active participation in discussions with peers, project committee, and instructor throughout the course. While the instructor will provide guidance and consultation, students are responsible for identification of individual learning needs, self-directed study, motivation, seeking help when needed, and successful completion of the course requirements. Some course experiences may be applied toward the clinical hours required for the DNP program but must first be approved by the course faculty. Course experience must be approved by the course faculty and faculty liaison prior to logging any clinical hours. Students are responsible for documenting time in field experiences in Typhon prior to the end of the semester. It is strongly recommended the hours be documented within 48 hours of the experience. See DNP Handbook for guidelines on documenting clinical hours in Typhon. Hours must be documented by the final day of the semester to pass the course.
Discussion Boards:
Each unit will contain a video or two to watch. For units 1, 3, 5 & 7 each student will answer the question and then reply to one or more other student posts within the week of the unit. No late posts will be accepted.

Required Texts & Resources:


Professional Standards Documents:


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Recommended Adjunct Resources:
Students are expected to supplement their assignments with readings from relevant peer-reviewed journal articles published within the past five years unless a landmark study.

Website:
Online delivery: This course is delivered exclusively through online technology and may be accessed at http://Bb9.tamucc.edu. Students will need the following software: Microsoft Office or Mac equivalent. Any other software as needed to complete requirements of this course. Students will need to download collaborative tools such as the WebEx application. Students are strongly encouraged to obtain a student version of Endnote to support completion of their final draft of their project paper which will be given final approval by the course instructor.

Guidelines for Form and Style of Written Assignments: Students are expected to write at a graduate/doctoral level with complete mastery of APA formatting. They will also be expected to follow instructions associated with the assignments for this course. Students who have questions related to an assignment should contact the appropriate faculty member(s) in a timely manner to ensure satisfactory completion of the assignment on the date it is due. The campus Center for Academic Student Achievement (CASA) provides writing support both in person and in an online format. The contact at the Center is Noelle Ballmer at 361-825-2254 and the web link is http://casa.tamucc.edu/
Late work will only be accepted with approval by the course instructor. If permission is not obtained or denied, the late work will be deducted 5 points per day and will not be accepted after one week.

**Evaluation of Student Learning and Course Grade Components:**
The final grade for this course will be determined in the following way.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selection of Appropriate Target Journal</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final approved copy of capstone project paper</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final approved power point presentation slides</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Power Point Presentation on campus</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Discussion Board Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of DNP Portfolio</td>
<td>No credit earned – recommended preparation for course</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grading Scale for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences:**
A = 90 – 100
B = 83 – 89
C = 75 – 82
D = 67 – 74
F = below 67

**NOTE:** A Passing grade of 83 or above is required to pass this course and to earn the degree of doctorate in nursing practice. A nursing course may only be repeated once. Please refer to the DNP Graduate Handbook.

**Successful completion of the Capstone Project and the Professional Portfolio are requirements of the DNP program. Failure to successfully complete either of these required components will result in a failure to graduate from the DNP program.**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Calendar</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capstone Project Completed</td>
<td>June 3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion and instructor approval of the final draft of the</td>
<td>July 18th (final day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>capstone project paper in format to be submitted to Proquest.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion and instructor approval of final presentation power</td>
<td>July 25th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>point.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of the capstone project utilizing the approved Power</td>
<td>July 29th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point slides.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of DNP Portfolio</td>
<td>August 4th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course/Class Schedule:**
The material in this syllabus and dates identified in the class schedule are subject to change. Students will be notified of any changes in a timely manner.

**Course Time Expectations:**
All assignments and discussions are due by 11:59 pm on the specified due date in the course schedule unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor. Please note and remember that a 3-credit hour course requires a weekly time commitment of a 3-hour presence associated with 9 hours of preparation time. That expectation remains the same in an on-line course. The time spent in the course is set by each student’s personal learning schedule.

**Course Requirements:**
1. Students are expected to have access to a computer that can support BB applications and all related course materials. A backup plan should be in place if normal computer access becomes unavailable, i.e. arrange use of a computer elsewhere.
2. 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.
3. Any problems understanding the assignments or due dates should be brought to the attention of the instructor, preferably within the first week of class.
4. Students are expected to complete the course orientation and review modules prior to beginning work on course content.
5. 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 scholarly contributions with peer reviewed journal
references. Disrespect in any form will NOT be tolerated and the student will be referred to Academic Integrity and Student Conduct.

6. Any plagiarism found in any of the discussion boards or papers will result in a zero for the grade and the student will be referred to Academic Integrity. Rewriting of the assignment will not be accepted.

7. All information disclosed through course chats or discussions is confidential and should not be shared with others outside the context of this course.

8. Students should notify the instructor if they withdraw from the course and should not attempt to access course materials once they have withdrawn.

9. Students are expected to complete a course evaluation at the end of the course.

10. Students can expect the instructor to grade assignments within 2 weeks of submission unless otherwise informed via weekly announcement.

**Course Policies:**

**Announcements:** The course instructor will make announcements usually weekly if not more often. Please read them in a timely manner as they may answer a question that not only you, but your peers have also asked.

**The Blackboard (BB) Mail tool:** is the preferred communication within the course. When contacting the instructor or classmates in this course, always use the Bb Mail tool rather than another e-mail account. This tool is accessed in the Bb Mail section of the Course Menu. Messages sent within Bb are archived within the course, thus eliminating lost correspondence.

The faculty will answer emails within 48 hours during work hours Monday through Friday (may take longer on weekends, official TAMUCC holidays, and/or in the case of unusual circumstances (i.e., including but not limited to inclement weather, IT issues, etc.). You will be responsible for checking your e-mail regularly for class work and announcements. All students should become familiar with the University’s official e-mail student notification policy. It is your responsibility to keep the University informed related to changes in your e-mail address. You are expected to check e-mail on a regular basis to stay current with University-related communications, recognizing that certain communications may be time-critical. It is recommended that e-mail be checked daily, but at a minimum, twice per week.

**Online “Netiquette”:**

Use of Good “Netiquette”:

1) Be professional and careful with your online interaction. Proper address for faculty is by formal title such as Dr. or Ms./Mr. unless invited by faculty to use a less formal approach.

2) Check the discussion and/or email string frequently and respond appropriately

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and on subject

3) Focus on one subject per message and use pertinent subject titles

4) Capitalize words only to highlight a point or for titles. Otherwise, capitalizing is generally viewed as SHOUTING!

5) It is rude to forward someone else’s messages without their permission.

6) It is fine to use humor but use it carefully. The absence of face-to-face cues can cause humor to be misinterpreted as criticism or anger. It is preferred that if a statement is intended to be humorous place a (humor) after the statement to clarify.

(The above Netiquette guidelines were adapted from Florida Atlantic University’s Office of Information Technology at: https://www.fau.edu/oit/student/netiquette.php).

Privacy and Confidentiality: Official University communications sent by e-mail are subject to the same public information, privacy, and records retention requirements and policies as other official University communications. Any reference to a client, family, colleague, faculty, or staff nurse on any social media outlet is not appropriate (see American Nurses Association’s social media statements www.NursingWorld.org), including “disparaging remarks” even if the person is not identified by name. “Promptly report a breach” (per ANA) to your faculty. **Students are NOT allowed to use any device for audio and/or video recording of classroom lectures, discussions, and/or activities.

Use of Class Materials: The materials used in this class, including, but not limited to, exams, quizzes, power point slides, and homework assignments are copyright protected works. Any unauthorized copying of the class materials is a violation of federal law and may result in disciplinary actions being taken against the student. Additionally, the sharing of class materials without the specific, express approval of the professor may be considered an act of academic dishonesty, which could result in further disciplinary action. This includes, among other things, uploading class materials to websites for the purpose of sharing those materials with other current or future students.

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 and professionally 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 and Honesty:**
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](http://www.tamucc.edu/~students)
University catalog related to academic integrity and honesty: [http://catalog.tamucc.edu/](http://catalog.tamucc.edu/)

**Students with Disabilities:**
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 contact the Disability Services Office at 361.825.5816 or visit the office in CCH 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disabilities Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

**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).

**Grade Appeals Process:**
The College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CONHS) adheres to the University’s student grade appeal procedures described in Section 13.02.99.C2.01 (revised May, 2013) and follows those guidelines. See [http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/) for the University procedure and see [http://conhs.tamucc.edu/shb/](http://conhs.tamucc.edu/shb/) for the CONHS process identified in the Student

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Handbook.

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.

MILITARY STUDENTS
Active duty military personnel, military spouses, and veterans with special circumstances (e.g. deployment, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these circumstances, in advance if possible, to the course and clinical instructors.

TENTATIVE Course Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit/Week</th>
<th>Readings &amp; Videos</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1:</td>
<td>Video Posted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/1 – 6/7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 2:</td>
<td>Links to formatting in ProQuest.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/8 – 6/14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 3:</td>
<td>How to design a power point presentation. Example of a dissertation PPT provided (yours is not a dissertation so it should be shorter).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/15 – 6/21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 3.5:</td>
<td>How to conduct an oral presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/22 – 6/28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 4:</td>
<td>WebEx to practice PPT presentations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/29 – 7/5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/29 – 7/5</td>
<td>Intermission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No readings or video content assigned.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/8/20</td>
<td>DNP DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 5:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7/6 – 7/12</td>
<td>How to make a poster and present at a conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 6:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/13 – 7/19</td>
<td>How to select a journal for publication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit 7:</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/20 – 7/26</td>
<td>Review of Quality Improvement &amp; Research. When does a project need IRB review?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>