

Course Syllabus

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Course Code: MW 400

Course Title: Introduction to Midwifery Research Methodologies

Course Credit: 4.0

Course Description: This course is an introduction to scientific research methods as they apply to midwifery and health sciences. The course gives a detailed description of the key concepts of both qualitative and quantitative approaches to research. All of the core concepts for designing a research proposal are covered in this course. This course aims to give the midwife an entry-level understanding of skills that apply to research development.

Course Objectives: In addition to the [BSM Degree Learning Objectives](#) upon completing this course the student will be able to:

- Understand the importance of research to midwifery practice
- Detail the process of writing a research proposal
- Consider the ethical and legal considerations for undertaking research
- Discuss the power dynamics that are at play between researchers and their subjects
- List a variety of different approaches to qualitative and quantitative research design
- Consider the principles of mixed methods research
- Review the principles of population selection and sampling
- Detail data collection approaches to qualitative and quantitative research
- Discuss data analysis techniques for qualitative and quantitative research
- Explain the principles of disseminating research

Learning Activities

Read, listen to, watch assigned lesson materials.

Complete oral and/or written formative didactic assessments with a final summative submission.

Identify and cite high-quality sources.

Conduct an Interview.

Develop and conduct a survey.

Practice the process of writing research proposals while critically considering various legal/ethical issues regarding research.

Write research papers

Utilize statistical methods required for evaluating research.

Portfolio Requirement

In order to complete the BSM program, the student must upload select assignments that have been completed and graded by the preceptor onto a dropbox.com account for final review by College staff. The required assignments for this course are saved in dropbox under the file name as bolded below:

1. **Lesson 1-1 Reflection paper,**
2. **Lesson 2-1 Reflection paper,**
3. **Lesson 5-1 Reflection paper,**
4. **Lesson 11-16a Survey,** and
5. **Lesson 12-10 Research interview.**

Learning Materials / Resources

1. (Textbook) Jirojwong, S et al. Research Methods in Nursing and Midwifery: Pathways to evidence-based practice. Oxford University Press. 2014.
2. Green, J. M. (2012), [Integrating Women's Views into Maternity Care Research and Practice](#)
 Birth, 39: 291–295. doi: 10.1111/birt.12003
3. Help Evaluating Articles (visit the digital library)
4. Citation Guidance (visit the digital library)
5. Places to Find Research Articles (visit the digital library)

A note about the textbook: As is made obvious by the title of the main text used for this course, it is based in a perspective of hospital-based midwifery and references the field of nurse extensively. Unfortunately, the field of direct-entry midwifery research in the US is still in the early stages of development, therefore we have no academic texts that reflect the principles and values of our own profession within the field of research. This text was chosen because it is accessible, and written for teachers and learners. Please bear in mind that although it may not always speak directly to midwifery practice the concepts provided can, in most cases, be applied to research in the field of midwifery.

Evaluation Tools / Methods

All assignments for this course are evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Responses to each didactic assessment are evaluated utilizing the NCM rubrics and degree level profile.
2. Answers should reflect a thorough review of the current literature regarding best current practices in midwifery care.
3. Non-plagiarized paraphrased answers from text which demonstrate appropriate comprehension of the learning objective. (Formative Assessment) *Students and Online Learning Coordinators work together until the student masters the information. (Summative Assessment)*
4. Group sharing within NCM is acceptable and encouraged. Students are allowed to use each other's answers by indicated "Group Share" and submission of the answer on all group identified

assignments.

5. NCM's [Integrity Code \(https://docs.google.com/document/d/14PvgjDU4MJEKRZZiUQRFhNBeDL_KFqZzATPkDvuQYzA/edit?usp=sharing\)](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14PvgjDU4MJEKRZZiUQRFhNBeDL_KFqZzATPkDvuQYzA/edit?usp=sharing) is the basis for a "completed" score earned on all assignments which are allowed to be completed in community with the student's active preceptor(s).
6. Random evaluation of cited sources and page numbers for each written assignment.

Course credit: One Academic credit equals approximately 15 hours of formal time plus 30 hours of additional study or homework. Formal time is defined as the amount of time taken to answer the Learning Objectives to the level of 80% for midwifery courses and 70% for general education courses and to complete any learning activities to the preceptor's satisfaction, including any time spent face to face with the preceptor. Informal time includes any time spent actively reading relevant sources and textbook/s, researching Learning Objectives, and studying for examinations.

Course Summary:

Date	Details
	 COMMUNITY PRECEPTOR DISCUSSION - MW400-004 - 2. Discuss the ways in which many practitioners develop a research topic or problem. (https://ncm.instructure.com/courses/674/assignments/27428)
	 COMMUNITY PRECEPTOR DISCUSSION - MW400-015 - 3. Explain the difference between confidentiality and anonymity. (https://ncm.instructure.com/courses/674/assignments/27439)
	 COMMUNITY PRECEPTOR DISCUSSION - MW400-030 - 4. Find an ethnographic study that explores the culture of midwifery, read it and share it with your preceptor. (https://ncm.instructure.com/courses/674/assignments/27454)
	 COMMUNITY PRECEPTOR DISCUSSION - MW400-039 - 13. What