School of Nursing

NMIH304: Evidence Appreciation and Application in Health Care Practice

Subject Outline
Autumn, 2015
On-Campus
Wollongong, Southern Sydney, Shoalhaven, Bega

Subject Information
Credit Points: 6
Pre-requisite(s): NMIH102
Co-requisite(s): Nil
Restrictions: Nil
Contact Hours: 2 hours learning activities (online), 2 hours tutorial per week

Subject Contacts

Subject Coordinator/Lecturer
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Consultation mode and times: Refer to NMIH304 Moodle site for consultation times

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Consultation mode and times: Refer to NMIH304 Moodle site for consultation times

Student Support and Advice
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Telephone: 61 2 4221 3492
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Section A: General Information

Subject Learning Outcomes

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

a) Critically analyse the nature of evidence in health care practice.
b) Critically evaluate the role and relevance of research in modern professional health care practice.
c) Critically analyse philosophical frameworks underpinning research.
d) Demonstrate enhanced information retrieval, critical reading, research appreciation and research critiquing skills.
e) Demonstrate the skills of writing critical and analytical literature reviews.
f) Critically evaluate the factors that contribute to the application of existing research/evidence to health care practice.

Subject Description

A commitment to evidence based care is essential within health care practice, both for improved standards of care and the development of curious and critical practitioners. In order to make their commitment to evidence utilisation a reality, practitioners require not only insight into research methodologies but also the ability to critically analyse existing research. Strategies for increasing research awareness, disseminating existing findings and applying research findings in practice should also be clearly understood. The focus of this subject therefore, is the development of evidence appreciation and application skills, not the production of research workers.

Graduate Qualities

The University of Wollongong has developed five graduate qualities (http://www.uow.edu.au/student/qualities/index.html), which it considers express valuable qualities that are essential for UOW graduates in gaining employment and making an important contribution to society and their chosen field. Student development of the following graduate qualities will be enhanced by their participation in this subject:

1. Informed: Have a sound knowledge of an area of study or profession and understand its current issues, locally and internationally. Know how to apply this knowledge. Understand how an area of study has developed and how it relates to other areas.
2. Independent learners: Engage with new ideas and ways of thinking and critically analyse issues. Seek to extend knowledge through ongoing research, enquiry and reflection. Find and evaluate information, using a variety of sources and technologies. Acknowledge the work and ideas of others.
3. Problem solvers: Take on challenges and opportunities. Apply creative, logical and critical thinking skills to respond effectively. Make and implement decisions. Be flexible, thorough, innovative and aim for high standards.
4. Effective communicators: Articulate ideas and convey them effectively using a range of media. Work collaboratively and engage with people in different settings. Recognise how culture can shape communication.
5. Responsible: Understand how decisions can affect others and make ethically informed choices. Appreciate and respect diversity. Act with integrity as part of local, national, global and professional communities.

eLearning Space

This subject has materials and activities available via eLearning. To access eLearning you must have a UOW user account name and password, and be enrolled in the subject. eLearning is accessed via SOLS (student online services). Log on to SOLS and then click on the eLearning link in the menu column. For information regarding the eLearning spaces please use the following link: http://uowblogs.com/moodlelab/files/2013/05/Moodle_StudentGuide-1petpo7.pdf
Lecture, Tutorial, Laboratory Times
All timetable information is subject to variation. Check the latest information on the university web timetable via the Timetable link under Study Resources on the Current Students webpage or log into SOLS to view your personal timetable prior to attending classes.

Readings, References and Materials
Prescribed Textbooks
It is expected that students will purchase the following text.

Nil

Prescribed Readings (includes eReadings)
A list of prescribed texts for this subject is available on the eLearning site for this subject. Students are not expected to purchase these. They are available to students through the library on the subject’s eLearning site.

Materials
Nil

Recommended Readings
The following references complement the prescribed readings and textbooks:


Crookes, PA & Davies, SM (eds) 2004, Research into practice: essential skills for reading and applying research in nursing and health care, 2nd edn, Bailliere-Tindall, Edinburgh


Recommended readings are not intended as an exhaustive list, students should use the Library catalogue and databases to locate additional resources.

Recent Changes to this Subject
i. Update to requirements for minimum participation and allocation of marks in relation to this.

List of Topics Covered
The following are examples of the topics to be covered in this course. This is not an exhaustive list and will be subject to change.

Professional Practice

| NMBA competencies and research / evidence. | Role and relevance of research. |
| Ethics committees. | Research governance. |
| Consent, anonymity and confidentiality. | |

Critical Thinking and Analysis

| Appreciation and research/evidence critiquing/appraisal skills. | Philosophical frameworks underpinning research. |
| Hierarchies of evidence. | Ways of knowing. |
| Advanced literature retrieval skills. | Implementation of research and evidence. |
| Asking a clinical question (PICO framework) | Clinical decision making |

Provision and Coordination of Care

| Evidence based care and interventions. | Rituals and routines. |

Collaborative and Therapeutic Practice

| Barriers to implementing findings. | Data collection. |
| Influencing research. | Evidence evaluation and decision making. |
| Management of change. | Uni / multi-professional research. |
| Research teams. | Dissemination / Translation of findings |
Section B: Assessment

### Assessment Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Form of Assessment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 1</td>
<td>Individual Online Presentation</td>
<td>Monday 13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; April 2015 (Week 6)</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 2</td>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>See below</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 3</td>
<td>Assignment</td>
<td>Monday 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; June 2015 (Week 13)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Marks** 100%

### Details of Assessment Tasks

Specific details about each assessment and the explicit marking criteria used to assess them will be available in the eLearning space for this subject by the first day of session.

**Assessment 1**
- Individual Online Presentation
- **Due date**: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 (Week 6)
- **Weighting**: 40%
- **Submission**: Submit an electronic copy of your assessment via upload to eLearning
- **Type of Collaboration**: Individual Assessment
- **Length**: 3 minutes
- **Details**: Specific details about this assessment task are available in eLearning
- **Style and format**: Individual Online Presentation
- **Marking Criteria**: The marking criteria for this assessment task are available in eLearning

**Assessment 2**
- Class Participation
- **Due date**: Tutorial 3, 4, 5, 6 & Online Tutorial in:
  - Pattern AB Weeks (8, 9, 10, 11 & Online Tutorial by Week 10)
  - Pattern CD Weeks (3, 4, 5, 11 & Online Tutorial by Week 6)
  - The quiz must be completed PRIOR to your scheduled tutorial class or by 5:00pm on Friday for the Online Tutorial.
- **Weighting**: 10%
- **Submission**: Complete the online quiz in the eLearning site, print the certificate and hand it to your tutor in your scheduled tutorial.
- **Type of Collaboration**: Individual Assessment
- **Length**: N/A
- **Details**: Specific details about this assessment task are available in eLearning
- **Style and format**: Participation
- **Marking Criteria**: The marking criteria for this assessment task are available in eLearning

**Assessment 3**
- Assignment
- **Due date**: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015 (Week 13)
- **Weighting**: 50%
- **Submission**: Submit an electronic copy of your assessment via upload to eLearning
- **Type of Collaboration**: Individual Assessment
- **Length**: 3000 words
- **Details**: Specific details about this assessment task are available in eLearning
- **Style and format**: Assignment
- **Marking Criteria**: The marking criteria for this assessment task are available in eLearning

### Minimum Requirements for a Pass in this Subject

To receive a clear pass in this subject a total mark of 50% or more must be achieved. In addition,
failure to meet any of the minimum performance requirements is grounds for awarding a Technical Fail (TF) in the subject, even where total marks accumulated are greater than 50%.

The minimum performance requirements for this subject are:

- attempt all assessment tasks
- meet the minimum participation and attendance requirements set out below (students’ attendance is required for all tutorial classes)

**Minimum Student Attendance and Participation:**
It is expected that students will allocate 12 hours per week to this subject, including any required class attendance, completion of prescribed readings and assessment tasks.

Students’ attendance is required for all tutorial classes. In exceptional circumstances, absence from one tutorial for the subject may be accommodated without penalty. Absences exceeding one (1) tutorial will require the submission of an application for Academic Consideration via SOLS and the presentation of suitable documentation, for example a Medical Certificate, to Student Central as soon as practical. For further details about applying for academic consideration visit the Student Central webpage: [http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html](http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html)

**Scaling:**
Scaling will not occur in this subject.

**Late Submission:**
Late submission of an assessment task without an approved extension of the deadline is not acceptable. If you are unable to submit an assessment due to extenuating circumstances (e.g. medical grounds or compassionate grounds), you can make an application of academic consideration. Not all circumstances qualify for academic consideration. For further details about applying for academic consideration visit the Student Central webpage: [http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html](http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html)

Students who have an active Reasonable Adjustment should contact the Subject Coordinator to request an extension on an assessment task. An extension can only be granted on formal request by the student and if the Reasonable Adjustment includes the provision of a possible extension for assessment tasks. If the provision of an extension is not included in the Reasonable Adjustment or if the circumstances affecting the student do not relate to the condition set out in the Reasonable Adjustment the student should apply for an Academic Consideration (see above).

**Late Submission Penalty:**
Marks will be deducted for late submission at the rate of 5% of the total possible marks for that particular assessment task per day. This means that if a piece of work is marked out of 100, then the late penalty will be 5 marks per day (5% of 100 possible marks per day). The formula for calculating the late penalty is: the total possible marks x 0.05 x number of days late. For the purposes of this policy a weekend (Saturday and Sunday) will be regarded as two days.

For example:

- Student A submits an assessment which is marked out of 100. The assessment is submitted 7 days late. This means that a late penalty of 35 marks will apply (100 x 0.05 x 7). The assessment is marked as per normal out of 100 and is given a mark of 85/100, and then the late penalty is applied. The result is that the student receives a final mark of 50/100 for the assessment (85 (original mark) – 35 marks (late penalty) = 50/100 (final mark)).
- Student B submits a report which is marked out of 20. The report is submitted three days late. This means that a late penalty of 3 marks will apply ((20 x 0.05 x 3). The report is marked as per normal out of 20 and is given a mark of 17/20, and then the late penalty is applied. The
result is that the student receives a final mark of 14/20 for the report (17 (original mark) – 3 marks (late penalty) = 14/20 (final mark)).

No marks will be awarded for work submitted either after the assessment has been returned to the students or more than two weeks after the due date, whichever is the sooner. This does not apply to situations where a particular assessment task is undertaken by students at different times throughout the session, but where the assessment is based on experiments or case studies specific to a student. In this case no marks will be awarded for work submitted more than two weeks after the due date.

Notwithstanding this, students must complete all assessment tasks to a satisfactory standard and submit them, regardless of lateness or loss of marks, where submission is a condition of satisfactorily completing the subject.

Supplementary Assessments
Supplementary assessment may be offered to students whose performance in this subject is close to that required to pass the subject, and are otherwise identified as meriting an offer of a supplementary assessment. The precise form of supplementary assessment will be determined at the time the offer of a supplementary assessment is made.

Students can log on to SOLS and click on the link titled “Supplementary Assessment” to view any applicable offers. Further information about Supplementary Assessments is available at: http://www.uow.edu.au/student/exams/suppassess/index.html

System of Referencing Used for Written Work
The Author-Date (Harvard) referencing system should, unless otherwise specified for a particular assessment (check Details of Assessment Tasks), be utilised. A summary of the Harvard system can be accessed on the Library website at: http://public01.library.uow.edu.au/refcite/style-guides/html/

Use of Internet Sources
Students are able to use the Internet to access the most current information on relevant topics and information. Internet sources should only be used after careful critical analysis of the currency of the information, the role and standing of the sponsoring institution, reputation and credentials of the author, the clarity of the information and the extent to which the information can be supported or ratified by other authoritative sources.

Plagiarism
The full policy on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism is found in the Policy Directory on the UOW website.

“The University's Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy, Faculty Handbooks and subject guides clearly set out the University’s expectation that students submit only their own original work for assessment and avoid plagiarising the work of others or cheating. Re-using any of your own work (either in part or in full) which you have submitted previously for assessment is not permitted without appropriate acknowledgement. Plagiarism can be detected and has led to students being expelled from the University.

The use by students of any website that provides access to essays or other assessment items (sometimes marketed as ‘resources’), is extremely unwise. Students who provide an assessment item (or provide access to an assessment item) to others, either directly or indirectly (for example by uploading an assessment item to a website) are considered by the university to be intentionally or recklessly helping other students to cheat. This is considered academic misconduct and students place themselves at risk of being expelled from the University.”
Submission of Assessments
Refer to the submission requirements under the details of the individual assessments. Students should ensure that they receive a receipt/evidence acknowledging assessment submission. Students will be required to produce this in the event that an assessment task is considered to be lost. Students are also expected to keep a copy of all their submitted assignments in the event that re-submission is required.

Assessment Return
Students will be notified when they are able to view their marked assessment. In accordance with University Policy marked assignments will usually only be held for 21 days after the declaration of marks for that assignment.
Section C: General Advice

Students should refer to the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health website for information on policies, learning and support services and other general advice.

University Policies

Students should be familiar with the following University policies:

a. Code of Practice – Teaching and Assessment

b. Code of Practice – Research, where relevant

c. Code of Practice – Honours, where relevant

d. Student Charter

e. Code of Practice – Student Professional Experience, where relevant

f. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy

g. Student Academic Consideration Policy

h. Course Progress Policy

i. Graduate Qualities Policy

j. Academic Grievance Policy (Coursework and Honours Students)

k. Policy and Guidelines on Non-Discriminatory Language Practice and Presentation

l. Workplace Health and Safety, where relevant

m. Children in the Workplace and Study Environment Policy

n. Intellectual Property Policy

o. IP Student Assessment of Intellectual Property Policy, where relevant

p. Policy on Ethical Objection by Students to the Use of Animal and Animal Products in Coursework Subjects, where relevant

q. Human Research Ethics Guidelines, where relevant
r. Animal Research Guidelines, where relevant

s. Student Conduct Rules and accompanying Procedures or Research Misconduct Policy for
   research students

Student Support Services and Facilities
Students can access information on student support services and facilities at the following link. This
includes information on “Academic Support”, “Starting at University, “Help at University” as well as

Student Etiquette
Guidelines on the use of email to contact teaching staff, mobile phone use in class and information on
the university guide to eLearning ‘Netiquette’ can be found at

Version Control Table

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<th>Author/Reviewer</th>
<th>Approved By</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
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<td>Jenny Sim</td>
<td>Ashleigh Rae</td>
<td>Final NMIH304 Autumn 2015 outline</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Subject Coordinator</td>
<td>ADE Nominee</td>
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