Texas A&M University College of Dentistry
Caruth School of Dental Hygiene

Course Syllabus

Course Number and Name: DDHS 4710 Applied Research Methods

Course Type: Lecture Laboratory Clinical Seminar Independent Study

Academic Year/Semester Offered: 2017-2018 ___ Fall ___ Spring ___ Summer Session

Course Director: Faizan Kabani, RDH, PhD

Other Participating Faculty:
Eric Fox, RDH, MS
Jane Cotter, RDH, MS
Kathleen Muzzin, RDH, MS
Lisa Mallonee, BSDH, MPH, RD, LD
Mary Vu, RDH, MS

Course Description:
Practical experience in applying principles of research methodology; includes preparation of a formal proposal and table clinic under mentorship of individual faculty.

Course Objectives:
Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:
1. Apply critical appraisal skills in evaluating and disseminating oral health care research.
2. Design and appropriately execute an effective strategy for writing a research proposal.
3. Apply scientific writing skills in completing an abstract and research proposal.
4. Expand your knowledge in a researchable topic and communicate learnings to the public.
5. Maintain open communication between student, course director, and faculty mentor.

Specific learning objectives will be provided in the Course Manual for each topic.

Learning Outcomes/Related Competencies:
The following list of beginning competencies identifies the knowledge, skills and attitudes the dental hygiene student must acquire by graduation in order to become a competent, curious and caring practitioner of dental hygiene. This course will begin to address these specific competencies that will be needed to treat patients in a professional and competent manner. Refer to Competencies for the Dental Hygienist, Caruth School of Dental Hygiene, revised 5/2013.

Information Management and Critical Thinking
2.1 Apply critical thinking skills and evidence based decision making to the practice of dental hygiene.
2.2 Commit to self-assessment and lifelong learning in order to provide contemporary clinical care.
2.4 Employ the principles of scientific writing.

**Professional Identity**

3.1 Prepare for career opportunities within health care, industry, education, research, and other roles as they evolve for the dental hygienist.

3.2 Advance and promote the values of the profession through leadership, service activities, and affiliation with professional organization.

3.3 Contribute towards the knowledge base of the dental hygiene profession.

**Evaluation Criteria/Methods:**

Conscientious attention to deadlines, course-meeting times, completion of reading and/or written assignments, and active participation in all class activities can have a favorable impact on your learning, as well as that of your classmates.

**Grading:**

The final grade will be based on the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Category</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Informative Poster Oral Presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Individual Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informative Poster Presentation Abstract</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Collaborative Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Proposal Abstract</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Collaborative Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Narrative</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Individual Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Proposal</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Individual Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caruth Journal Club Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Individual Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal Club Participation (Perio Dept.)</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Individual Grade</td>
</tr>
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Note: Assessment specific guidelines and rubrics are available as appendices. 100% of the course grade focuses on scientific writing, critical analysis, and public speaking skills. Students must pass both writing and public speaking sections to pass the course. Final course grades will be rounded to the tenth decimal point (i.e. 89.5 will round up to a 90, whereas an 89.49 will round down to an 89).

**Grading Scale:**

A = 90-100        B = 80-89       C = 75-79       D = 70-74       F = <70

**Learning Materials:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Resources</th>
<th>Dental Public Health &amp; Research (4th Ed.)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Author: Christine Nathe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Published: 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ISBN: 978-0-13425-546-0</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Resources</th>
<th>Introduction to Research in the Health Sciences (6th Ed.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Authors: Stephen Polgar and Shane Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Published: 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Recommended Resources | **Real World Research (4th Ed.)**  
Authors: Colin Robson and Kieran McCartan  
Published: 2016  
ISBN: 978-1-11874-523-6 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                       | **Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS Statistics (4th Ed.)**  
Authors: Andy Field  
Published: 2013  

**Remediation Policy:**
If the student is eligible, remediation will occur in the subsequent summer semester. Remediation will be directed at the deficiency that resulted in the failing grade.

**Attendance and Make-up Policy:**

**Professionalism:** If a student fails to demonstrate professional behavior during the course, a meeting with the course director may be required. Unprofessional behavior includes, but is not limited to, a breach in integrity, excessive tardiness and absenteeism, cheating, lying, and collusion, disrespect to peers, staff, faculty and insubordination. Unprofessional conduct may also be subject to the College of Dentistry Due Process Document found at: [https://exchange.bcd.tamhsc.edu/intranet/StudentResources/](https://exchange.bcd.tamhsc.edu/intranet/StudentResources/)

**Attendance:** Attend all class sessions as required by Texas A&M College of Dentistry. Absences must be reported to Pam Hines at 214-828-8340 and must be received prior to the beginning of class. If a student is absent from a class, it will be their responsibility to see the Course Director for information missed during his/her absence. Any absences due to illness may require a note from your doctor. The determination of excused and other unexcused absences will be determined on an individual basis by the course director and the director of student affairs. Sleeping in class constitutes an unexcused absence. Make-up exams are not permitted for unexcused absences. The student will schedule to take the make-up test proving 75% competency, but the student will receive a “0” for that exam. For an excused absence, a missed exam must be made up within one week of the excused absence. For University excused absences, refer to Student Rule 7 for details ([http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07](http://student-rules.tamu.edu/rule07)).

**Late Assignments:** Submission of assignments are due as stated by the Course Director. Assignments submitted after the stated due date will be considered late and students will be penalized **five points per calendar day the assignment is submitted late (this includes weekends).**

**Switching Exams:** Due to the sensitive nature of the course, (i.e. timing, scheduling, etc.), exam dates cannot be switched. Please refer to the institutional ‘Class Voting Rules’ document for further details.

**Laboratory/Clinic Policies and Procedures:**
Not applicable.
**Special Accommodation for Persons 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 Dr. Paul Dechow, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Room 514, or call 214-828-8208 for additional information.

**Academic Integrity Statement and Policy:**

“An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do.”

Upon accepting admission to Texas A&M University, a student immediately assumes a commitment to uphold the honor Code, to accept responsibility, and to follow the philosophy and rules of the Honor System. Students will be required to state their commitment on examinations, research papers, and other academic work. Ignorance of the rules does not exclude any member of the TAMU community from the requirements or the processes of the Honor System. See [http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu](http://aggiehonor.tamu.edu) for additional details regarding the university honor code.
DDHS 4710: Applied Research Methods Tentative Course Timeline

Refer to Appendix J for Detailed Chronology on Assignment Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title/Topic</th>
<th>Expectations</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1/9/18 | **Course Overview:**  
  - Syllabus, Rubrics, & Expectations  
  **Research Narrative → Research Proposal**  
  - Developing Original Research  
  - Composing Robust Abstracts | **Pre-Reading Materials:**  
  - Robson (Ch. 1, 3, & 16) | Dr. Kabani                                      |
| 1/16/18| **TAMU Writing Center Workshop:**  
  - Oral Presentations | **Pre-Reading Materials:**  
  - Robson (Ch. 19) | Dr. Kabani/TAMU Writing Center                   |
| 1/23/18| **Mock TDHA Oral Presentations:**  
  - Research Group Candidates Only  
  - Faculty Panel Judging & Feedback | **Pre-Reading Materials:**  
  - Robson (Ch. 19) | Dr. Kabani                                      |
| 1/30/18| **Reserved for NBDHE Review Session:** Microbiology/Immunology |                                             | Dr. Honeyman                 |
| 2/6/18 | **Caruth Journal Club:**  
  Faculty Mentor ____________ : Groups 1 & 2 | **Pre-Reading Materials:**  
  - Polgar (Ch. 23)  
  - Each Group’s Journal Article  
  **TDHA Poster Competition:**  
  Friday, February 2, 2018 | Dr. Kabani                                      |
| 2/13/18| **Caruth Journal Club:**  
  Faculty Mentor ____________ : Groups 3 & 4 | **Pre-Reading Materials:**  
  - Polgar (Ch. 23)  
  - Each Group’s Journal Article | Dr. Kabani                                      |
| 2/20/18| **Caruth Journal Club:**  
  Faculty Mentor ____________ : Groups 5 & 6 | **Pre-Reading Materials:**  
  - Polgar (Ch. 23)  
  - Each Group’s Journal Article | Dr. Kabani                                      |
| 2/27/18| **Caruth Journal Club:**  
  Faculty Mentor ____________ : Groups 7 & 8 | **Pre-Reading Materials:**  
  - Polgar (Ch. 23)  
  - Each Group’s Journal Article | Dr. Kabani                                      |
| 3/6/18 | **Caruth Journal Club:**  
  Faculty Mentor ____________ : Groups 9 & 10 | **Pre-Reading Materials:**  
  - Polgar (Ch. 23)  
  - Each Group’s Journal Article | Dr. Kabani                                      |
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/13/18</td>
<td>Independent Study: Prepare for NBDHE</td>
<td>Dr. Kabani</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/20/18</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/27/18</td>
<td>Practice Informative Poster Presentations</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/3/18</td>
<td><strong>INFORMATIVE POSTER PRESENTATIONS:</strong></td>
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<td>1. DH Panel Judging for Research Scholar’s Day: Monday, April 2, 2018 PM (1-5pm)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2. Research Scholar’s Day: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 (12pm-5pm)</td>
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<td>3. DDHA IPP C.E. Night: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 PM (6pm-9pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/10/18</td>
<td>Research Section: Senior Exit Examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/17/18</td>
<td>Research Exit Exam Remediation</td>
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<td>Financial Aid Exit Interview</td>
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<td>Preparations for WREB Testing</td>
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<td>Preparations for Commencement</td>
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DDHS 4710: Applied Research Methods

Syllabus Agreement Form

(Please initial each line)

_________ I have read and understand the course syllabus and my responsibilities to successfully complete DDHS 4710: Applied Research Methods.

_________ I have read and understand the institutional policies on academic honesty and have pledged accordingly to the Aggie Honor Code.

_________ I have read and understand the course syllabus provides a tentative timeline and that the course director has the ability to adapt/modify the syllabus, as needed. The course director will provide written notice to all students in as advance as possible for any changes that may arise.

Print Student Name: _____________________________________________________

Student Signature: _____________________________________________________

Date Signed ____________________________________________________________

Research Course Director Use Only:

Received by: ___________________________________________________________

Date Received ________________________________________________________