

NURS 6901 - Theoretical Foundations in Science and Research

Summer 2026 Syllabus, Section A08, CRN 30894,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Amy Weaver, PhD, RN, CNE

Professional Qualifications:
PhD in Nursing, Villanova University

Master of Science Nursing (MSN)/Clinical Nurse Specialist with Chronic Illness focus, Youngstown State University

Bachelor of Science Nursing (BSN), West Liberty State College

Certified Nurse Educator (CNE), National League for Nursing

Professor

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Preferred Contact Method: Please contact me directly from your YSU email to my YSU email (not through Blackboard email or Blackboard messages).

Communication Expectations:
Faculty will respond to student emails within 48 hours. Students are expected to respond to faculty emails within 48 hours.

Students are required to check announcements, weekly modules, and discussion boards each week at the beginning of each week for weekly assignments and at least three times per week for updates. It is the student's responsibility to frequently monitor their YSU email for faculty communication. It is also the student's responsibility to complete assignments on time and contact faculty for assistance if needed prior to the due date.

Assignments will be graded within one week of the due date. If an assignment is submitted late, it will be graded within one week of submission date.

How to Refer to me:
Dr. Weaver

Course Description

6901. Theoretical Foundations in Science and Research. Analysis of health-related evidence to continuously improve quality of practice. Exploration of the significance of theory, research and research methods and strategies for translating evidence into practice. Research design, instrumentation, data collection methods, statistical analysis, data analysis and data interpretation will be discussed. Prereq.: Nursing graduate status. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	(2026). Nursing research: Methods and critical appraisal for evidence-based practice (11th ed.). Elsevier.	LoBiondo-Wood, G. & Haber, J.	

Required (2020). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association: The official guide to APA style (7th ed.). American Psychological Association.

American Psychological Association

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

NURS 6901 Theoretical Foundations Course Schedule - The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are tentative and are subject to change by the instructor as necessary throughout the term to meet the needs of the class, and/or to ensure better learning.

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
5/11	Read: LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Ch 1, 2, 3 & 4 Read: PICOT Information Folder	Introduction to Course Overview of Research & Evidence-based Practice Integrating research, evidence-based practice & quality improvement Research questions, hypotheses & clinical questions Gathering and appraising literature Theoretical frameworks	Discussion Board Introduce Yourself Sun 11:59pm EST Discussion Board PICOT Question Thurs 11:59pm EST
5/18	Read: LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Ch 8, 9 & 10 Read: APA Resources Folder (in Getting Started)	Quantitative Research Introduction Experimental & quasi-experimental designs Nonexperimental designs	Quiz – APA 7 Format Open Wed 11:59pm EST to Sunday 11:59pm EST Final Revision of PICOT from Module 1 (if needed) Must be approved by Thurs 11:59pm EST
5/25	Read: LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Ch 11, 12 & 13	Quantitative Research Systematic reviews Sampling Legal & ethical issues	Search Strategy Form Sun 11:59pm EST Discussion Board Post – Research Ethics Thurs 11:59pm EST Respond to other students by Sun 11:59pm EST
6/1	Read: LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Ch 14, 15, 16 & 17	Quantitative Research Data collection methods Reliability & validity Data analysis Understanding research findings	Literature Summary Table Sun 11:59pm EST
6/8	Read: LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Ch 5 & 6	Processes & Evidence related to Qualitative Research	Research Synthesis Paper Sun 11:59pm EST
6/15	Read: LoBiondo-Wood & Haber Ch 19, 20 & 21	Application of Research: Evidence-Based Practice & Quality Improvement	Narrated PowerPoint Presentation - Literature Review (post in Module 7 Discussion Board also) Sun 11:59pm EST
6/22		Translating Evidence into Practice	Discussion Board Posts: Viewing of Classmates' Narrated PowerPoint Presentations FRI 11:59pm EST

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