

Course Syllabus

[Jump to Today](#)

 [Edit](#)

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:

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


Learning Activities:

(See Course Assignments)

1. Student reads appropriate sections from the Learning Materials/Resources.
2. Student answers the questions listed in the didactic assessments by researching the learning materials/resources for the course and correctly citing the sources and page numbers for each of their answers.
3. Student presents the answers to the questions listed in the didactic assessments for review by preceptor.
4. Student participates in preceptor elaboration/discussion of didactic assessments.
5. Student practices the process of writing research proposals, as well as various legal/ethical issues regarding research.
6. Student practices using statistical methods required for evaluating research.

7. Student writes papers.
8. Student conducts interviews.
9. Student creates survey using [SurveyMonkey \(http://www.surveymonkey.com\)](http://www.surveymonkey.com)

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

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:

Minimum passing grade for all courses is a cumulative 80% / B-. Students and preceptors are encouraged to work together until the student masters 100% of the information.

Grades are not recorded until both the student and preceptor submit end of trimester evaluations.

Evaluation is based on demonstration of comprehension of concepts and completion of written assignments. The preceptor will evaluate the written activities for each lesson for completeness, comprehension, and professional presentation. Answers should be referenced when appropriate and written work should be typed and well organized. This course is graded on a pass/fail scale. The student must achieve a grade of at least 80% to pass.

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% 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.

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:

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.