



EAST TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

College of Clinical and Rehabilitative Health Sciences

Department of Allied Health Sciences

ALHE 4060: Research in Allied Health

Credit Hours

Three (3) credit hours

Course Description and Purpose

This course is intended to enhance the allied health practitioner's skills in the development and interpretation of research. Discussions on various research designs, statistical procedures, sampling techniques, and literature reviews. Assignments inclusive of advanced writing applications and technology utilization will be required. Prerequisite(s): Permission of instructor.

Course Goals

This is a writing and technology intensive course. This course integrates teaching, research and service into the course of study, with the expectations of improving the student's understanding and utilization of the fundamental skills of scientific research. Students are expected to apply basic tenets of research in reading, interpreting, and evaluating published manuscripts and abstracts. Translation- This course is about being a good consumer of research in an allied health profession and being able to apply these concepts to an evidence-based practice.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course, the student should be able to:

- Evaluate published studies related to allied health practice, research, and education.
- Use the principles of research methodology and evidenced-based practice.
- Analyze and synthesize information.
- Communicate effectively orally and/or in writing.

Textbooks and Readings

Kottler, J.A. & Sharp, L. (2018). *Understanding Research: Becoming a Competent and Critical Consumer, 2nd Ed.* Academic Publishing: Cognella. ISBN: 978-1-5165-2625-3

American Psychological Association (2010). *APA Publications Manual 6th Edition* ISBN: 1-4338-0561-8

Technical Requirements

Please find minimum requirements for D2L here:
<https://www.etsu.edu/d2l/faculty/d2lssystemreq.php>

Course Policies and Expectations

Classroom and Communication Policies

Email Communication

Students are required to use the official ETSU assigned email address to communicate with faculty and staff to ensure communication is with the person to whom the email account is assigned.

Attendance and Participation

This is a senior level course and I invite you to join a community of learners who will be prepared for (that means doing the readings/viewings in advance!) active participation in class each session and who will “dig deep” on our journey to becoming good consumers of research.

We’ll use readings from the texts, video clips, discussions, and assignments to navigate the often confusing waters of research. Sounds like fun, huh? ☺

Online Course Ground Rules

- Email
 - Always include a subject line.
 - Always include a proper greeting and use proper grammar when composing an email.
 - Remember that without facial expressions some comments may be taken the wrong way. Be careful in wording your emails. Use of emoticons might be helpful in some cases.
 - Use standard fonts.
 - Respect the privacy of other class members.

- Discussion groups
 - Review the discussion threads thoroughly before entering the discussion.
 - Try to maintain threads by using the "Reply" button rather than starting a new topic.
 - Do not make insulting or inflammatory statements to other members of the discussion group. Be respectful of others' ideas.
 - Be patient and read the comments of other group members thoroughly before entering your remarks.
 - Be cooperative with group leaders in completing assigned tasks.
 - Be positive and constructive in group discussions.
 - Respond in a thoughtful and timely manner.

Assignments and Submission Guidelines

Full details on assignments are provided in the content section of the D2L site.

Assignment	Points
Course Quiz	5
Evaluating websites assignment	10
Comparison/Contrast of sources	10
Plagiarism test	10
Citation test	10
Analysis/Evaluation of Research study (10 initial; 15 revision)	25

Reflection paper	10
Weekly discussions (10 for weeks 1-7; 10 for weeks 8-14)	<u>20</u>
TOTAL	100
Bonus opportunity Use of CFAA-writing assistance on the Analysis/Evaluation paper	+1 possible

Testing Policy

Tests may be given through D2L under the “Assessments” tab or through a third party website. Though testing is online, the academic misconduct/integrity policies will be enforced.

Late and Missing Submission Policy

Assignments are due on the date listed on the course schedule. If work is anticipated not to be submitted on time, it is up to the student to inform the instructor and request a grace period in which to turn in an assignment. This may or may not be accepted depending on the circumstances. Make every effort to submit things on time and not at the last minute before the deadline.

Grading Policy

95- 100 = A	77-79 = C
92- 94 = A-	74- 76 = C-
89- 91 B+	71- 73 = D+
86- 88 = B	68 - 70 = D
83 - 85 = B-	67 or below = F
80- 82 = C+	

Student Services and Technical Resources

Student Services

The [ETSU Services webpage](#) includes a comprehensive list of services available to all ETSU students.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of ETSU to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal law, state law and the University's commitment to equal educational access. Any student with a disability who needs accommodations, for example arrangement for examinations or seating placement, should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Faculty accommodation forms are provided to students through Disability Services in the D.P. Culp Center, Room 326, telephone 423-439-8346. [Visit the Disability Services webpage for more information.](#)

Technical Resources

Help Desk

The Information Technology Services (ITS) Help Desk is the best resource for most technical problems. Find answers to common questions on the [Help Desk website](#), call, email, or stop in to see them on the first floor of the Sherrod Library. Phone: 423-439-4648 Email: itshelp@etsu.edu

Desire2Learn (D2L) Online Help

Many answers to D2L related questions can be found on the [D2L Help Student Home](#). If you are still having trouble finding what you need, contact the Help Desk.

Microsoft Office Software

Microsoft Office productivity applications, including Word, PowerPoint, Excel, OneNote, and more, are available free for students through the University's Office 365 campus agreement. For instructions on how to obtain the software, see the [Office 365 page of the ITS Help Desk website](#).

Turnitin Plagiarism Detection

Turnitin is a plagiarism detection service available to students and faculty at ETSU. This tool compares student written work against a comprehensive database of other work as well as various internet sources. Faculty may employ this service for some or all written assignments, in order to help students learn to cite sources accurately and to ensure academic integrity. Learn more on the [Turnitin home page](#).

ETSU Technical Resources

Many other technical resources can be found on the [Online Help webpage](#).

University Information

Syllabus Attachment

The [ETSU syllabus attachment](#) includes important material such as permits and overrides, advisement, hours, dates and other ETSU information.

Course Schedule

	Readings/Videos	Activity/Assignments
Week 1	<p>Read course documents – syllabus, schedule, instructor, info, and assignment instructions</p> <p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 2, APA: Ch. 1</p> <p>Read Carl Sagan's <i>Baloney Detection Kit</i></p> <p>Watch How to Read Science News video</p>	<p>Take Course Quiz</p> <p>Intro & Tips for Success due</p> <p>Weekly discussion</p>
Week 2	<p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 3-What is the question and why is it important?</p> <p>Watch Battling Bad Science (Ben Goldacre on TED Talk)</p>	<p>Weekly discussion</p> <p>Evaluating websites assignment due</p>
Week 3	<p>Kottler: Ch. 4-Who answered the question?</p> <p>APA: Ch. 6 - Crediting Sources</p> <p>Watch "Citation for Beginners" video</p> <p>Watch "Research Ethics" video</p>	<p>Weekly discussion</p> <p>Compare and contrast sources paper due</p>
Week 4	<p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 5- How did they answer the question?</p> <p>APA: Ch. 7- Reference Examples</p>	<p>Weekly discussion</p>
Week 5	<p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 6- What was the answer, please?</p> <p>Watch video: Misrepresenting data</p> <p>Videos (Chris Flipp on YouTube):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Qualitative v Quantitative research o Reliability and Validity 	<p>Weekly discussion</p> <p>Plagiarism Test due*</p> <p>Citation Test due*</p>
Week 6	<p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 7- So, now what?</p> <p>Watch Beware of Conflicts of Interest (Don Ariely, TED Talk)</p>	<p>Weekly discussion</p>

Week 7	<p>APA: Ch. 3 - Writing clearly and concisely</p> <p>Watch video: Difference between summary and analysis</p> <p>Watch video: “What went wrong in the MacGregor/Khabib fight”</p> <p>Review “Summary, analysis, evaluation” (other readings)</p>	Weekly discussion
Week 8	<p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 8 –Doing Research: Accountant, Explorer, or Both?</p>	<p>Weekly discussions</p> <p>Evaluation of Research study due</p>
Week 9	<p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 9 – What do you want to know, and what do others already know?</p> <p>Evidenced based practice in allied health: A time for reflection and refocus? (in other readings module)</p> <p>Videos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evidence-informed practice ○ Evident-based practice: Improving practice, improving outcomes (part 1) ○ Allied health: Evidence-based practice ○ Why we need evidence-based health care 	Weekly discussion
Week 10	<p><i>Work on revision of Evaluation of Research study</i></p> <p>Videos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Why informed consent matters ○ Human Experimentation: The Good, the bad, and the Ugly ○ 5 Psychology Experiments you couldn't do today 	Weekly discussion
Week 11	<p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 10-Who can tell you the answer, and how will you obtain it?</p> <p>Review APA Ch. 3, 6, 7 before submitting revision</p>	Weekly discussion
Week 12	<p>Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 11 – You have the answer, but what does it mean?</p>	Weekly discussion

	Building research capacity in allied health: New decade, new challenges and new opportunities (in other readings)	Revision of Evaluation of Research study due
Week 13	Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 12 – Take your answers (and knowledge) and go beyond Research in the allied health professions: Why fund it? No, it's not your opinion. You're just wrong	Weekly discussion
Week 14	Kottler/Sharp: Ch. 13 – Some final thoughts as our journey comes to an end- and a beginning Review & Wrap up!	Weekly discussions Being a good consumer of research paper due

Syllabus Changes

The instructor reserves the right to make changes as necessary to the syllabus. If changes are necessitated during the term of the course, the instructor will immediately notify students of such changes by either both a group email communication or posting both notification and nature of change on the course announcements/bulletin board.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to maintain standards of professionalism in regard to their academic conduct. Students who copy from others, allow others to copy their work, and/or present another's work as their own may face charges of academic misconduct, which will be reported to the Department of Allied Health Sciences Committee on Professional Standards and Academic Misconduct. This does not mean that students must always work independently on course assignments; in fact, students are encouraged to share ideas and help clarify interpretations for each other when a testing situation is not in progress. It is the verbatim or very close duplication of another's work that must be regarded with question or approaching an assignment as a group project when indeed it is not a group project. Anti-plagiarism software may be applied to all writing assignments. Students who have questions regarding this issue should contact me immediately.

The following definitions will guide this policy:

1. **Plagiarism.** The adoption or reproduction of ideas, words, statements, images, or works of another person as one's own without proper attribution,
2. **Cheating.** Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or aids in any academic exercise or test/examination. The term academic exercise includes all forms of work submitted for credit or hours,
3. **Fabrication.** Unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.