



Course title and number DDHS 4710: Applied Research Methods
Term Spring 2024
Meeting times and location Tuesdays, 9am -- 10am, Room 134

Course Description and Prerequisites

Course Description: Practice applying principles of research methodology, including preparation of a formal oral poster presentation, presentation of a Journal Club research article, preparation of a review article, and a review abstract under mentorship of individual faculty.

Prerequisites: DDHS 4715: Research Methods

Learning Outcomes or Course Objectives

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 for each topic.

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*.

Information Management and Critical Thinking

- 2.1. Apply critical thinking skills and EBDM to the practice of dental hygiene.
- 2.2. Commit to self-assessment and lifelong learning in order to provide 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.

Course Director Information

Name Mikhail Umorin, Ph.D.
Telephone number 214-828-8409
Email address umorin@tamu.edu
Office hours By appointment
Office location AEB (Main) Bld, Room 497

Participating Course Faculty:

- Leigh Ann Wyatt, BSDH, MA, MS
- Eric Fox, RDH, MS
- Jane Cotter, RDH, MS
- Kayla Reed, RDH, MS
- Maureen Brown, RDH, BSDH, MS-HIED
- Brandy Cowen, RDH, BSDH, MS
- Martha Estrada, RDH, BS
- Amanda McNeil, RDH, MS
- Chelsea Moorman, RDH, BSDH
- Leah Spittle, RDH, MS-EDHP

OPTIONAL LAUNCH URS Thesis program

Students who started their thesis work in September will continue working on their piece. All faculty mentors and mentor changes are subject to Course Director approval.

Grading Policies

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. The final grade will be based on the following metrics:

<u>Assessment Category</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Format</u>
Informative Poster Oral Presentation	35%	Individual Grade
Narrative Review Abstract	10%	Collaborative Grade
Narrative Review Article	35%	Individual Grade
Class Journal Article Presentation	15%	Individual Grade
Mentoring and Writing Workshop Meetings	5%	Individual Grade
<u>Note:</u> Students that make <75 on any assignments are required to meet with the Course Director to review individual performance and seek remediation, where necessary.		

Professionalism, Late Submission, and Switching Exam 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.
- Late Assignments: Submission of assignments are due as stated by the Course Director. Assignments submitted after the 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 timing/scheduling of the course exam dates cannot be switched. Please refer to the institutional 'Class Voting Rules' document for further details.

Attendance Policy:

Texas A&M University views class attendance as an individual student responsibility. In the Caruth School of Dental Hygiene regular and punctual attendance is mandatory for scheduled or rescheduled

classes, clinics and related activities/events. The course director will check attendance at the start of the class/activity. Students who are not present at that time will be marked absent.

IMPORTANT: All absences must be reported to Pam Hines by **PHONE** at 214-828-8340 and must be received **prior** to the beginning of the class/activity.

Excused Absences

Illnesses or emergencies: It is understood that absences due to severe or contagious illness, injuries or emergencies may occur. An absence due to illness may require a medical confirmation note from a student's medical provider. For injuries or illnesses that require a student to be absent from class for three or more business days, a note from his or her medical provider is mandatory. If a student has frequent sick days, the program director may require a medical provider's note for each absence. **Note:** An absence for a non-acute medical service does not constitute an excused absence.

Religious holy day: A student whose absence is excused under or the observance of religious holy day will be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within 3 days after the absence. **If the student fails to schedule and complete the exam or assignment within three days, a grade of zero will be given.**

For additional information on excused absences, see [Texas A&M Rule 7.1](#).

Unexcused Absences

Tardiness and non-emergent appointments (illnesses not considered severe or contagious) scheduled during class time will be considered an unexcused absence. Quizzes and exams start at the beginning of class time. Students who arrive late will not receive extra time to take the quiz/exam. Since classroom learning applies directly to patient care, sleeping in class is considered an unexcused absence and is subject to the remediation policy. **Students with unexcused absences or late arrivals will have TWO points deducted from their final course grade for each absence/late arrival. No make-up quiz/test will be given if an absence is unexcused on a test day. Examinations will not be administered in advance for a planned/anticipated unexcused absence.**

General Information

The designation of excused or unexcused absence will be determined on an individual basis by the Program Director and Student Affairs.

For any absences (excused or unexcused), it will be the student's responsibility to review the lecture recordings for the class(es) missed. Additionally, the student must complete a make-up assignment(s) within 10 calendar days (including weekends) after returning to school. The make-up assignment will require the student to thoroughly answer the learning objectives for the class session(s) and define any listed terminology. The assignment must demonstrate the student has listened to the recording(s) and read the assigned reading. Make-up assignments must be typed, contain the title of the missed class session(s) and be sent via email within the 10-calendar-day deadline. **Failure to complete the make-up assignment(s) within this time frame will result in TWO points being deducted from student's final grade.**

IMPORTANT: Failure to remediate all absences (excused or unexcused) by the final exam or end of semester may result in an "F" for the course.

Grading Scale:

A = 90.0-100
B = 80.0-89.99
C = 75-79.99
D = 70-74.99

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

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 Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in charge of Disability Services, Room 514, or call 214-828-8208 for more information. For additional information, visit <http://disability.tamu.edu>.

Academic Integrity

“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. For additional information, visit [TAMU Aggie Honor System Office](#).

Diversity Statement

“Texas A&M University is committed to enriching the learning and working environment for all visitors, students, faculty, and staff by promoting a culture that embraces inclusion, diversity, equity, and accountability. Diverse perspectives, talents, and identities are vital to accomplishing our mission and living our core values.”

Mental Health & Wellness

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student’s academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in proper self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the TAMU Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. Emergency 24-hour help is also available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at suicidepreventionlifeline.org. Students can also contact the Office of Student Affairs at TAMUCOD at 214-828-8232.

Course Topics, Calendar of Activities, Major Assignment Dates

Refer to [Appendix S](#) for Detailed Chronology on Assignment Deadlines

Week	Topic	Expectations
Week 1 1/9/2023	Course Overview: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus, Rubrics, & Expectations 	<u>Pre-Module Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources on Canvas
Week 2 1/16/2023	Workshop: Delivering Effective Oral Presentations	<u>Pre-Module Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop Slides on Canvas
Week 3 1/23/2023	Review of Effective Article and Abstract Writing	<u>Pre-Module Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources on Canvas
Week 4 1/30/2023	Journal Article Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups 1 & 10 	<u>Pre-Module Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal Club Article
Week 5 2/6/2023	Journal Article Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups 2 & 9 	<u>Pre-Module Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal Club Article
Week 6 2/13/2023	Journal Article Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups 3 & 8 	<u>Pre-Module Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal Club Article
Week 7 2/20/2023	Journal Article Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups 4 & 7 	<u>Pre-Module Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal Club Article
Week 8 2/27/2023	Journal Article Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups 5 & 6 	<u>Pre-Module Materials:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Journal Club Article
Week 9 3/5/2023	Practice Informative Poster Presentations	
Week 10 3/12/2023	Spring Break Week	
Week 11 3/19/2023	Senior Exam Research Section Review	
Week 12 3/26/2023	Practice Informative Poster Presentations	

<p>Week 13 4/2/2023</p>	<p>Practice Informative Poster Presentations (as necessary)</p> <p>INFORMATIVE POSTER PRESENTATIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Panel Judging for Research Scholar's Day: TBA</u> 2. <u>Research Scholar's Day: 4/3/2024</u> 3. <u>DDHA C.E. Night: 4/4/2024</u>
<p>Week 14 4/9/2023</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Research Section: Senior Exit Examination</p>
<p>Week 15 4/16/2023</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Remediation for Research Section: Senior Exit Examination</i> Financial Aid Exit Interview</p>
<p>Weeks 16-17</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Preparations for WREB Testing</p>
<p>Weeks 17-18</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Preparations for Commencement</p>