MEMORANDUM

TO: Marilyn Lyons
    Assistant Dean for Faculty and Programs

FROM: Dr. Juliann G. Sebastian
      Assistant Dean for Advanced Practice Nursing

SUBJECT: Nursing Management Specialty Track Proposal, MSN Degree Program

August 6, 2004

I have attached course syllabi for NUR 900, 901 and 903 for review by the Graduate Council for approval of these courses for graduate credit. These courses are part of the Nursing Management curriculum that we proposed and that was discussed at the Graduate Council meeting on Sept. 4, 2003. I understand that the Graduate Council would like to review course syllabi for these courses prior to making a final decision about awarding graduate credit for them. Because these are distributed learning courses I also have attached the table we prepared for the original course proposals outlining how these courses compare with traditional courses. I attach this simply to provide the Graduate Council with information about the way we support this pedagogy since the DNP courses and the distributed learning format for these courses were approved in 2001. I have sent a minor course change to Rebecca Scott in the Senate Council for NUR 900 to include graduate nursing students in the Nursing Management specialty track.

I also request a change in the course numbers for the new courses that the Graduate Council approved for this new specialty track at the Sept. 4, 2003 meeting. We request that these new courses, NUR 740 and NUR 741, be changed to NUR 750 and NUR 751 respectively. We have two courses still on the books already numbered 740 and 741 so we would like to make an editorial change in the course numbers. I spoke with Rebecca Scott in the Senate Council Office about this and she indicated that neither course has been recorded yet by the Registrar as they are still with the Graduate Council pending the final decision about the entire proposal. Thus this represents an editorial change rather than a minor course change.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if the Graduate Council needs any additional information. Thank you for your facilitation of these requests.
University of Kentucky College of Nursing

NUR 903: Applied Biostatistics for Outcomes Evaluation, Spring 2004
Mary Kay Rayens, PhD

Course Syllabus

Course Description:

This course provides opportunities for the application of a variety of quantitative analysis strategies in the evaluation of clinical outcomes. Statistical and other quantitative methods such as multiple regression, logistic regression, survival analysis and cost-benefit analysis are discussed. Students apply these methods in the analysis of existing outcome data.

Credit: 4 semester hours

Location: CON 504

Time: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. on Saturdays
Class days are 1/24/04, 2/14/04, 3/6/04, 3/27/04, and 4/17/04.

Prerequisites: STA 570 or equivalent

Faculty: Mary Kay Rayens, PhD
Associate Professor
543 CON
(859) 323-6172
mkrayens@uky.edu

Course Objectives: The student will:

1. Review statistical analysis methods and learn new strategies for analyzing quantitative outcomes.

2. Apply descriptive and inferential statistics to existing data and interpret findings.

3. Present the results of the statistical analysis in written and oral form, using tables and graphs as appropriate.

4. Critically review several published studies to appraise study validity and relevance to clinical practice.
Learning Methods:

The learning methods for this course will include seminar and discussion sessions, web-based distributed learning, self-directed study, computing practice and student presentations. The Blackboard system will be the mechanism for distributing information (including assignments and other class materials as well as answers to questions) throughout the semester.

Course Materials:

The course syllabus will be distributed on the first day of class to all enrolled students. This document also will be available on the course website along with other materials that will be helpful to you as you work through the assignments and final project. The assignments and material to be covered in the course are divided into twelve modules. The module for a given week will be posted on the website by the Thursday prior to the start of the week, and the reading assigned in the module is to be completed by the end of the week assigned to that module. Application assignments are timed to coincide with the module(s) they relate to and are typically due at the end of the week assigned to the module (see class schedule for specific due dates of application assignments).

This course has one required textbook and several optional textbooks. Other optional reference material that may be helpful to you in this course is included in the References section at the end of this syllabus.

Additional required reading materials (e.g., journal articles) will be assigned during the course. Many of these will be available in e-journal form (http://www.mc.uky.edu/medlibrary/resources/ejournals.htm). If an article is not available through this resource, it will be placed on reserve in the Medical Center library and you are responsible for getting a copy.

Required text:


Optional text:

General course requirements and procedures:

Because this is a web-enhanced course, you will need to have access to the internet as well as a basic understanding of how to use a Web browser. The course requires that you have access to a computer with a high-speed modem or network connection and a web browser (either Netscape [4.0 or higher] or Internet Explorer [4.0 or higher]).

You are required to follow the schedule provided for completion of modules and assignments to ensure your ability to finish all course components by the end of the semester. If you are having difficulty keeping up with the assigned work, please let me know before it becomes a problem so we can address it right away. While class attendance and participation are not required for completion of the course, it is strongly encouraged that you do come to the classes and participate. Attendance and participation are particularly important in a distributed learning course, given the limited opportunity for in-person contact. The in-class meetings are designed to provide answers and suggestions for any difficulties you may be having in completing your work for the course, and this help may be more difficult to take advantage of when we are not face-to-face.

You will need to have an email account that will allow you to receive and send files attached to email. Any general messages sent to the entire class will be addressed to this account. If you do not have an email account that will function this way, you will be able to get a UK one that will. We will discuss how to obtain a UK email account if you need to get one.

It is necessary for you to have access to SPSS for Windows (v. 10 or higher) in order to complete your assignments. I will provide written examples of how to run various statistical tests in SPSS as well as the expected output. I will attempt to answer questions about SPSS programming, but those beyond my experience with this software should be directed to the SSTARs Center (http://www.uky.edu/ComputingCenter/SSTARs/). Some of the computers in the CON graduate student computing lab (501E HSLC) have SPSS, but this software is not necessarily on every machine. Many students find it more convenient to purchase the student version of SPSS. You may find it elsewhere, but here is a link to Prentice Hall, which sells the student version: http://vig.prenhall.com/catalog/academic/product/1,4096,0130348465,00.html

You will need to use Word for written assignments and Powerpoint for your oral presentation, so you will need access to this software as well as some familiarity with both packages.

You are required to do your own work in this course. Any written assignments that you turn in (as well as your Powerpoint presentation for your final project) should be the product of your effort alone. This does not prevent you from discussing assignments or your project with your colleagues that are currently taking the course; however, I do ask that you not use notes or graded assignments from students who have taken the course previously. When discussing assignments or class topics with classmates, it is fine to collaborate for the purpose of clarity and increased understanding, but in the end each person must submit their own work.

I urge you to log onto the Blackboard website for this course early each week and check for Assignments, Modules and Announcements. As stated above, I will post the Module for each
week by the Thursday before; this will be posted in the COURSE MATERIAL section. I will also post the corresponding Assignment at the same time in the folder for the Module. I will use the ANNOUNCEMENT section to post reminders about assignments being due or anytime I post new course content or changes. I encourage you to use the DISCUSSION BOARD (which can be accessed directly from the DISCUSSION BOARD button or indirectly from the COMMUNICATION button) or email to me to ask questions. I will check both of these means of communication at least once daily, so you can expect a reply from me within 24 hours of submitting a question.

Evaluation:

1. Application assignments (6 @ 10 pts each; 2 @ 5 pts each) 70 pts
2. Written summary of project findings in report form 15 pts
3. Powerpoint presentation of project on April 17, 2004 5 pts
4. Written review of one research article 5 pts
5. Participation in on-line and in-class discussions 3 pts
6. Creation of homepage on NUR 903 website 2 pts

Total points 100 pts

Letter grades for the course will be assigned according to the total number of points, with A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69 and F = 59 and below.
**Class schedule:**

**January 24, 2004**
Overview of course; cover any Blackboard questions/concerns; discussion of data analysis software, class project and required dataset.

**January 25 – 31, 2004**
Compete the activities outlined in Module #1: *The use of research findings as evidence in making healthcare decisions and getting started in the course.* The deadline for having both SPSS available to you and a dataset ready to use is **January 31, 2004**.

**February 1 – 7, 2004**
Complete Module #2: *Data manipulation and descriptive statistics*; begin Assignment #1.

**February 8 – 14, 2004**
Complete Module #3: *Confidence intervals and hypothesis testing*; complete Assignment #1 and begin Assignment #2.

**February 14, 2004**
Discuss any questions or problems that have occurred in the first weeks of class; in particular, address any programming difficulties by reviewing SPSS commands/output (bring questions to class if you have them). Overview of power analysis and its relation to Type I and Type II errors.

**February 15 – February 21, 2004**
Complete Module #4: *Bivariate statistics (Part I): Measures of association for categorical variables*.

**February 22 – 28, 2004**
Complete Module #5: *Bivariate statistics (Part II): t-tests, one-way analysis of variance, and Pearson’s product moment correlation*; complete Assignment #3.

**February 29 – March 6, 2004**
Complete Module #6: *Sensitivity, specificity and related topics*; complete Assignment #4.

**March 6, 2004**
Discussion of any questions or problems; review of SPSS programs and output (bring questions); verbally critique assigned journal articles on style, content and conclusions.

**March 7 – March 13, 2004**
Complete Module #7: *Multiple regression analysis*; complete Assignment #5.

**March 14 – 20, 2004**
Spring Break
March 21 – 27, 2004
Complete Module #8: Logistic regression analysis; complete Assignment #6.

March 27, 2004
Discuss written report of class project and written critique of journal article; choose article for critique in the coming week; discuss oral Powerpoint presentation; verbally critique assigned journal articles on style, content and conclusions.

March 28 – April 3, 2004
Complete Module #9: Survival analysis; complete Assignment #7.

April 4 – 10, 2004
Complete Module #10: Cost-benefit analysis; complete Assignment #8.

April 11 – 17, 2004
Complete Module #11: Effective presentation of outcomes evaluation results and critical appraisal of research findings.

Preparation of written summary and Powerpoint presentation of final project

Review the article that you have chosen for written review using the criteria outlined and summarized in Module #11. This review is due on or before April 20, 2004, and should be submitted using the Digital Dropbox. Begin to work on your written and oral summaries (via Word and Powerpoint, respectively) of your class project using the material covered in Module #11 as well as the in-class discussions we have had about this subject. Specific guidelines for the final paper and presentation will be described in a document to be posted at a later date in COURSE MATERIAL.

April 17, 2004
Powerpoint presentations of projects
References:


