

**University of Nevada, Las Vegas
School of Nursing**

COURSE NUMBER: NURS 771

COURSE TITLE: Theory Development in Nursing

CREDIT HOURS: 3 credits (theory)

COURSE DELIVERY: UNLV uses the WebCampus online learning platform for Canvas delivered courses

PREREQUISITES: Enrollment in doctoral program.

PLACEMENT IN THE NURSING CURRICULUM: Fall Year 1

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Theoretical frameworks that guide the development of nursing knowledge. The methods and processes of theory development are analyzed.

COURSE OBJECTIVES and PROGRAM OUTCOMES

To accomplish the course outcomes by the end of the semester, the student will be able to:

Course Objectives	PhD Program Outcomes
Explain the context and history of nursing knowledge development.	Provide leadership in the advancement of nursing as an academic and practice discipline and in political processes that affect health care.
Summarize the fundamental patterns of knowing in nursing.	Conduct original research that generates new knowledge.
Apply theory development concepts to research phenomenon of interest.	Conduct original research that generates new knowledge.
Analyze and apply theoretical conceptualizations as frameworks for the development of nursing knowledge.	Develop, implement and evaluate innovative approaches to teaching and learning.
Evaluate nursing theories and their impact on generation of nursing knowledge.	Conduct original research that generates new knowledge.
Formulate issues and future trends in nursing theory development.	Conduct original research that generates new knowledge.

REQUIRED TEXT(S)

Meleis, A. (2017). *Theoretical Nursing: Development and Progress* (6th ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Walker, L. & Avant, K. (2018). *Strategies for theory construction in nursing* (6th ed.). New York, NY, Pearson.

American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

RECOMMENDED/SUPPLEMENTAL TEXT(S)

Reynolds, Paul D. (1971) *A Primer in Theory Construction*. New York, NY: The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Inc.

TEACHING/LEARNING METHODS

Online learning modules, discussion board postings and peer interaction, synchronous, virtual meetings.

Topical Outline:

1. Learning module 1: Synopsis of the inquiring mind and theory explores the process of scholarly theoretical thinking, the theoretical development of the discipline, and future directions for theory development in nursing
2. Learning module 2: Distilling the components of theory examines the fundamental patterns of knowing in nursing and key, theoretical terms in the development and use of theory driven practice
3. Learning module 3: Anatomy of theory construction considers various aspects of developing theory components, such as statement synthesis and concept analysis
4. Learning module 4: Theory evaluation as a scholarly endeavor discerns best methods to analyze theories that are used to guide practice and research

Learning online:

Your success in this course depends on your active participation. You should log in daily. NOTE: it is important to remember to check your course e-mail every time you login. This is the primary communication method for me to you and vice versa in the course. So, please take the extra few seconds to check your mail every time you login.

Ask any questions you have. Master our learning management system, Canvas. If you have any technical questions, contact the IT help desk at 702-895-0777. Phone support is available from 7am – 11pm, seven days a week, including holidays. You may leave voice mails 24 hours a day or submit help requests at ithelp@unlv.edu.

Make sure you have your computer set up for optimum use. Take the time now to prepare for course content and activities: create a strong Internet connection, preferably a wired connection, not a wireless connection.

Chrome is the preferred browser for Canvas. Be sure you turn your speakers on before listening to any videos.

You may need to refine strategies that have helped you succeed in classroom-based courses: schedule your time for reading, writing and participation, as in **don't procrastinate**; use the world's greatest research tool already at your fingertips to seek additional information and perspectives; take breaks; and

maintain your computer and connectivity.

For practical and time management tips, visit <https://www.unlv.edu/learn-online/tips>

EVALUATION METHODS

The course is based on 100 possible points

Assignment	Description	Possible points
INSYT (INtegrate, SYnthesize, Transform) assignment	The INSYT assignments are included in every module as a way for you to show your understanding of the most meaningful learning points, create new and expanded meaning through review of additional literature, and how that learning would look like in actual or hypothetical clinical or academic practice. The assignment is short and concise, making use of a word template (provided in the course in the module and the assignment area).	Possible points each module INSYT = 6 1 per module = 24 points
MLP (Module Learning Product)	There is also a MLP in every learning module. The MLP assignments are brief, power point presentations that you create and record (or present in a synchronous video meeting) to demonstrate knowledge and skill on a particular aspect of theory development that pertains to that module. The focus of each MLP is described in each module. The description and evaluation rubric is also provided in the module and in the assignment area.	Possible points each module MLP =6 1 per module = 24 points
ATUO (A Theoretical Understanding of) paper	This is the first of two, major scholarly paper in the course. In this paper, you will show your theoretical understanding of your phenomena of interest through the concepts, propositions, and axioms that explain it. The description and evaluation rubric for the paper is provided in the assignment area.	Possible points = 26
(CA) Concept analysis paper	This is the second of two, scholarly papers required in the course. This assignment is centered on conducting a concept analysis of a concept central to your phenomena of interest. One of the concept analysis methods provide in the course textbooks may be used to develop the paper. The description and evaluation rubric for the paper is provided in the assignment area.	Possible points = 26
<p>Note: For each of the scholarly papers, if you choose, you may revise your paper based upon the feedback you receive. If you do this, you will need to submit the revised paper to me through the course email by the date indicated o the calendar. Your final grade on the paper will be the average of the grade of the original submission and the revised submission. For example, if the grade on your original paper was 20 out of 26 and the grade on the revised paper is 26 out of 26, the final, recorded grade will be 23. Remember, you do not have to revise and resubmit. This is an option for those who wish to continue working on their writing development skills and to improve their grade for doing so. It is totally optional. If you are satisfied with original grade you receive on the ATUO and the CA papers, the original grades will stand. Or, if you choose, you may decide to revise and resubmit either the ATUO or the CA paper. Please let me know if you have questions about this.</p>		

GRADING SCALE

Per School of Nursing policy, there is no rounding up of scores.

100 – 93 = A
92 – 90 = A-
89 – 88 = B+

87 – 83 = B
82 – 80 = B-
79 – 78 = C+

77 – 75 = C
74 – 70 = C-
69 – 68 = D+

67 – 63 = D
62 – 60 = D-
< 60 = F

Note: A “B” or better is required to successfully pass this course.

UNLV Policies

All School of Nursing and University academic standards apply. These are described in both the School of Nursing Student Handbook and the University Student Handbook.

Academic Misconduct

Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the Campus community: we all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility, and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, and are encouraged to always take the ethical path whenever faced with choices. Students enrolling at UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s educational mission. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another person, from the Internet or any other source without proper citation of the sources. See the [Student Conduct Code](https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct), <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct>.

Auditing Classes

Auditing a course allows a student to continue attending the lectures and/or laboratories and discussion sessions associated with the course, but the student will not earn a grade for any component of the course. Students who audit a course receive the same educational experience as students taking the course for a grade, but will be excused from exams, assessments, and other evaluative measures that serve the primary purpose of assigning a grade.

Classroom Conduct

Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in class and in the libraries in ways that do not interfere with the rights of other students to learn or of instructors to teach. Use of electronic devices such as pagers, cellular phones, or recording devices, or potentially disruptive devices or activities, are only permitted with the prior explicit consent of the instructor. The instructor may rescind permission at any time during the class. If a student does not comply with established requirements or obstructs the functioning of the class, the instructor may initiate an administrative drop of the student from the course.

Copyright

The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with, and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you, nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional [copyright policy information](http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright) is available at <http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright>.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)

The [UNLV Disability Resources Center](https://www.unlv.edu/drc) (SSC-A, Room 143, <https://www.unlv.edu/drc>, 702-895- 0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. Students who believe that they may need academic accommodations due to injury, disability, or due to pregnancy should contact the DRC as early as possible in the academic term. A Disabilities Specialist will discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your

Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours, so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.

Final Examinations

The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur on the date and at the time specified in the Final Exam schedule. The general schedule is typically available at the start of the semester and the classroom locations are available approximately one month before the end of the semester. See the [Final Exam Schedule](https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars), <https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars>.

Identity Verification in Online Courses

All UNLV students must use their Campus-issued ACE ID and password to log in to WebCampus.

UNLV students enrolled in online or hybrid courses are expected to read and adhere to the [Student Academic Misconduct Policy](https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/misconduct/policy), <https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/misconduct/policy>. Which defines, “acting or attempting to act as a substitute for another, or using or attempting to use a substitute, in any academic evaluation or assignment” as a form of academic misconduct. Intentionally sharing ACE login credentials with another person may be considered an attempt to use a substitute and could result in investigation and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Academic Misconduct Policy.

UNLV students enrolled in online courses are also expected to read and adhere to the Acceptable Use of Computing and Information Technology Resources Policy, <https://www.it.unlv.edu/policies/acceptable-use-computing-and-information-technology-resources-policy>, which prohibits sharing university accounts with other persons without authorization.

To the greatest extent possible, all graded assignments and assessments in UNLV online courses should be hosted in WebCampus or another UNLV-managed platform that requires ACE login credentials for access.

Incomplete Grades

The grade of “I” (Incomplete) may be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three- fourths of course work for that semester/session, but cannot complete the last part of the course for reason(s) beyond the student’s control and acceptable to the instructor, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. For undergraduate courses, the incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the period indicated, a grade of “F” will be recorded, and the student’s GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete grade do not register for the course, but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the “I” grade.

Library Resources

Librarians are available to consult with students on research needs, including developing research topics, finding information, and evaluating sources. To make an appointment with a subject expert for this class, please visit the [Libraries’ Research Consultation](http://guides.library.unlv.edu/appointments/librarian) website: <http://guides.library.unlv.edu/appointments/librarian>. You can also [ask the library staff](http://ask.library.unlv.edu/) questions via chat and text message at: <http://ask.library.unlv.edu/>.

Missed Classwork

Any student missing class, quizzes, examinations, or any other class or laboratory work because of observance of religious holidays will be given an opportunity during that semester to make up the missed work. The make-up opportunity will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for Fall and Spring courses (except modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for Summer and modular courses, of their intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit the Policy for Missed Work, under Registration Policies, on the [Academic Policies](https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531) webpage, <https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531>.

In accordance with the policy approved by the Faculty Senate regarding missed class time and assignments, students who represent UNLV in any official extracurricular activity will also have the opportunity to make up assignments, provided that the student provides official written notification to the instructor no less than one week prior to the missed class(es).

The spirit and intent of the policy for missed classwork is to offer fair and equitable assessment opportunities to all students, including those representing the University in extracurricular activities. Instructors should consider, for example, that in courses which offer a “Drop one” option for the lowest assignment, quiz, or exam, assigning the student a grade of zero for an excused absence for extracurricular activity is both contrary to the intent of the Faculty Senate’s policy, and an infringement on the student’s right to complete all course work for the course.

The policy will not apply in the event that completing the assignment or administering the examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the University that could reasonably have been avoided. There should be a good faith effort by both the instructor and the student to agree to a reasonable resolution. When disagreements regarding this policy arise, decisions can be appealed the Department Chair/Unit Director, College/School Dean, and/or the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee.

For purposes of definition, extracurricular activities may include, but are not limited to: fine arts activities, competitive intercollegiate athletics, science and engineering competitions, liberal arts competition. Academic recruitment activities, and any other event or activity sanctioned by a College/School Dean, and/or by the Executive Vice President and Provost.

Rebelmail

Rebelmail is UNLV’s official email system for students, and by University policy, instructors and staff should only send emails to students’ Rebelmail accounts. Rebelmail is one of the primary ways students receive official University communications, information about deadlines, major Campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the University. Emailing within WebCampus is also acceptable.

Tutoring and Coaching

The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching, and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, please visit the [ASC website](https://www.unlv.edu/asc), <https://www.unlv.edu/asc>, or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of SSC A, Room 254. Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library and on the second floor of the College of Engineering building (TBE A 207).

UNLV Writing Center

One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, <https://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>, located in the Central Desert Complex, Building 3, Room 301 (CDC 3-301). Walk-in consultations are sometimes available, but students with appointments in person or by calling the Center, 702-895-3908. Students are requested to bring to their appointments their Rebel ID Card, a copy of the instructions for their assignment, and two copies of any writing they have completed on their assignment.

UNLV School of Nursing Evaluation of Instruction Questions

Delivered on-line by the UNLV Evaluation & Assessment
Center

1. This course increased my knowledge.
2. The course provided sufficient opportunity for me to learn.
3. The course challenged me intellectually.
4. The instructor made a significant impact on my understanding of course content.
5. The course objectives were clear.
6. My grades adequately reflected the quality of my performance in this course.
7. The instructor's expectations for assignments were clear.
8. The instructor's assessments reflected what was covered in the course.
9. The instructor was well prepared for each session.
10. The instructor's explanations were clear.
11. The instructor was concerned with whether or not the students learned the material.
12. The instructor was available for consultation with students.