**HLSV 6900**

**Independent Study: Qualitative Research Design and Implementation**

**Spring 2022**

**Instructor: Gayle Prybutok BSN, MBA, MBA, PhD**

Email: gayle.prybutok@unt.edu

Course TA: n/a

**COURSE INFORMATION**- HLSR 6900: Qualitative Research Design and Implementation – Spring, 2022  
- HLSV 6900, Section 015, 3 credit hours

- 100% online course. No scheduled on campus meeting times are required. **Professor / Instructor Contact Information**- Gayle Prybutok BSN, MBA, PhD, Assistant Professor

- Chilton Hall, Room 238P  
- Phone: 940-369-7820

- Office hours: Mondays 10am to 1pm via zoom by appointment; Please contact me if you would like to schedule an appointment during office hours. Thanks!  
- [gayle.prybutok@unt.edu](mailto:gayle.prybutok@unt.edu)

**Meet the Professor**

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I wanted to share a little information about my background. I earned my PhD in Information Science with a concentration in Health Informatics in the College of Information here at UNT, after enjoying a full career as a nurse/healthcare executive in a variety of healthcare delivery environments. I hold bachelor’s degrees in both biology and nursing from Juniata College and then Thomas Jefferson University. I hold a current Texas RN license, and nursing has given me the chance to serve in a leadership capacity in many healthcare organizations, which served many different patient populations. Prior to earning my PhD, I served as the director of home health and hospice agencies; the director of an occupational health center; the Executive Director of a program funded by NIH and the National Cancer Institute to procure human tissue for research; and most recently, as the Chief Nursing Officer for a local hospital. In each work environment, compliance with legal and regulatory guidelines and a clear understanding of the populations that we served were high priorities for success in each organization. In addition, they were essential to the delivery of high quality, outcome driven health care.

My transition to academia has been exceptionally rewarding. In my prior career, I greatly enjoyed mentoring, and drawing out skills and talents that those I supervised often did not know that they had. I now really enjoy working with graduate students and facilitating their evolution. I currently Chair 8 doctoral students, 3 of whom have graduated and acquired faculty positions, and 5 currently at various stages in our department. I serve on multiple doctoral committees, hold a leadership position in the SW Decision Sciences Institute, where I am VP Student Liaison and Chair of the Doctoral Student Consortium, sit on the UNT IRB Committee, and many departmental committees. I served as a journal editor for the International Journal of Healthcare Quality Assurance, have written and had Quality Matters certified 7 graduate courses, and have a variety of publications focused on Internet based health communication and education, health care quality assurance, and quality improvement. I’m looking forward to working with all of you this semester!

**Virtual Office Hours**:

Course Time/ Location: This is an independent study & does not include a classroom meeting.

There will be weekly zoom-based meetings over the course of the semester.

**Course Description**

This course will guide the student through a quantitative health related research study. The student will identify and create a problem statement, conduct a literature review, identify a study population, apply for IRB approval (create recruitment script, informed consent, and qualitative research tools). With IRB approval, the student will conduct the research study, analyze the data, identify study limitations and plans for future work and will complete the semester with a manuscript suitable for submission to an academic journal.

**Prerequisites:**

None

**Course Learning Objectives & Accreditation Standards:**

1. Develop a broader and more in-depth understanding of quantitative research methods
2. Increase knowledge and understanding of how to properly prepare and submit a study in Cayuse for IRB approval.
3. Formulate a problem statement and research questions
4. Understand how to design a quantitative study and associated materials for IRB submission
5. Will conduct a quantitative study under my supervision
6. Will determine the proper data analysis tools and analyze study results
7. Will learn to prepare a manuscript for publication of the research study according to the author guidelines of the journal chosen.

**Course Format, Methods and Activities:**

Course activities will include assigned readings, research on the student’s part, weekly meetings to review progress, and will conclude with a manuscript ready for submission for publication.

**Required Text**

The required text has been provided: *An Introduction to Qualitative Research* by Uwe Flick, 2009 Sage Publishers. There will be a guided research project directed at a health topic of interest

**COURSE COMMUNICATION**

There will be weekly meetings with the students to provide guidance and feedback throughout the course of the project

***Communication –***Students can reach me directly using my UNT e-mail address, [gayle.prybutok@unt.edu](mailto:gayle.prybutok@unt.edu) , the message function in the Canvas course menu, or by telephone at 940-297-5043. Weekly meeting time will be determined by class members before the semester begins.

I will respond to student contacts daily.

**How Students Should Proceed Each Week for Class Activities**: We will establish a regular weekly meeting schedule and students will have deliverables for each session. We will review materials at each session, and students will revise as necessary based on my feedback. I will provide a variety of readings each week. If you find additional materials that you find valuable, **please share them with the class**. **Assignment due dates are approximate and are designed to move the project to completion by the end of the semester**

**ASSESSMENTS & GRADING**

**Grading Scale:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| LETTER GRADE | % OF TOTAL POINTS | TOTAL POINTS |
| A | 90 – 100% | 1190-1200 |
| B | 80 – 89% | 960 - 1189 |
| C | 70 – 79% | 840- 959 |
| D | 60 – 69% | 720 - 839 |
| F | Less than 59% | 719 and below |

**Assignments- Due dates are posted on the Course Calendar**

**Personal Introduction 50 points**

**Project Proposal Submission 50 points**

**Identify Research Approach and Data Source 100 points**

**CITI Training Certificate Submission 100 points**

**IRB Application submission or documentation of completed and approved IRB 100 points**

**Prepare Literature Review 100 points**

**Execute Study 200 points**

**Analyze Data 100 points**

**Choose Target Journal and finalize manuscript for submission based on author guidelines 100 points**

**Finalize Manuscript for submission 200 points**

**Submit to target journal 100 points**

**Total points available 1200 points**

**Tentative Topic Schedule**

**Week One What is Qualitative Research and Personal Introduction**

**Week Two Philosophical Approaches to Qualitative Research**

**Week Three How to Design Qualitative Research**

**Week Four Qualitative Research Ethics and IRB Applications**

**Week Five** **Qualitative Interviews**

**Week Six**  **Focus Group Studies**

**Week Seven Case Studies**

**Week Eight Narrative Analysis**

**Week Nine Observational Studies**

**Week Ten** **Content Analysis and Discourse Analysis**

**Weeks Eleven Action Research**

**Week Twelve Sampling in Qualitative Research**

**Week Thirteen Thematic Analysis**

**Week Fourteen Qualitative Data Analysis**

**Week Fifteen Choosing a Target Journal and Submitting Your Work**

**Accommodations:** The Department of Rehabilitation and Health Services is committed to full academic access for all qualified students.

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time. However, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student.  For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

**Grades assigned before ODA documentation is provided will not be changed.** Information about how to obtain academic accommodations can be found in UNT Policy 18.1.14, at www.unt.edu/oda, and by visiting the ODA in Room 321 of the University Union. You also may call the ODA at 940.565.4323

**IMPORTANT – Syllabus Change Policy**

## This syllabus is a general plan for the course and may be modified as the Instructor sees fit over the course of the semester to support the learning process. Deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

**STUDENT TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

The University of North Texas [UIT Student Helpdesk](https://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm) provides student technical support in the use of Canvas and supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:

Email: [helpdesk@unt.edu](mailto:helpdesk@unt.edu) Phone: 940.565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130

Our [hours](https://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm) are:

* Monday-Thursday 8am-midnight
* Friday 8am-8pm
* Saturday 9am-5p
* Sunday 8am-midnight

**ACCESS & NAVIGATION**

**Access and Log in Information**This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas’ Learning Management System, Canvas. To get started with Canvas, please go to: <https://community.canvaslms.com/community/answers/guides/video-guide>

You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: <http://ams.unt.edu>.

**Canvas Browser Compatibility**

Chrome 66 and 67 Chrome

Firefox 60 and 61 (extended releases are not supported) Firefox

Flash 29 and 30 (used for recording or viewing audio/video and uploading files) Adobe Flash Player

Internet Explorer 11 (Windows only, functionally supported; may exhibit slight visual differences from other browsers, but this will not impair functionality or accessibility) Internet Explorer

Edge 41 and 42 (Windows only) Microsoft Edge

Respondus Lockdown Browser (supporting the latest system requirements) Respondus Lockdown Browser

Safari 10 and 11 (Macintosh only) Safari

**Another Helpful Tip**: If you like to search for articles on Google Scholar, you notice that some articles have access links on their right and some don’t. You can connect Google Scholar to the UNT Library by going to Google Scholar, going to settings and clicking Library Links. Enter University of North Texas in the box, and check WorldCat, UNT System and UNT Procrest. Save. If the article is held in the UNT library, when you search for an article, a link that says Find It! @ UNT System will appear to the right of the article and you will be able to access it from UNT Library.

**Student Resources**

As a student, you will have access to these resources:

* Locate the “*UNT Helpdesk*” tab at the top of the Blackboard Learn window, which provides links to student resources of technical information and instruction, and how to contact the Help Desk for assistance.
* Take the [Canvas Student Orientation](https://learn.unt.edu/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp?tab_tab_group_id=_2_1&url=%2Fwebapps%2Fblackboard%2Fexecute%2Flauncher%3Ftype%3DCourse%26id%3D_3355_1%26url%3D). It is recommended that you become familiar with the tools and tutorials within the Orientation to better equip you in navigating the course.

**Helpful Tip**: Canvas has a mobile app called **Canvas Student**. Canvas Student was designed with you in mind and with the intention of providing a more user friendly and modern experience to help you achieve your educational goals. Your phone needs one of these operating systems installed: iOS8+, Android 4.0+, or Windows 8.1+. You can add your courses and login with your euid and password.

Follow these steps to download and install the Canvas Student app.

From your device, access the appropriate online store.

iTunes Store SM on your iPhone®, iPod touch®

Google Play™ on your Android® device

Windows Store on your Windows® device

Search for Canvas Student.

Install the app on your mobile device.

Open Canvas Student and search for the University of North Texas.

Log in with your EUID and password.

**Student Academic Support Services**

Links to all these services can be found on the [Academic Support tab](https://learn.unt.edu/webapps/portal/execute/tabs/tabAction?tab_tab_group_id=_305_1) within Canvas

* **Academic Resource Center**: buy textbooks and supplies, access academic catalogs and programs, register for classes, and more.
* **Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities** provides Code of Student Conduct along with other useful links.
* **Office of Disability Accommodation**: ODA exist to prevent discrimination on the basis of disability and to help students reach a higher level of independence.
* **Counseling and Testing Services**: CTS provides counseling services to the UNT community as well as testing services; such as admissions testing, computer-based testing, career testing and other tests.
* **UNT Libraries**: online library services
* **Online Tutoring**: chat in real time, mark up your paper using drawing tools and edit the text of your paper with the tutor’s help.
* **The Learning Center Support Programs**: various program links provided to enhance the student experience.
* **Supplemental Instruction**: program for every student, not just for students that are struggling.
* **UNT Writing Lab**: offers free writing tutoring to all UNT students, undergraduate and graduate.
* **Math Tutor Lab**: located in GAB, room 440.
* **Succeed at UNT**: how to be a successful student information.

**How the Course is Organized:**

This course is organized to introduce a variety of approaches to qualitative research each week. Concurrently, each of you will select a qualitative research project for the semester, complete the CITI training or submit your CITI training certificate, identify your qualitative research approach, your data source, complete and submit your IRB application if needed, prepare a literature review to provide the foundation for your study, and by the end of the semester, prepare a manuscript for journal submission.

# UNT POLICIES

Student Conduct and Discipline: The primary concern of the University of North Texas is the student. The university attempts to provide for all students a campus environment that is conducive to academic endeavor and social and individual growth. To that end, rules, regulations and guidelines governing student behavior and the student's relationship with the university have been formulated into a student code of conduct and discipline. Enrollment at the University of North Texas is considered implicit acceptance of these and other policies applicable to students, all of which are educational in nature and designed to help students understand expectations and accept responsibility for their own actions. Additional information can be found in the [Code of Student Conduct.](http://studentaffairs.unt.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/code_of_student_conduct.pdf)

## Academic Honesty Policy: Policies regarding student conduct and academic honesty posted by the University Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities in the Student Handbook apply to this class. As stated in the Policy: <http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/misconduct.html>, misconduct for which students are subject to discipline falls into the following categories:

1. Acts of Dishonesty, including but not limited to:
   1. Academic dishonesty - cheating. The term "cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
      1. use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations;
      2. dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments;
      3. the acquisition, without permission, of tests, notes or other academic material belonging to a faculty or staff member of the University;
      4. dual submission of a paper or project, or resubmission of a paper or project to a different class without express permission from the instructor(s);
      5. any other act designed to give a student an unfair advantage.
   2. Academic Dishonesty — plagiarism. The term "plagiarism" includes, but is not limited to:
      1. the knowing or negligent use by paraphrase or direct quotation of the published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement and/or
      2. the knowing or negligent unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or by an agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.

Discipline may range from not having an assignment accepted for credit to expulsion from the course. For more information regarding policies regarding student conduct, please visit:

<http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct/index.html>