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PHAR 550.01: Drug Literature Evaluation

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The University Of Montana

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**Pharmacy 550
Drug Literature Evaluation
Course Syllabus
MF 8:40-10:00 SB214 or 117
Fall 2000 3 credits**

Course Coordinator: Cathy Bartels, SB217, 243-5299 office, 251-6327 home, e-mail
bartels@selway.umt.edu
Office Hours TWR 8:00-9:00 a.m. or by appointment

Instructors: Tim Stratton, SB331, 243-2339, timstrat@selway.umt.edu

Required Readings: Required reading will be available through Mansfield Library's
Electronic Reference Desk, posted on the Web or server, or will be
distributed in class.

Grading and Course Policies:

Course Policies

"Drug Literature Evaluation" is a course designed to allow the student to think creatively and to accept responsibility for his/her own learning. Students are expected to complete all required readings and assignments *before* the lecture is delivered. In addition, students are expected to *actively participate* in group discussions and to lead discussions when appropriate. Participation in assigned discussions will be evaluated based on the following:

The student provides insightful comments.

The student demonstrates knowledge acquired through assignments, etc.

The student builds on thought processes from previous discussions and does not simply agree or disagree with previous statements.

The student leads group discussions when appropriate.

Not everything that is important will necessarily be covered in class; therefore, material from the required readings may appear on quizzes even though it was not explicitly covered in class. The instructors in this course welcome and encourage class participation. Please feel free to ask pertinent questions in class. Also, be prepared to answer questions or otherwise comment in class, and to lead group discussions when called upon by the instructor. Short in-class assignments may occasionally be utilized to further develop your thinking skills and to elicit your feedback about the class.

Assignments are due on the date designated, at the beginning of class. If any assignment is turned in after the due date, the student may be penalized 10% of the point value for the assignment for each day that the assignment is late. Quizzes will typically be open book and will be problem-oriented.

If extenuating circumstances arise, especially if it means you will not be in class for a quiz or discussion or are unable to turn in an assignment on time, contact the instructor **BEFORE** the due date. While each case will be handled on an individual basis, in general, if you do not take responsibility for the situation, you will not be allowed to make up the assignment or quiz.

If any assignment contains information that is false or unsubstantiated, you **WILL** fail the assignment, and you may fail the course. As a health care professional, if you disseminate information that is wrong you could gravely impact the care that a patient receives.

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty. This is using anyone else's work as your own. This includes another student's, another author's, etc. In this class, you **WILL** fail the assignment if you plagiarize anyone else's work.

What is plagiarism? While everyone has their own concept of this, the guide that will be used for this class is copying more than six consecutive words verbatim or more than two sentences in an assignment that reflect the original author's phrasing, sentence structure, and meaning rather than the student's own thoughts.

Grading Policies

Grades for the course are based on the following percentage scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
65-69%	D
< 65%	F

Your grade will be based on 2 major projects, 4 miscellaneous assignments, 6 quizzes, and participation in group discussions and presentations. The relative percentage weight is as follows:

Drug Monograph	30%
DI Consult	30%
Quizzes (6)	5%
Misc. Assignments (4)	10%
Journal Club Discussions (8)	20%
P&T Presentation	5%

Performance Objectives:

At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Compare and contrast online resources to printed resources.
2. Differentiate between primary, secondary and tertiary literature.
3. Given a drug information request:
 - a. Classify the request for the purposes of obtaining a better history and identifying useful references.
 - b. Outline a search strategy.
 - c. Using appropriate references, collect the necessary information.
 - d. Evaluate the information obtained.
 - e. Formulate and communicate a response, both verbally and in writing.
4. Given an article from the primary literature:
 - a. Describe the type of study design used.
 - b. Describe the advantages and disadvantages of this type of study.
 - c. Identify flaws in the study design.
 - d. Define the statistical terms used in the study.
 - e. Assess if the conclusions of the study are appropriate based on the information presented in the study.
5. List the five parts of a research paper. Describe the information included in each part.
6. Describe the purpose and differentiate between Phase I, II, III, and IV studies.
7. Research and prepare a formal drug monograph.

Target Audience

This course is intended for students enrolled in the Pharm.D. Program.

Text and Materials

Required readings will be posted in the Schedule and will be distributed in class, available at Mansfield Library, or posted on the web or server. Some additional suggested readings include:

Interpreting the Medical Literature, 1993

Stephen H. Gehlback, DC Heath and Co.

Studying a Study and Testing a Test, 1989

RK Riegelman, RP Hirsch, Little Brown & Co.

Guide to Clinical Studies and Developing Protocols, 1984

Bert Spilker, Raven Press.

Clinical Skills Program: Drug Information, 1995

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

LECTURE SCHEDULE:

Wk	Date	Topic	Instructor	Quizzes, Assignment Due Dates
1	F 9-8	Course Description; Introduction; Email Etiquette; Referencing Format; Copyright Issues; Peer Review; Assignments; Historical Development; DI Specialist, Functions, Future	Bartels	---
2	M 9-11	Designing a Search Strategy; Classifying Requests; Tertiary References	Bartels	---
	F 9-15	Types of Literature & Articles; Other Sources of DI; Selection of Appropriate References; Protocol Development; Components of a Protocol	Bartels	---
3	M 9-18	CAM References; Practice Searches	Bartels	#1: Classifying Requests
	F 9-22	Group Discussion: Journal Evaluations	Bartels; Group	#2: Journal Evaluations
4	M 9-25	Intro. to the Web; Medical Info. on the Web; Evaluating Medical Info. on the Web; HONored Sites; Practice Searches	Bartels	---
	F 9-29	Web Search Engines; Medline; Useful Web Addresses; Strategies for Surfing the Web; Practice Searches	Bartels	Monograph & Consult Subject Selection Due
5	M 10-2	IDIS; Micromedex; LaserNet; Practice Searches	Gruel	#3: Designing Search Strategies
	F 10-6	Practice Searches	Bartels	---
6	M 10-9	Practice Searches	Bartels	Consult & Monograph Bibliography Due; #4: Exploring the Web
	F 10-13	Quiz 1; Drug Development Process; Informed Consent; Investigational New Drugs	Bartels	Quiz 1
7	M 10-16	Evaluative vs. Descriptive Studies; Components of a Research Paper; Abstracts; Hypothesis Testing; Subject Selection	Bartels	---
	F 10-20	Quiz 2; Study Design	Bartels	Quiz 2
8	M 10-23	Quiz 3; Meta-Analysis & Journal Club	Bartels; Group	Quiz 3
	F 10-27	Validity; Bias	Bartels	---

Wk	Date	Topic	Instructor	Quizzes, Assignment Due Dates
9	M 10-30	Quiz 4; Pharmacoepidemiology; Statistics Overview	Bartels	Quiz 4; DI Monograph Draft Due
	F 11-3	Journal Club	Bartels; Group	---
10	M 11-6	Journal Club	Bartels; Group	Return monograph drafts to authors
	F 11-10	VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY - NO CLASS	---	---
11	M 11-13	Quiz 5; Journal Club	Bartels; Group	Quiz 5
	F 11-17	Statistical Analyses	Stratton	---
12	M 11-20	Statistical Analyses	Stratton	---
	F 11-24	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - NO CLASS	---	---
13	M 11-27	Quiz 5; Journal Club	Stratton; Group	Quiz 5; DI Mongraph Final Version Due; <i>Drug Consult Draft Due</i>
	F 12-1	Quiz 6; Journal Club	Stratton; Group	Quiz 6
14	M 12-4	Study Conclusions; Putting It All Together; Journal Club	Bartels; Group	<i>Return consult drafts to authors</i>
	F 12-8	P&T Committee Presentations (n=7-8)	Bartels; Group	---
15	M 12-11	P&T Committee Presentations (n=7-8)	Bartels; Group	<i>Drug Consult Final Version Due</i>
	F 12-15	P&T Committee Presentations (n=7-8)	Bartels; Group	---
16	W 12-20 8:10- 10:00	FINAL EXAM: To Be Announced P&T Committee Presentations (n=6-9)	Bartels; Group	Graded Papers Handed Back