

**A University Evidence-Based Practice Online Course for Registered Nurses
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An evidence-based practice course is taught at West Virginia University School of Nursing for students who are registered nurses (RN) taking courses to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. The objective of this course is to focus on evidence-based practice in nursing through analysis of clinical questions, appraisal of evidence for clinical decision making, strategies to apply evidence, and exploring the creation of a culture for evidence-based practice. There are two major assignments in this course. The first assignment involves each RN student identifying an issue in their work setting that warrants a systematic appraisal of relevant literature in order to effect a needed change in practice based on the best evidence. The RN searches for best evidence (systematic review of appropriate research literature), critically appraises the evidence, develops a plan for change in practice, and designs and discusses a targeted dissemination activity that ensures that the evidence-based findings are made available to the nursing profession. The second major assignment involves group work where the RN student is assigned to a group based on their employment setting and area of specialty. As a group, a need for change based on practice is selected. Relevant statistics are secured from their work setting about the issue and an evidence-based practice change model is used as a guide for incorporating the evidence-based findings into practice. Upon completion of this course the student is able to analyze, evaluate, and integrate evidence-based findings to ensure best care practices for their patients.