

## Course Outline – FN3480G: Independent Study

### School of Food & Nutritional Sciences

WINTER 2022

#### **Instructor(s) Information:**

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Office Location: TBD

#### **Course Description**

An introduction to the development of a specific research project. This course involves the development of skills related to the appropriate use of scientific databases, the critical appraisal of available literature, and scientific writing style. The course will culminate in a review paper that could be published in an appropriate journal.

**Prerequisite(s):** Registration in year 3 or year 4 of the following programs: Honours Specialization or Specialization in Foods and Nutrition, Honours Specialization in Nutrition and Dietetics, or permission of the Division.

**Antirequisite(s):** N/A

#### **Brescia Competencies**

##### **Communication**

The ability to exchange information and meaning across cultures, space, and time appropriately and correctly. This competency includes oral, written, and interpersonal communication, and the ability to use current or innovative media.

##### **Critical Thinking**

The ability to engage in thinking characterized by the rational, informed, independent, and open-minded exploration of issues, ideas, and events before accepting or formulating a conclusion.

##### **Inquiry and Analysis**

The ability to ask questions, examine issues, and reach informed conclusions by breaking down complex issues, exploring evidence, and describing relationships among persons, things, or events.

##### **Problem Solving**

The ability to create and execute a strategy to answer a question or achieve a goal. Includes being able to anticipate the consequence of a potential solution, select a strategy among several alternatives, and decide when an acceptable outcome has been reached.

### Self-Awareness and Development

The ability to draw meaning, knowledge and value from honest and fair reflection and self-evaluation. Students are able to recognize their emotions and patterns of thinking, their impact on others, and make a commitment to personal growth.

### Social Awareness and Engagement

The ability to respect and be open to diversity (e.g. cultural, religious, political) and social justice. Students take personal responsibility to actively engage in and contribute to creating positive change in local, regional, national, or global communities and societies.

### Valuing

The ability to make decisions or choose actions based on the consistent application of principles expressing fundamental values that are accepted on account of reason or spiritual insight.

**OBJECTIVES:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to demonstrate the Brescia Competencies of Communication, Critical Thinking, Inquiry & Analysis, Problem Solving.

1. To refine skills related to searching appropriate nutrition/medical databases [Critical Thinking Level 3; Inquiry & Analysis Level 3; Problem Solving Level 3]
2. To critically analyse the available information [Critical Thinking Level 3; Inquiry & Analysis Level 3; Problem Solving level 3]
3. To communicate the available information in a final written report [Communication level 3; Critical Thinking Level 3; Inquiry & Analysis Level 3; Problem Solving Level 3;]

### Evaluation

Evaluation Breakdown:

Component	Weight	Date/ Deadline	Learning Outcome	Brescia Competencies
Literature Search	10%	Jan 30, 2022	1	Problem solving Critical Thinking Inquiry & Analysis
Annotated bibliography	30%	Feb 28, 2022	2	Communication Problem solving Critical Thinking Inquiry & Analysis

<b>Reference Management</b>	10%	March 15, 2022	2	Problem solving Critical Thinking Inquiry & Analysis
<b>Final Literature Review</b>	50%	Apr. 14, 2022	3	Communication Problem solving Critical Thinking Inquiry & Analysis

### **Literature Search**

The evaluation of the literature search structure. Eg. Identification of the topic or question, keywords, and searching parameters, as well as list of databases of interest, and specific inclusion/exclusion criteria.

### **Annotated bibliography**

The development of the annotated bibliography. This will be used to support the references included in the literature review. The student will interpret the strengths and weaknesses of each individual reference and provide an analysis of the study design and statistical procedures. From the bibliography, the student will identify 15-20 research articles that address the topic directly or indirectly, and have been published within the last 10 years (some exceptions possible). This assignment will consist of individual sections describing and evaluating the articles identified. Each section will be preceded by a citation of the paper in ICMJE citation format followed by approximately 150 words for each bibliography. Finish each section with a note of the word count. The abstract should not be repeated.

### **Reference Management**

A reference management software system will be used to organize references that are reviewed and cited. ICMJE formatting should be used. A full text version of each reference should be included.

### **Literature review paper**

The student will use a final literature review paper to provide information related to the body of the published literature. Appropriate scientific writing style should be used. The ICMJE formatting style should be used for the included references. Citations will include papers included in the annotated

bibliography as well as additional references as needed. The length of the document should be approximately 2500 words. The paper should be double-spaced. The final paper will be submitted by the due date through Turnitin through OWL.

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

If, on medical or compassionate grounds, a student is unable to complete a course component of the final course grade, it is the responsibility of the student to consult with an Academic Advisor as per Brescia's Academic Policies and Regulations, a summary of which is attached. In all other cases, the student must approach the instructor in a timely fashion.

### **Specific Course Policies**

**Penalty for late assignments:** The literature review is due April 14, 2021 by 12 noon. There will be a deduction of 20% of the value of the assignment for late submission. NO assignment will be accepted one (1) week after due date, except in cases with proper documentation to show a confirmed personal illness or a death in the student's immediate family. Up to 10% of marks on each assignment and examination can be deducted for lack of proper English communication skills, including errors in spelling or grammar.

