

**NURSING 623
and
NURSING 723**

HERMENEUTIC-PHENOMENOLOGY

**Spring 2012
May 1-22
Faculty of Nursing
University of Calgary**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays 0900 – 1200
and 1300 - 1600**

**Professional Faculties Building
Room 2253**

**Course Professor: Dr. Nancy Moules
Office: PF 2214
Phone: 220-4635
E-mail: njmoules@ucalgary.ca**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Inquiry into the philosophical and historical influences that have shaped hermeneutic-phenomenology as an approach to nursing and health care research. Exploration of interpretive practices essential to the conduct of hermeneutic research.

COURSE EXPLANATION AND INTRODUCTION

This is a graduate level elective course that will be of interest to students in nursing and other disciplines who are interested in interpretive research and practice. Hermeneutics and hermeneutic-phenomenology have long philosophical traditions, but have emerged in health care research only in the past two decades. This course will offer an overview of the philosophical influences that have contributed to these developments. Students will have opportunities to develop beginning skills in interpretive practices, including interpretive writing. Throughout the course, the nature of interpretive thinking in hermeneutic inquiry will be a focus of discussion. Students will have opportunities to develop and explore the implications of course topics for their own theses projects.

COURSE OBJECTIVES (AND LEARNING EXPERIENCES)

Through course readings, class discussions, and experiential activities, students will have opportunities to

- Explore the philosophical traditions that have contributed to the evolution of current practices in hermeneutic/hermeneutic-phenomenological research;
- Distinguish between hermeneutic and phenomenological philosophical traditions and practices;
- Examine relationships between these philosophical stances and the conduct of hermeneutic inquiries;
- Experiment with research practices involved in hermeneutic writing;
- Explore issues related to the ethical commitments of hermeneutic research;
- Critique and debate the relations between hermeneutic research approaches and philosophy of science

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

If registering in this course at the 600 level (i.e. masters):

<u>Method</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
ASSIGNMENT 1	40%	May 10, 2012
ASSIGNMENT 2	60%	May 24, 2012

If registering in this course at the 700 level (i.e. doctoral):

<u>Method</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
ASSIGNMENT 1	20%	May 10, 2012
ASSIGNMENT 2	30%	May 24, 2012
ASSIGNMENT 3	50%	June 1, 2012

Assignment #1: Practice as hermeneutic interpretation

“Nursing...applied psychology ... medicine ... social work... education... is an interpretive practice.”

Explore what this statement means based on your understanding of hermeneutic philosophy in relation to your thesis work (or for course based students, in relation to a particular phenomenon of interest in your practice). How might this statement offer an understanding of the fit of hermeneutics with your topic of research and/or interest? You may draw on the individual philosophies of either Heidegger or Gadamer, or both.

Paper length: 6 – 8 pages

Assignment #2: An exercise in interpretive writing

Select and view one of the following 4 movies:

1. My Life as a Dog
2. Life as a House
3. Dogville
4. Departures
5. Melancholia

Develop an exemplar of interpretive writing based on your engagement with this movie. This writing should not be a descriptive summary, a chronological accounting of plot or events, or a thematic or literary analysis of the video. Demonstrate your understanding of what it means to enter the hermeneutic circle by writing about a particular event of understanding that addressed you as you viewed the movie. Your writing should demonstrate the endeavour of taking up this event in an interpretive way.

Paper length: 8 - 10 pages

Assignment #3 (Students registered at the 700 level only)

Discuss your selection of hermeneutics or hermeneutic phenomenology as the research approach selected for your thesis. Explore the “fit” of this philosophical tradition for the question you intend to pursue. Discuss how you are situated in this inquiry, and explain how this philosophical tradition will inform the conduct of your research.

If you have decided that this philosophical tradition is not appropriate for your thesis research, explain and discuss the lack of “fit”, the tensions or incongruencies that have contributed to this decision.

Paper length: writer’s choice

Note: Format for all papers is APA 6th edition and it is a given that scholarly writing is expected.

The grading scale to be used will be:

FACULTY OF NURSING GRADUATE PROGRAM

Revised Grading Scale

Legend: *Italics - Criteria extracted from Faculty of Education grading scale.*

If the percentage on your assignment is:	If the grade on your assignment is:	The percentage will be taken from:	If the total for all assignments is:	Your final grade will be:	
98.0 – 100	A+	4.0	3.95 - 4.00	A+	Outstanding <i>Elegant exposition of publication quality work that v make a significant, scholarly contribution to the ar investigation.</i>
93.0 – 97.9	A	4.0	3.85 – 3.94	A	Excellent - Superior performance showing comprehe understanding of the subject matter. <i>Exceptional performance that goes beyond the spe requirements of the assignment, and demonstrat comprehensive understanding of the subject matter includes the ability to critically assess and creatively knowledge to new situations.</i>
88.0 – 92.9	A-	3.7	3.50 – 3.84	A-	Very good performance <i>Clarity of thought and expression that reveals th meaning of and complex relationship between assum ideas and actions, and includes a critical examination topic. Relevant reference material has been co documented and effectively integrated into a well dev line of thought.</i>
83.5 – 87.9	B+	3.3	3.15 – 3.49	B+	Good performance <i>Subject matter is generally understood at the litera Wide reading, critical questioning and creative insight be absent. Prose style reveals a clear, logical, conc coherent expression of ideas. Work displays conve grammar, punctuation and spelling, with a minim errors.</i>
78.0 – 83.4	B	3.0	2.85 – 3.14	B	Satisfactory performance Note: The grade point value (3.0) associated with grade is the minimum acceptable average that a gra student must maintain throughout the program computed at the end of each registration anniversary of the program. <i>Subject matter is generally understood, but the displays minimum scholarship. Some gaps in know and inconsistencies in thinking may be evident. Laps clarity of expression and the development of a clear li thought might be evident. Work may display cons errors in conventional form and require heavy editin the part of the instructor.</i>
73.5 – 77.9	B-	2.7	2.50 – 2.84	B-	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies <i>Work submitted at this level lacks understanding, abs clarity of expression or insufficient command of conventional form such that content cannot be effectiv</i>

					<i>conveyed.</i>
69.0 – 73.4	C+	2.3	2.15 – 2.49	C+	All grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. A student who receives a grade of F will normally be required to withdraw unless the program recommends otherwise.
63.5 – 68.9	C	2.0	1.85 – 2.14	C	
59.0 – 63.4	C-	1.7	1.50 – 1.84	C-	
54.5 – 58.9	D+	1.3	1.15 – 1.49	D+	
50.5 – 54.4	D	1.0	0.50 – 1.14	D	
49.9 or less	F	0	0.00 – 0.49	F	

2009-02-23

2011-08-30

2011-09-21

Adopted Full Council: 11-09-29

Students are expected to comply with the academic regulations specified in the University of Calgary Calendar. Intellectual honesty is expected.

Academic Regulations and Student Misconduct

You are responsible for understanding and complying with the academic regulations regarding intellectual honesty, plagiarism, and academic misconduct as specified in the current University of Calgary calendar and Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar. Intellectual honesty is expected at all times and compliance with the guidelines will be enforced. ***** Note: receiving a mark of A for each assignment does not guarantee an A+ grade for the course. The distinction between an A and an A+ (Excellent-Outstanding) is left to the discretion of the course professor**

In the Faculty of Nursing, the Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association 6th ed. is the basis for standards of scholarly writing, academic acknowledgement of intellectual contribution of others, and copyright protection of published materials. Plagiarism constitutes academic misconduct and will be addressed accordingly.

Refer to the University of Calgary website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/honesty/plagiarism> for the following statement.

“Plagiarism is using someone else’s words or ideas in written or oral presentations and passing them off as your own. If you are charged with plagiarism, you can fail an assignment, fail a course, or be suspended from the University.

This can include:

Passing off the work of others as your own.

- Submitting an essay that you have entirely (or partially) copied.
- Using wording from published material (including material found on the Web) without using quotation marks or citing the source.
- Paraphrasing (rewriting in your own words) ideas or information from published or spoken material without citing the source. An exception is information that is **common**

knowledge (i.e. you don't need to cite well-known scientific or historical facts). You do have to cite claims and you do have to cite **statistics**.”

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy:

Information (such as phone number, address, tracking sites of practicums, etc.) that you may be asked to provide is collected under the authority of the Universities/Colleges Act and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Section 32(c). It will be used for contact purposes only. Your personal information is protected by Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection and Privacy Act and can be reviewed upon request. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information, contact Pat Jolly, Graduate Office, at 220-7288.