

# GMS6851: FUNDAMENTALS OF DISSEMINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH

GMS6851, 3 CREDITS, FALL 2021

**INSTRUCTOR (REQUIRED):** Ramzi Salloum, Ph.D., M.A., M.B.A.

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(352)294-4997

**OFFICE HOURS (REQUIRED):** Tuesdays 1:00 – 2:00 or by appointment

**COURSE WEBSITE:** <http://elearning.ufl.edu>

**COURSE COMMUNICATIONS:** Use the email address, phone, or Canvas Inbox to contact the instructor. You can expect a response within 48 business hours. For general questions, refer to the General Questions discussion board in Canvas.

**REQUIRED TEXT:** There is no required textbook for this course. Instead, weekly readings will be assigned from the scientific literature and may be changed or expanded beyond what is outlined in the syllabus.

Optional text: Brownson, R. C., Colditz, G. A., & Proctor, E. K. (Eds.). (2017).

Dissemination and implementation research in health: translating science to practice. Oxford University Press.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course provides an overview of the principles and practices of dissemination and implementation research in the context of the translational research continuum. Content areas include the populations studied, data sources, and user audiences (e.g., the research community, health care practitioners, program directors, and community stakeholders). Students are exposed to a range of dissemination and implementation research topics and conceptual frameworks. Emphasis is placed on the importance of context (e.g., health care setting, family, community, culture, and socio-economic status) in conducting dissemination and implementation research.

**COURSE GOALS AND/OR OBJECTIVES:** Students who successfully complete the course will be able to:

1. Demonstrate systems thinking in the design and conduct of research and implementation of its findings within the context of complex health systems.
2. Demonstrate ability to use theory and conceptual models in the design and interpretation of dissemination and implementation research.
3. Describe implementation and scale-up and relate implementation research to these processes.
4. Classify research questions and associated research that falls under dissemination and implementation research.
5. Summarize framework characteristics and identify strategies for applying them to dissemination and implementation research.
6. Identify appropriate means for integrating stakeholders in the planning of dissemination and implementation research and in communicating results.

**INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:** Each module is framed with a module overview that introduces the core concepts, readings, and lectures of that module. Participation in class discussions and presentations will also help guide learning.

#### COURSE POLICIES:

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:** Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

**ASSIGNMENT POLICIES:** Unless otherwise stipulated, all assignments are individual assignments. Students are forbidden to collaborate or consult with one another on such assignments. Students must of course follow the University Policy on Academic Misconduct, which includes but is not limited to prohibition of plagiarism. All assignments are due at the beginning of class. All assignments have to be turned in to pass the class. NO exception.

**MAKE-UP POLICY:** Students are allowed to make up work. Acceptable reasons for absence from or failure to participate in class include illness, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, and professional conferences), military obligation, severe weather conditions, religious holidays, and participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic

competition or debate. Absences from class for court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena) must be excused. Other reasons also may be approved.

Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Work missed for any other reason will earn a grade of zero.

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**COURSE TECHNOLOGY:** This course is fully online in Canvas. For technical support, contact the Help Desk:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2

**ONLINE COURSE EVALUATION:** Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semesters, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>.

#### UF POLICIES:

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** “Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.dso.ufl.edu/drc](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.”

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC CONDUCT:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a

number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

**CLASS DEMEANOR OR NETIQUETTE:** All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Follow [netiquette guidelines](#) in all class discussions and communications.

### GETTING HELP:

For issues with technical difficulties for Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu>
- (352) 392-HELP (4357)
- Walk-in: HUB 132

Any requests for make-ups due to technical issues MUST be accompanied by the ticket number received from the Help Desk when the problem was reported to them. The ticket number will document the time and date of the problem. You MUST e-mail your instructor within 24 hours of the technical difficulty if you wish to request a make-up.

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for:

- Counseling and Wellness resources
- Disability resources
- Resources for handling student concerns and complaints
- Library Help Desk support

Should you have any complaints with your experience in this course please visit <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaints> to submit a complaint.

### GRADING POLICIES:

**METHODS BY WHICH STUDENTS WILL BE EVALUATED AND THEIR GRADE DETERMINED (REQUIRED)**

**INFORMATION ON CURRENT UF GRADING POLICIES FOR ASSIGNING GRADE POINTS (REQUIRED):**

- This may be achieved by including a link to the web page:  
<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Assignments	Description	%
Article Presentations	Students will complete assigned readings prior to each class session and submit a brief <i>PowerPoint</i> summary of their reactions, thoughts, analysis, comments and/or questions on the main issues (for assigned article only). Comments are due at 11:45 am on Tuesdays.	25%
Participation & Discussions	All students are expected to be active and regular participants in class discussions. Students should come to class prepared to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the assigned readings as well as how the readings apply to their own interests.	25%
D & I Research Commentary	All students will write a commentary addressing a specific topic related to dissemination and implementation research; and submit the manuscript to the journal of their choice. Students must identify the population to which the research question applies, the specific research objectives, the conceptual model they are using to guide their discussion, and the target audience. Deliverables for this assignment include the following: (1) topic and target journal 5%, (2) literature review 10%, (3) full draft 15%, (4) final draft 10%	40%

D & I Final Presentation	Students will prepare a <i>VoiceThread</i> presentation based on their commentary prior to submission to the journal. Constructive feedback on classmates' presentations will contribute 20% of the final presentation grade. Presentations should not exceed 15 minutes in length, and will be followed by a 5 – 10minute discussion period.	10%
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**GRADING SCALE:**

<i>Letter grade</i>	<i>Grade points</i>	<i>Grade Percentage</i>
<b>A</b>	4.0	95-100
<b>A-</b>	3.67	90-94
<b>B+</b>	3.33	87-89
<b>B</b>	3.0	83-86
<b>B-</b>	2.67	80-82
<b>C+</b>	2.33	77-79
<b>C</b>	2.0	73-76
<b>C-</b>	1.67	70-72
<b>D+</b>	1.33	67-69
<b>D</b>	1.0	63-66

<b>D-</b>	0.67	60-62
<b>F</b>	0	<60

## COURSE SCHEDULE:

**CRITICAL DATES:** For critical dates and assignment due dates, refer to the Syllabus Page in Canvas.

Disclaimer: syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.