HIMT 430
Quality Assessment and Improvement

Course Description

This three-credit course is taken in the Health Information Management track of the HIMT program. You must be admitted to the program prior to taking the course. The course prerequisite is HIMT 350 Statistics for Healthcare.

Using online lectures, discussions, written assignments, and case studies, the course examines the quality assessment and quality improvement cycle (plan, do, check, act) and the role of the HIT/HIM in the process. Tools used in quality and risk management processes will be examined.

Prerequisites: HIMT 350 Statistics for Healthcare

Course Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Organize and coordinate facility-wide quality management and performance improvement programs.
- Analyze clinical data to identify trends.
- Analyze and present data for healthcare decision making (such as demonstrating the quality, safety, and effectiveness of healthcare).

HIM Curriculum Competencies

This course presents the content, knowledge, and skills required for the following 2014 AHIMA bachelor's degree competencies:

- III.C.1 - Apply analytical results to facilitate decision-making.
- III.H.3 - Apply quality management tools.
- III.H.4 - Perform quality assessment including quality management, data quality, and identification of best practices for health information systems.

Course Materials

American Psychological Association. (2009). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association. (6th ed.). Washington, DC.

Course Activities and Assessments

Lectures and Required Readings

Throughout the course, you will be assigned readings associated with each lecture, using a wide variety of journals and other resources.

Please note that most lectures in this course will not play on mobile devices as they require Flash Player.

Project Assignment

The major assignment in this course is a quality improvement project. It is an opportunity for you to assess a component of a healthcare organization, develop a proposal for quality improvement processes, and examine the impact of the proposal. This integrative paper will show your understanding of quality improvement processes and strategies, and it will also provide you with a vehicle to demonstrate your awareness of safety principles and quality issues.

Course Policies

Statement of Student Time Commitment

For each course credit, students are expected to spend a minimum of 3 hours per week on course work. Therefore, for a 3-credit course, at least 9 hours per week are expected. This is a general guideline, which may vary depending on the assignments and/or quizzes.

Class Participation

Many assignments in this course require that you read each other's work to post a peer reply. Please do not read the work of other students prior to posting your original or first post on any assignment. The reason for this is to encourage original thought and creativity, and to avoid what is known as "groupthink." In groupthink students seem to follow along with the first posts and reply similarly; this puts an undue responsibility on the person who had the courage to post first, and it may actually reduce the quality of your post if you structure yours like others already

there. It is required that you view other students' postings in order to post your peer replies. The instructor reserves the right to grade students differently based on their participation in discussions and their failure to post their work prior to viewing the work of peers.

Late Assignment Submission

Late submission of assignments is discouraged. The instructor reserves the right to take partial or full points off for late assignments. If you are going to be away, it is suggested you get the assignments done and posted ahead of time to avoid losing points for late submissions.

APA Style

Complete APA format is required for all formal papers submitted through the dropbox, unless otherwise specified in the lesson instructions. APA format specifies format for title page, running head with pagination, abstract, levels of headings, in-text citations, and reference list.

Discussions do not require APA format unless you are using information from a reference source (websites, books, journal articles, etc.), in which case you must properly use APA format for in-text citations and references. All documents must be submitted in Word (.doc or .docx) or Rich Text Format (.rtf).

For assistance with APA formatting, please refer to the narrated PowerPoints and the APA Sample Paper (under Resources) included on the Professional Program in Nursing website, at http://www.uwgb.edu/nursing/resources/apa.asp.

General Discussion

A major portion of this course is general class discussion. Students are expected to have completed the readings as assigned prior to the discussions and to contribute to class discussions and exercises. Timely postings to the discussion board are necessary to fully participate in class discussions.

Grading

Assignments and Evaluation	
Discussions	
10 Discussions – 5 points each	50 points
Written Assignments/Papers	
4 assignments/papers – 5 points each	20 points

Quality Improvement Project	
• Part 1 – Literature Review – 30 points • Part 2 – Interventions – 30 points • Part 3 – Monitoring – 30 points • Part 4 - Conclusion - 5 points	95 points
Total:	**165 points**

Grading Scale

A	90–100%
B	80–89%
C	70–79%
D	60–69%
F	<59%

Course Calendar

Lesson	Activity	Due Date
1 - Introduction to Quality Improvement and Health Information Technology	Initial discussion post – Changes in healthcare following the IOM report	1/25/16
	Reply post	1/28/16
2 - Appraising the Evidence	Initial group discussion post – Research article review	2/1/16
	Reply post	2/4/16
3 - QI Models	Initial group discussion post – Review various QI models	2/8/16
	Reply post	2/11/16
4 - Principles of Quality and Safety for HIT	Initial discussion post – Apply the principles of safe design	2/15/16
	Reply post	2/18/16
5 - Introduction to Reliability	Initial discussion post – Explore reliability and standardization using a case study	2/22/16
	Reply post	2/25/16
QI Project - Part 1	Place Deliverables in dropbox	2/25/16
6 - Reliability and Culture of Safety	Initial group discussion post – Creating a culture of safety	2/29/16
	Reply post	3/3/16
7 - Decision Support for Quality Improvement	Dropbox assignment - Brief formal APA paper – Clinical Decision Support Systems	3/10/16
	Complete Midcourse Survey	3/10/16

	Spring Break Recess (follows Green Bay calendar)	3/12/16-3/20/16
8 - Workflow Design	(Part 1) Dropbox assignment – Workflow chart (Part 2) Initial post - After placing chart in the dropbox, you will be able to access the discussion area, where another copy of your chart should be posted.	3/21/16
	(Part 3) Reply post	3/24/16
9 - HIT Design to Support Teamwork and Communication	Dropbox assignment – Case study, SBAR communication	3/31/16
QI Project - Part 2	Place Deliverables in dropbox	3/31/16
10 - HIT, Errors and the Patient Safety Culture	Initial discussion post – CUSP model	4/4/16
	Reply post	4/7/16
11 - HIT Implementation - Planning for Quality and Safety	Dropbox assignment - Brief formal APA paper – Team development and EHR implementation	4/14/16
12 - Measuring Quality	Dropbox assignment – Brief informal post – Variation and performance measurement examples	4/21/16
QI Project - Part 3	Place Deliverables in dropbox	4/21/16
13 - Data Quality	Initial discussion post - Case study, attributes of data quality	4/25/16
	Reply post	4/28/16
14 - Error Reporting	Initial discussion post – Root cause analysis	5/2/16
	(No reply post)	
QI Project - Part 4	Place Deliverables in dropbox	5/2/16