

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith**  
**5210 Grand Avenue**  
**P. O. Box 3649**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649**  
**479-788-7000**

## **General Syllabus**

### **MHCA 5043 Research in Healthcare Administration**

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisites: STAT 2503 Probability and Statistics I or equivalent, MHCA 5013 Healthcare Policy and Governance, MHCA 5023 Organizational Behavior in Healthcare

Effective Catalog: 2017-2018

#### **I. Course Information**

##### **A. Catalog Description**

Introduction to research design and scholarly inquiry. Explores the theory, application, interpretation and use of statistical information in healthcare administration and health services research. Examines emerging health services research tools and skills with implications for practice.

##### **B. Additional Information**

Serves as a foundation course for students.

#### **II. Student Learning Outcomes**

##### **A. Subject Matter**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Develop a scientific approach to study and practice.
2. Analyze research studies using healthcare data with a focus on healthcare administration.
3. Conduct a literature review on a selected topic.
4. Evaluate types of statistical data healthcare administrators use in determining best practices on a selected healthcare issue.
5. Develop a research proposal on a selected and approved healthcare issue.

**B. Program Learning Outcomes**

This graduate course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

1. Goal: Healthcare Systems and Environment - Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of healthcare systems and the environment in which healthcare managers and providers operate.  
Objective: Demonstrate knowledge of healthcare systems, service delivery, and operational environments including interdisciplinary approaches.
2. Goal: Healthcare Management and Business - Utilize business principles, including systems thinking, to the healthcare environment.  
Objective: Develop critical thinking, analysis, and problem solving skills that can be applied to all aspects of healthcare management.
3. Goal: Communication and Relationships - Demonstrate clear and concise communicate skills, establish and maintain relationships, and facilitate constructive interactions with individuals and groups.  
Objective: Demonstrate effective written, oral, and presentation skills.

**III. Major Course Topics**

- A. Introduction to scholarly writing and research
- B. Research design and methodology
- C. Survey research
- D. Qualitative research
- E. Sampling in health service research
- F. Data collection and processing
- G. Statistical analysis
- H. Applying health services research
- I. Writing and publishing in the health professions