

CTR 281 Professional Practice

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisites: CTR 130 and CTR 220

Corequisites: None

This course covers the major issues, trends, and concepts in contemporary clinical research practice. Topics include professional ethics, continuing education and certification, job placement skills, and the latest developments in clinical research. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic knowledge of the topics covered. Course Hours Per Week: Class, 3; Lab, 0.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of this course, the student will demonstrate basic cognitive and practical knowledge and skills in each of the following areas:

1. Effective oral and written communication
2. Professional ethics and behavior
3. Clinical research career options and job placement skills
4. Professional career growth and related skills
5. Current trends in clinical research

OUTLINE OF INSTRUCTION:

- I. Effective oral and written communication
 - A. Discuss expectations for professional oral and written communication
 - B. Express ideas clearly and concisely in group discussions
 - C. Provide clear and thorough written documentation for individual and group assignments
 - D. Evaluate the effectiveness of communication through the use of self, peer and instructor feedback
 - E. Discuss professional communication in various forums such as email, video conferencing, face to face meetings, etc.
- II. Professional ethics and behavior
 - A. Identify guiding principles of professional behavior
 - B. Discuss clinical research industry expectations for professional behavior
 - C. Discuss consequences of positive and negative professional behavior
 - D. Discuss expectations of confidentiality of subject information and company sensitive and proprietary information
 - E. Evaluate examples of unethical behaviors among clinical research professionals
- III. Clinical Research career options and job placement skills
 - A. Differentiate various clinical research companies and hiring environments
 - B. Discuss various company structures
 - C. Explore the different clinical research career options and current job climate
 - D. Discuss the job search process
 - E. Prepare a resume and cover letter
 - F. Discuss and practice interviewing techniques

G. Prepare a professional job application package

IV. Professional Career Growth

A. Develop long-term goals for career progression

B. Identify personal strengths and how they may be transferrable to clinical research roles

C. Describe technical skills required for clinical research positions

D. Describe expectations of soft skills in the clinical research setting

B. Discuss job performance expectations and the evaluation process in the clinical research environment

C. Discuss the importance of professional affiliation and identify resources for professional organizations

D. Identify resources for continuing education

E. Discuss certifying organizations, certification requirements and preparation for certification testing

F. Attend a professional meeting or networking opportunity

V. Current trends in Clinical Research

A. Discuss current trends and changes in clinical research

B. Discuss future trends in clinical research

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND MATERIAL:

The textbook and other instructional material will be determined by the instructor.