



Introduction to Evidence Based Practice and Communication

COURSE SYLLABUS (EBPC00ODM26)

2026

Course Facilitator:

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Course Format: eLearning

For Course Related Questions & Technical Support: support@desouzainstitute.com

Registration: Required

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A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Health care has a history of using research in practice. With more and more research studies being conducted, clinical practice guidelines are constantly being updated. Reading medical journal articles can be time consuming, and many of us need to find the information quickly. Evidence-based practice is a conscious problem-solving approach to gather current best available information, appraise their quality, and translate the information for decision support.

In this course, participants will expand on basic principles of eHealth and systematic literature review and appraisal in health care. Participants will explore concepts in eHealth relating to their own healthcare practice. History and trends will be explored as well as future directions within the field. Furthermore, participants will learn how to find evidence-based and up-to-date information and articles that are accessible (de Souza Institute Virtual Library) to health care professionals, and analyze information to guide clinical decision making.

B. de SOUZA DESIGNATION CREDITS

Domain of Practice Developing Professional Practice and Leadership

Learning Hours 14 hours

de Souza Credit 0.25 credit

C. COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Explain eHealth in relation to healthcare practice.
- Give examples of barriers and benefits of using and adopting eHealth in healthcare, and the related ethical principles.
- List and explain future trends in eHealth and summarize how to empower patients with eHealth.
- Describe the process of creating a clear and “answerable” question that can guide literature searches.
- Describe the steps to find information through the use of a systematic search process of various databases
- Articulate different types of research studies, such as: well-designed randomized controlled trials versus observational studies, versus expert opinion
- Describe the quality or "level of evidence" associated with each type of study

- Search for information, using a systematic search process from a reliable medical database such as CINAHL or PUBMED
- Describe key steps to appraise the quality of the literature, and their applicability to address practice issue.
- Describe steps involved to include patient characteristics and your clinical environment in order to arrive at an evidence-based recommendation.

D. MODE OF LEARNING

The main mechanisms to facilitate learning in this course will entail eLearning. The course timetable, in Section F of the course syllabus, outlines our suggested weekly expectations for participants.

eLearning

eLearning, offered through the de Souza eLearning centre, will cover the following activities:

1. Self-directed learning of module content and required readings
2. Reflective submission (weeks 1-2) and a three part assignment (weeks 3-5)

The eLearning environment fosters a self-directed approach for participants to progress through the modules at a convenient time, either at home or work.

- Learning and application: Sections and modules are developed by the de Souza education team to reflect the latest knowledge in eHealth and in critical appraisal of journal articles.
- Readings, reflective submission and assignments are intended to enhance the eLearning content surrounding key topic areas. There will be 2 reflective submissions on ehealth in clinical practice and a three part assignment to practice literature search and appraisal.

E. MODES OF EVALUATION

As part of the evaluation process, you are required to complete the following:

- A baseline participant survey: This survey assesses your knowledge, attitude, and confidence before you begin the eLearning modules for the course.
- eLearning modules and required readings: It is expected that you will complete all three sections and their required readings by the course end date (your course end date can be found in your "MyAccount").
- Reflective submissions: you will demonstrate learning through the weekly reflective submission in week one and week two.

- Assignment: This consists of three parts, to be completed in week 3 to week 5.
 1. Creating an answerable question (Part 1)
 2. Searching for literature on a given topic (Part 2)
 3. A comprehensive literature search and review based on your question from Part 1 (Part 3)
- Post evaluation: At the end of the course, you will be required to complete a “Participant Post Survey” to provide your feedback on whether the content met your professional practice needs. The feedback is used to review and revise course content as needed. The survey is facilitated electronically through eLearning.

When you have met all of the above requirements, you will receive 14 learning hours, 0.25 de Souza credits towards obtaining your de Souza designation, and an email (sent within 3 hours) containing instructions on how to download your certificate of completion via your “My Account”.

F. EXPECTATIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

To be successful in completing this course, you are encouraged to set aside 2 to 3 hours each week to complete each section as learning is primarily self-directed. The total learning hour for this course is 14 hours.

Sections and modules are to be completed sequentially; participants can choose to complete one section each week or complete multiple sections and modules at once.

Your course activity completion will be reflected in your **grade book**. You will be expected to complete all course sections through the de Souza Institute eLearning system. Grading Rubrics is shown in appendix A.

G. SUGGESTED COURSE TIMELINE

Unit	Topic	Post Date	Date to complete
Introduction	eLearning Center Orientation	Within first week of the course	Completion by the end of first week
1	eHealth and its Application in Cancer Care	Reflective submission within the first 2 weeks of the course	Completion by the end of 2 nd week
2	eHealth and Ethics	Reflective submission within the 3 rd week of the course	Completion by the end of 3 rd week
3	Using Online Publications to Inform Practice	Complete the three-part assignment	See assignment
Assignment	Assignment Part 1 Assignment Part 2 Assignment Part 3	Weeks 4-6	
Final Evaluation	Complete Participant Post Survey by end of 7 th week.		

H. COURSE EDUCATOR

[Jiahui Wong, MD, PhD.](#)

I. EDUCATOR AVAILABILITY

This course is self-directed. If you have questions about the course or are having difficulty with the course content, contact support@desouzainstitute.com and include the course name “EBPC” in the subject line. You can expect Jiahui Wong, or another educator to respond to your questions within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours (about 2 days) on the weekend.

J. VIRTUAL LIBRARY

de Souza Institute has a virtual library that you can access 24 hours a day using your de Souza Institute login and password. There are 1500 e-Journals, 200 e-books and 8 on-line databases (e.g., CINAHL, Ovid-Medline) you can access to get the additional reading materials for your course.

The direct link is <https://library.desouzainstitute.com/login>.

K. TECHNICAL SUPPORT

eLearning Centre Orientation

The eLearning Centre Orientation [Course: eLearning Centre Orientation \(ELRN01AUG24\) | eLearning Centre](#) tells you what you need to know about eLearning and how to navigate through the de Souza Institute eLearning centre and courses. It is strongly recommended that you complete this very short free course.

de Souza Institute Support

If you need assistance accessing or navigating the eLearning Centre, please refer to the eLearning Orientation course. If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact support@desouzainstitute.com.

L. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Click the links below to read these important de Souza Institute policies about:

[Academic Honesty and Copyright Policy](#)

[Cancellations, Incomplete and No Show Policy](#)

[Request for Accommodation Policy](#)

Course content and resources are based on provincial and national best practice guidelines. Please consult educators within your organization if you have specific questions related to local protocols and policies.

If you are experiencing difficulty completing this course in a timely way, please review the above policies and contact support@desouzainstitute.com.

APPENDIX A: GRADING RUBRIC

Component	Description	Percentage of Final Grade
Reflective submissions	2 mandatory reflective submissions associated with each module. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Section 1 reflective submission – 20%• Section 2 reflective submission – 20%	40%
Literature search and appraisal	Assignment – Section 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1 – 10%• Part 2 – 20%• Part 3 – 30%	60%
The passing grade for this course is 75%		