

# Inspiring Students to Integrate Evidence-Based Practice: Bringing Journal Club to the Classroom

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## Learning Objectives

- Describe key competencies in *AACN Essential Domain 4: Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline*.
- Discuss ideas for integrating active-learning strategies for enhancing the engagement of students in reading, discussing, and critiquing peer-reviewed research articles.
- Assess results of course changes implemented within a BSN research course utilizing journal club strategies.



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# Introduction

- AACN Essentials, Domain 4: Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline (AACN, 2021)
  - Preparing BSN students to:
    - Understand basic principles of research process
    - Critique research
    - Integrate evidence into practice



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# Journal Clubs

- **Characteristics**
  - Focus on a chosen article
  - Discuss summary of the study
  - Facilitate reflective discussions
- **Benefits**
  - Improve comprehension and critical evaluation
  - Reduces knowledge-practice gap
  - Fosters professional growth

(MacPherson & Kemery, 2022; Scherzer et al., 2015; Valizadeh et al., 2022)



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## Challenges to Voluntary Journal Club



- Student Barriers
  - Time constraints
  - Competing priorities
- COVID-19



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## Our Transition to Journal Club in Class

- Use research articles in every class
  - Apply course content
  - Align topics with other courses
- Exams
  - Article distributed day before
  - Exam items include questions that require application and critique



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## Results

- Initial exam average drop, followed by recovery to previous exam averages
- Allows for early intervention for at-risk students
- Positive course evaluations



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## Student Feedback

“It really helped me understand the material.”

“I love that the in-class activities directly related with our class content.”

“Research articles for the tests were a great way to improve understanding and provide an opportunity for applying knowledge.”

“Now I am able to read and understand research studies and apply their findings to future practice.”



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## Implications for Practice

- Using this strategy can be used in a variety of undergraduate nursing courses
- Inspiring students to sustain EBP beyond the classroom into nursing practice



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## Questions & Discussion



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# References

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