

## Background.

The Understanding Research and Evidence-Based Practice module is a core component of the undergraduate nursing programme, designed to develop students' research literacy and critical appraisal skills. Given the complexity of research concepts, the module team has continually sought innovative strategies to enhance student engagement and accessibility. This case study demonstrates how the module Moodle site has been developed in response to student feedback.

**They Said:** Students found the Moodle setup was not very user-friendly, with broken links and a layout that felt disorganised, making it harder to engage with the module content. Students also found it challenging to locate materials from the reading list for their summative work.

### We did:

Improving Moodle Accessibility through **accessible design features** and enhancing **resource organisation**. Ensuring **inclusivity and accessibility for all students**, including those with specific learning needs such as dyslexia, was a key priority. To address this, several targeted improvements were implemented:

1. A dyslexia-friendly font with large inter-letter spacing was adopted to improve readability.

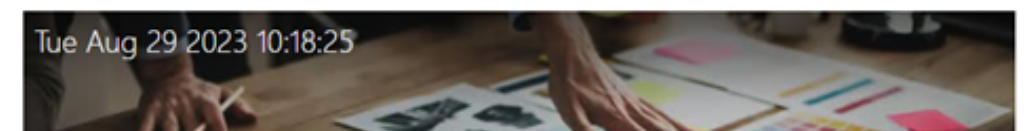
2. The organisation of content was optimised, ensuring all documents were easy to locate and that all hyperlinks functioned properly.
3. Learning materials were clearly structured within Moodle, making navigation intuitive for students.
4. Consistency in document formatting was maintained to create a user-friendly experience.
5. The Moodle site was restructured to ensure all learning materials were available before tutorials, promoting self-directed learning.

These changes are reflected in the new ENU Moodle template.

## NUR08104 2023-4 TR1 001 - Understanding Research And Evidence Based Practice

Course Participants Grades

General	Expand all
> Assessment Information	
> Module Information	
> Unit 1 (11-09-23): Evidence, Research, and the Research Process	
> Unit 2 (18-09-23): Research Methodologies and Research Questions	



**They Said:** Students found the lectures and tutorials repetitive, lacking depth and engagement. They felt that simply reading from Moodle without expanding on the content made learning uninteresting. Additionally, some students felt uncomfortable participating in group discussions or ask questions openly during tutorials.

### We did:

Integrating **Multimodal Learning and Assessment Support**: To enhance both online and in-person learning, a range of multimodal teaching and assessment activities, **supported by digital tools**, were implemented to **strengthen the connection between theoretical research concepts and clinical practice**.

1. Introduced **Mentimeter quizzes and active learning activities** in each tutorial.
2. Embedded **short pre-recorded Panopto videos** and short YouTube videos **in workbooks** to improve engagement and comprehension.
3. Added a **Padlet tool under each Moodle unit** for anonymous questions, encouraging participation.
4. Provided **weekly online support sessions** and uploaded a Panopto **recording explaining the summative assessment**.
5. Integrated **research-focused extracurricular activities**, such as a Library Journal Club, announcing **invitations to interprofessional research workshops**, and inviting NHS nursing clinical research team to strengthen connections between research and clinical practice.

## 4. Lecture (Unit 2-Part 1): Developing a Research Question

In this video, we will go through how to develop a research question:



## Impact and student feedback

Students highlighted the platform's effectiveness in supporting both independent and collaborative learning.

- "The font used on the Moodle page is particularly **dyslexia-friendly** – the **other Moodle pages should take note**. Additionally, this is one of the better-designed/maintained Moodle pages – all documents are **easy to find** with working links."
- "Resources were very good. Moodle workbooks were not too long nor too short, just fine. I liked the use of some YouTube videos in the workbooks, which were interesting to watch and **more engaging** than the typical lecture."
- "The classes were in great detail every time and the **class activities allowed me to put my learning into practice** which is very helpful in fully understanding the module information."
- "Enjoyed the **interactive quizzes**, keep doing them."
- "I **thoroughly enjoyed** the research module. It **highlighted the importance of evidence-based care** and how it can **directly benefit patient outcomes** by informing and guiding **new and improved approaches** to treatment. It has **inspired me to stay engaged** with the current research."

**+20%**

**Overall module satisfaction increased from 50% in 2022/23 to 70% in 2023/24**