Application of Theory Paper with Scoring Rubric

Course Outcomes Addressed by Assignment

Through this assignment, a student will demonstrate the ability to:

(CO#1) Analyze theories from nursing and relevant fields with respect to their components, relationships among the components, logic of the propositions, comprehensiveness, and utility to advanced nursing. (PO1)

(CO#3) Communicate the analysis of and proposed strategies for the use of a theory in nursing practice. (PO3, 7, 10

(CO#4) Demonstrate logical and creative thinking in the analysis and application of a theory to nursing practice. (PO4, 7)

Description of the Assignment:

The purpose of this assignment is to synthesize one strategy for the application of a specific nursing theory to resolving a problem or issue of nursing practice in nursing leadership, nursing education, nursing informatics, or health policy.

Content

1. Introduction to the paper includes a few general statements on the idea of nursing theory being applied to solve problems/issues in nursing practice, regardless of the specialty area of practice. For example, why would one pick a nursing theory to solve a practice problem? Would a grand, middle-range, or practice theory be best? Does the writer have any experience in using nursing theory this way? In addition, a brief one-paragraph summary of a specific nursing theory and information on the sections of the paper are provided. The selected **nursing** theory can be a grand theory, a middle-range theory, or a practice theory.
2. Description of the problem/issue for which strategies will be developed. The problem to be resolved must be in nursing leadership, nursing education, nursing informatics, or health policy. Scholarly evidence supporting the issue is included. The problem/issue could be local to one’s specific practice setting. For example, the setting might be a nursing unit, a nursing-education program, an informatics department, or a health-policy unit of a consulting firm. The problem/issue needs to be something that a nursing theory can impact, whether it solves the actual problem/issue or enables people affected by the problem/issue to deal with it. It is best if the problem/issue is from real life – something the writer of the paper has dealt with or is currently engaged in.

Some examples (these are fictitious examples)

* 1. A nursing unit has experienced rapid turnover of professional staff, including several nurse managers. A new nurse manager from outside of the nursing unit is appointed.
  2. Informatics nurse specialists face a lot of resistance from all healthcare professionals to implementation of a computer-based order entry program. The implementation date will not be changed.
  3. A nurse educator is assigned to take over a large class of undergraduate nursing students, with a mix of young adults and adults returning for a second degree. The subject is difficult, students have not been doing well, and frustration and tempers are impeding group work.
  4. A health-policy nurse specialist works for a consulting firm that lobbies on behalf of many healthcare professions. Within the specialist’s work unit, there is much debate over the pros and cons of various policies being proposed for attention in the coming year.

1. Applying concepts and principles from the selected theory, one strategy for resolving the identified issue is described in depth. Details on how the theory would be applied are included (consider: who, what, when, where, and how). Rationales for the strategy as well as evidence from scholarly literature are included. One ethical and/or legal aspect of the strategy is discussed. Expected outcome(s) from implementing the strategy are proposed.
2. Concluding statements include new knowledge about applying nursing theory gained by writing the paper

Format and Special Instructions

1. Paper length: 6 pages minimum; 10 pages maximum, excluding title page and reference page. Points will be deducted for not meeting these requirements.
2. The textbook required for this course may **not** be used as a reference for this assignment.
3. A minimum of 3 scholarly references are used. References must be current – no older than 5 years, unless a valid rationale is provided. Consult with the course instructor about using an older source.
4. Title page, body of paper, and reference page(s) must be in APA format as presented in the 6th edition of the manual
5. Ideas and information from readings and other sources must be cited and cited correctly.
6. Grammar, spelling, punctuation, and citations are consistent with formal academic writing as presented in the 6th edition of the APA manual

Total Points:325 points

DUE:11:59 pm MT Sunday at the end of Week 6

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Points | % |
| Introduction | 75 | 23 |
| Problem/Issue | 76 | 23 |
| Strategy | 76 | 23 |
| Conclusion | 75 | 23 |
| Paper Requirements | 5 | 2 |
| APA Format | 6 | 2 |
| Citations in Text | 6 | 2 |
| Writing Mechanics | 6 | 2 |
| Total | 325 | 100 |

Grading Rubric

| **Assignment Criteria** | A  (100 - 92%)  Outstanding or highest level of performance | B  (91-84%)  Very good or high level of performance | C  (83-76%)  Competent or satisfactory level of performance | F  (75-0%)  Poor or failing or unsatisfactory level of performance |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | | | |
| **Introduction** | **75-69** | **68-63** | **62-57** | **56-0** |
| Introduction to the paper includes all of the following:   * General statements on the idea of nursing theory being applied to solve problems/issues in nursing practice, regardless of the specialty area of practice. * A brief one-paragraph summary of a specific nursing theory * Information on the sections of the paper | Introduction to the paper includes only 2 of the following:   * General statements on the idea of nursing theory being applied to solve problems/issues in nursing practice, regardless of the specialty area of practice. * A brief one-paragraph summary of a specific nursing theory * Information on the sections of the paper | Introduction to the paper includes only 1 of the following:   * General statements on the idea of nursing theory being applied to solve problems/issues in nursing practice, regardless of the specialty area of practice. * A brief one-paragraph summary of a specific nursing theory * Information on the sections of the paper. | Introduction to the paper includes none of the following:   * General statements on the idea of nursing theory being applied to solve problems/issues in nursing practice, regardless of the specialty area of practice. * A brief one-paragraph summary of a specific nursing theory * Information on the sections of the paper |
|  | **76-70** | **69 -64** | **63-58** | **57-0** |
| **Problem/ Issue** | The problem/issue is substantively discussed.  The problem is clearly in nursing leadership, nursing education, nursing informatics, or health policy.  Scholarly evidence supporting the issue is included. | The problem/issue is superficially discussed.  The problem is clearly in nursing leadership, nursing education, nursing informatics, or health policy.  Scholarly evidence supporting the issue is included | The problem/issue is superficially discussed.     * It is not clear if the problem belongs to nursing leadership, nursing education, nursing informatics, or health policy   OR   * Scholarly evidence supporting the issue is not included | The problem/issue is superficially discussed.   * It is not clear if the problem belongs to nursing leadership, nursing education, nursing informatics, or health policy   AND   * Scholarly evidence supporting the issue is not included |
|  | **76-70** | **69 -64** | **63-58** | **57-0** |
| **Strategy** | All of the following are present:   * One strategy for resolving the identified issue is discussed substantively * Concepts and principles from the selected nursing theory are clearly applied * Rationale(s) for the strategy are evident * Evidence from the scholarly literature supports the discussion * At least one ethical and/or legal aspect of the strategy is discussed. | Only 4 of the following are present:   * One strategy for resolving the identified issue is discussed substantively * Concepts and principles from the selected nursing theory are clearly applied * Rationale(s) for the strategy are evident * Evidence from the scholarly literature supports the discussion * At least one ethical and/or legal aspect of the strategy is discussed | Only 3 of the following are present:   * One strategy for resolving the identified issue is discussed substantively * Concepts and principles from the selected nursing theory are clearly applied * Rationale(s) for the strategy are evident * Evidence from the scholarly literature supports the discussion * At least one ethical and/or legal aspect of the strategy is discussed | 2 or fewer of the following are present:   * One strategy for resolving the identified issue is discussed substantively * Concepts and principles from the selected nursing theory are clearly applied * Rationale(s) for the strategy are evident * Evidence from the scholarly literature supports the discussion * At least one ethical and/or legal aspect of the strategy is discussed |
|  | **75-69** | **68-63** | **62-57** | **56-0** |
| **Conclusion** | Concluding paragraph(s) clearly show new knowledge about applying nursing theory gained from writing this paper | NA | Concluding paragraph(s) does not clearly show new knowledge about applying nursing theory gained from writing this paper | Concluding paragraph(s) are missing |
| **Format** |  |  |  |  |
|  | **5-4** | **3** | **2** | **1-0** |
| **Paper Requirements** | All of the following requirements are met:  Paper meets length requirements  Minimum of 3 scholarly references  Textbook not used as a reference  References are current - within a 5-year time frame unless a valid rationale is provided for use of older references | Only 2 of the following requirements are met:  Paper meets length requirements  Minimum of 3 scholarly references  Textbook not used as a reference  References are current - within the 5-year time frame unless a valid rationale is provided for use of older references | Only 1 of the following requirements is met:  Paper meets length requirements  Minimum of 3 scholarly references  Textbook not used as a reference  References are current - within the 5-year time frame unless a valid rationale is provided for use of older references | None of the following requirements are met:  Paper meets length requirements  Minimum of 3 scholarly references  Textbook not used as a reference  References are current - within the 5-year time frame unless a valid rationale is provided for use of older references |
|  | **6-5** | **4-3** | **2** | **1-0** |
| **APA Format** | There are 0 – 2 APA format errors in the text, title page and reference page(s) | There are 3 – 5 APA format errors in the text, title page and/or reference page(s) | There are 6 – 8 APA format errors in the title page, running head, or reference page (s). | There are 9 or more APA format errors in the title page, running head, or reference pages(s). |
|  | **6-5** | **4-3** | **2** | **1-0** |
| **Citations** | There are 0-2 errors in the citation of ideas and information | There are 3-5 errors in the citation of ideas and information | There are 6 - 8 errors in the citation of ideas and information | There are 9 or more errors in the citation of ideas and information |
|  | **6-5** | **4-3** | **2** | **1-0** |
| **Writing Quality** | 0 – 2 errors or exceptions to the rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, punctuation and formal written work as presented in the 6th edition of the APA manual | 3 – 5 errors or exceptions to the rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, punctuation and formal written work as presented in the 6th edition of the APA manual | 6 - 9 errors or exceptions to the rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, punctuation and formal written work as presented in the 6th edition of the APA manual | 10 or more exceptions to the rules of grammar, spelling, word usage, punctuation and formal written work as presented in the 6th edition of the APA manual |
|  | **Total Points \_\_\_\_\_of points** | | | |