Assignment 2.1: Phenomenon of Interest for DNP Scholarly Practice Project

Start Assignment

Introduction

This writing assignment will give you the opportunity to determine your area of interest for your DNP scholarly project and begin writing a Chapter 1 draft. Please complete the readings for this week and last before taking this important step. As a guide to what questions to ask yourself about your phenomenon of interest, please follow the directions. Prior to completing the assignment for this week, you must have had an email dialog and phone call with your DNP chairperson about your ideas for the phenomenon of interest (POI). Picking out your POI is an important step; you will want to seek guidance so that you do not plan a project that is not feasible to successfully complete based on rules in your workplace and design/timing of your project.

Directions

Include the following elements in this draft (and your final paper):

1. Introduce your specific practice problem. **(Interest and Expertise)**

This section will create the foundation of your project. This is the **why** of your proposed project. Clearly describe your phenomenon of interest using current literature sources and give statistics on how your change has been shown to impact a system or patient outcomes. Citations published more than 10 years ago should not be used. Describe your interest level and your expertise in this subject matter.

1. Describe the purpose and aims of your project. **(Purpose and Aims)**

This is a **very** important part of your quality improvement project. The purpose statement will be an essential component to your IRB application. This needs to be as specific and narrow as possible. This should be one paragraph with no citations. This will include a purpose statement (see below) and include specific aims of the project.  
“The purpose of my scholarly project is….”

1. Describe the type of inquiry or analysis for the project. **(Type of Inquiry)**

This will describe the methodology you plan to use for your project. This should include the type of project proposed (quality improvement, practice improvement, etc.), what data you will collect, and what data collection method will be used.

1. Describe what is known about your project problem. **(Background)**

This section will introduce the reader to the practice problem and set the stage for the project need. This will help the reader better understand the issue and how this phenomenon of interest has already been shown to improve your outcome (specific aims) in similar settings. Answer this question: What do we already know about your project problem that is reported in the literature?

1. **Significance**

This section should include three subheadings:

* 1. Nursing (with a subheading of Patterns of Knowing that Inform Nursing)
  2. Health Care
  3. Advanced Practice Nursing

1. **Support for Project**

In one paragraph, describe how your chosen site will support this project. Identify the individual stakeholders and process.

1. **Benefit of project to your specific site**

In one paragraph, explain how this project will benefit your chosen setting (discuss the magnitude of current issue).

1. **Conclusion**

Provide a succinct summary of the important points outlined previously. Do not introduce any new ideas or data. This should be about a half a page.

Notes

* Do not include the questions in this assignment, only the answers.
* Follow the rubric closely.
* Aim for four to five pages in length, not counting title or reference pages.
* This paper will provide a good opportunity to start to really work on your writing skills, including paragraph construction, topic sentences, and grammar. A well-written paragraph begins with an opening topic sentence that is general enough to encompass all the sentences that follow. If you think of a scaffold, the topic sentence will be the board at the very top, with all of the other sentences connecting, in a logical manner, below that top scaffold. As you start to write multiple paragraphs, you should use transitional words or statements within your topic sentences so that the paragraphs are connected together in a logical way as well. Stop and take a close look at the sample papers in the *APA Manual*. You will see good examples of topic sentences and transitional words/phrases used by those authors. In addition, start to pay attention to the way published authors write as you explore the databases and gather articles for your project and concept analysis.
* Review the key elements in chapter 1

# Key Elements of Chapter 1

1. **Short Introduction** (Introduction is not used as a heading in APA style papers): Introduce the topic of your project. You will want to include citations. These can be a mix of primary and secondary sources, but very limited website use. Introduce your specific practice problem to the reader. Citations need to be 10 years or less in age. If you are having difficulty finding recent publications, talk with me as this may indicate that you need to tweak your purpose a bit. Some statistics about the problem here and or some narrative that captures the reader and sets the stage for your project is needed.
2. Your interest and level of expertise with the topic; one paragraph.
3. **Purpose and Aims**: One paragraph; no citations. This is a **super** important part of your project, as this will form the basis of it and the purpose statement is essential to the IRB application. This needs to be as specific (narrow) as possible. “The purpose of my scholarly project is to….” Also, include the more specific aims for the project. Include what do you hope for as a result of investigating this particular practice problem? By now you should have had a conversation with your chair, as they will need to approve your project idea and purpose. Be sure also to have checked with your institution, or where your data collection will occur for their IRB process. Many institutions have strict rules for consent, primary research, and practice improvement process. Knowing these can alter decisions about your project. **Important caveat**: The purpose of your project may change as you go through the semester, which is **okay**. Sometimes it takes time to play around with this, but the time spent is well worth it! However, having said that, the sooner you can nail down your purpose, the better. Specific Aims will also be included in this section.
4. **Type of Inquiry**: This is a brief paragraph about your plans for methodology. What kind of inquiry is this? A practice improvement project? A quality improvement project? What method of data collection are you planning? This is a short paragraph that foreshadows Chapter 3.
5. **Background**: Two or three paragraphs. Citations need to be all primary sources here. In this section, give the reader a glimpse into what will be coming in your chapter two (a detailed review of literature section). Focus on your **specific** purpose. Answer this question: What is known (from the research) about your project problem? This is a bit more detail that perhaps you introduced at the beginning of this paper.
6. **Significance of your project**: Three headings (can be a mix of primary or secondary sources with very limited use of websites). Include these three areas:
   1. Significance for nursing general practice as a whole, with patterns of knowing as a subheading (introduce each and discuss how your project will likely inform each of these patterns individually
   2. Significance for health care at large
   3. Significance for advanced practice nurses
7. **Support for Project**: One paragraph; no citations. How will your practice (where you work) support your project? Think about: people, place, and process. Do not discuss budget as this will be included in Chapter 3.
8. **Benefit of Project to Practice**: One paragraph/no citations. How will your project benefit your particular practice setting?
9. **Conclusion**: One longer paragraph often a half page; include a summary of the important points outlined in your paper. This is not the place to introduce anything new to the reader. Do not repeat sentences verbatim from your paper.
10. **References:**You will need 10 to 15 references. They can be a combination of primary and secondary sources. Use very few websites, please.

Chapter 1 should be 9 to 12 pages, excluding reference and title pages. No problem if you go over by a bit. APA formatting includes 11-point sans serif (such as Arial) or 12-point serif font (such as Times New Roman), one-inch margins, and double-spacing. Look at the sample paper in your *APA Manual*.

This assignment (along all scholarly written papers) will go through the anti-plagiarism software. Be sure that your originality percentage is at or below 15%. No matter the percentage, **view your report** to see how you are doing with citing and paraphrasing. If you submit something and feel that your percentage is too high or you are worried about accurate citing, view the report, fix it, and resubmit. **I will only grade the most recent submission for each assignment**. So, this is a learning opportunity. Once you get my feedback on your chapter, it is very important to incorporate my suggestions!

It is important to cite carefully,in APA format, and to learn to paraphrase—you want to avoid plagiarism!

In APA format, there is no formal heading as it is assumed. See the *APA Manual* for details about using headings. After your title page, your paper should be structured with these bolded headings:

Title of Paper (not bolded)

**Interest and Expertise**

**Purpose and Aims**

**Type of Inquiry**

**Background**

**Significance**

**Nursing**

**Patterns of Knowing that Inform Nursing.**

**Healthcare**

**Advanced Practice Nursing**

**Support for Project**

**Benefit of Project to Practice**

**Conclusion**

**References**

Important Details

* Be sure to review the rubric for the evaluation criteria for this paper as four to five pages in length not including title or reference page.
* Chairperson approval of your project idea and plans is necessary to complete this assignment.
* Contact/email your instructor to discuss your POI topic and paper.

Rubric

**Rubric for Phenomenon of Interest for DNP Scholarly Project**

| Rubric for Phenomenon of Interest for DNP Scholarly Project | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Ratings** | **Pts** |
| Development: The paper has a clear introduction and covers the directions completely. |  |
| Style: Is the paper thoughtful and original? Does the author’s voice come through? Are there very few (one or two) direct quotes? |  |
| Paragraph Logical Coherence: Does each paragraph begin with a topic sentence? Do the sentences beyond the topic sentence flow logically from the first sentence? |  |
| Organization: Do the paragraphs build on each other in a logical way, one paragraph building on the next? Are there appropriate transitions between paragraphs? |  |
| APA format: Includes a title page; citations in text (as applicable); references (as applicable). Demonstrates integration of course literature. |  |
| Grammar: Are the rules of grammar followed (as described in the APA Manual) with few errors? |  |
| Formatting: Does the paper meet the length and margin requirements? Are appropriate style and size of font used? |  |
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