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Leadership Paper

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Leadership and Professional Nursing NURS 474

Leadership Writing Assignment

Behind the most successful groups and organizations is an excellent leader. We can see this in politics, big corporations, and even one-day events such as weddings or graduations. Someone needs to be in charge to shepherd the others in reaching objectives. And that someone should have the qualities of an effective leader.

"A leader is simply not someone who will please everyone on his way. A leader is someone who has the courage and intent of mind to make tough decisions."

Purpose

The purpose of this formal paper is to explore effective nursing leadership characteristics. This essay will examine the leadership role of a nurse. Using evidence and supporting literature, the student will demonstrate their understanding of nursing leadership characteristics and skills and how they apply to clinical practice.

For your main writing assignments, you will be researching and writing about leadership in nursing, using your resources, current literature findings, and your personal experiences in the form of a formal essay paper, as well as a less formal reflection (see separate assignment directions for this). A template has been provided for you on Blackboard for your formal essay.

Your final written essay paper should include the following:

1. Introduction (1 page or less; 1-3 paragraphs; 300-400 words)

General introduction, including characteristics such as:

- Describe your topic
- Engage your readers interest and attention use current reputable media sources to demonstrate practice implications
- Motivate your readers and provide context include relevant [nursing practice] background information that makes the topic relatable
- Establish credibility apply current practice and expertise to topic discussion
- Present a thesis statement this should include clarification of the central idea and main points

2. Literature Review (1-2 pages) – see attached "What is a Literature Review?" and "Example_Literature_Review".

Minimum of 3 evidence based, peer reviewed references; references should be from the past 5 years.

- Some considerations:
 - What are the current trends in nursing leadership?
 - What are the most common leadership styles used in nursing practice?
 - o What are the most effective nursing leadership styles?
 - What nursing leadership styles tend to be ineffective?

3. Leadership Styles (1-2 pages)

Based on your review of the literature, analyze, and discuss a minimum of 3 nursing leadership styles. Utilize the list of nine leadership styles in Chapter 1 of your text. Think outside the box and explore styles unfamiliar to you.

4. Implications for Future Practice (0.5-1 page)

Discuss implications for practice based on your nursing leadership analysis. What recommendations would you make to improve nursing practice? Implications should be evidence based, practical, and applicable to current nursing practice.

5. Conclusion (0.5 page; 1 paragraph; 100-200 words)

General conclusion, including characteristics such as:

- Restate
 - o Open by restating your thesis, usually begins with "In conclusion,"
 - This is essentially a reference back to your introduction
- Review
 - Summarize your main/major points
- Remind
 - Close with a statement that prompts your reader to think about your topic

References

• Minimum of three to five references

Format

- Proper grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure are expected
- APA format is required for the body of the paper and the reference page (see posted resources to ensure correct format)
- References must be cited within the body of the paper (and vice versa)