**DNP Discussion Guidelines and Rubric**

## Purpose

The purpose of the graded collaborative discussion is to engage faculty and students in an interactive dialogue to assist the student in organizing, integrating, applying, and critically appraising knowledge regarding advanced nursing practice. Scholarly information obtained from credible sources, as well as professional communication, is required. The application of professional experiences, including course content, promotes the analysis and application of principles, knowledge, and information while fostering the development of a learning community as ideas, perspectives, and knowledge are shared.

**Instructions for Discussion Criteria**

1. Application of Knowledge
   1. Address all bullet points in the weekly discussion accurately and thoroughly with a substantive, in-depth discussion.
2. Engagement in Meaningful Dialogue
   1. Respond to a student peer or course faculty, furthering dialogue by providing more information and clarification, thereby adding more depth to the discussion.
3. Integration of Evidence
   1. Incorporate three (3) different sources each week: two (2) of the three (3) should be scholarly.
   2. The initial response should include at least one peer-reviewed, scholarly source of evidence. The other two required literature sources may be included in either the initial post or the reply post.
   3. A scholarly source is (a) evidence-based, (b) peer-reviewed, and (c) published in the last five (5) years.
   4. The definition of non-scholarly sources is in the Chamberlain Guideline for Writing Professional Papers document.
   5. \*\* Please be sure to follow your discussion post’s explicit instructions, as additional or alternative sources may be required.
4. Professionalism in Communication

a. References are consistent with APA style/formatting with no error patterns; the hanging indent is not required.

b. Presents information in an organized manner.

c. Uses clear and concise language.

d. Communicates with no error patterns in English grammar, spelling, syntax, and punctuation.

1. Participation:
   1. Students are required to post during the assigned week (Sunday, the start of the assigned week, through Sunday, the end of the assigned week)
   2. Students are required to post a substantive response to the initial discussion question(s) by Wednesday at 11:59 MT.
   3. Students are required to post in the discussion on two different days by Sunday 11:59 MT of the assigned week.
   4. Students are required to post an initial response and one follow-up reply post for a total of two posts each week.

**Writing Requirements (APA style/formatting)**

* In-text citations
* Reference list in correct APA style/formatting
* Standard English usage and mechanics
* Refer to *Chamberlain Guidelines for Writing Professional Papers*-*Graduate* in Resource section of the course
* A scholarly source is (a) evidence-based, (b) peer-reviewed, and (c) published in the last five (5) years.
* Response post(s) may require a scholarly citation and reference.

**Due Date**

* Initial posting to discussion question is due by Wednesday at 11:59 pm MT.
* All posting is completed by 11:59 pm MT on Sunday of the assigned week.
* All posts for Week 8 are due by the close of the course on Saturday, 11:59 pm MT.

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| **Criteria** | **Very Good or High Level of Performance** |  | **Acceptable Level of Performance** |  | **Poor Level of Performance** |  | **Failing Level of Performance** |  |
| **Application of Knowledge** a. Address each bullet point in the weekly discussion in paragraph style accurately and thoroughly with a substantive, in-depth discussion. | Address each of the bullet points and provides an in-depth, substantive discussion for each one. | **15** | Address each of the bullet points and provides a sufficient discussion for each one. | **13** | Does not address all of the bullet points OR provides a partial discussion for one or more. | **12** | Provides an undeveloped discussion. | **0** |
| **Engagement in Meaningful Dialogue** a. Responds to a student peer or course faculty, furthering dialogue by providing in-depth information, clarification, and depth to the discussion. | Responds to a student peer or course faculty, furthering dialogue by providing in-depth information, clarification, or insight to the discussion. | **10** | Responds to a student peer or course faculty, furthering dialogue by providing sufficient information, clarification, or insight to the discussion. | **9** | Responds to a student peer or course faculty, furthering dialogue by providing partial information, clarification, or insight to the discussion. | **8** | Responds to a student peer or course faculty, furthering dialogue by providing undeveloped information, clarification, or insight to the discussion, OR does not respond to another. | **0** |
| **Integration of Evidence**  Requirements: a. Incorporate three (3) different sources each week: two (2) scholarly and includes an in-text citation for each source. b. The initial response should include at least one peer-reviewed, scholarly source of evidence. The other two required sources of literature may be included in either the initial post or reply post. c. A scholarly source is (a) evidence-based, (b) peer-reviewed, and (c) published in the last five (5) years. **\*\* An individual discussion may require different sources than are described on this rubric.** | Includes all requirements and incorporates three (3) different sources each week with in-text citations for each source, and two must be scholarly sources. \***\* An individual discussion may require different sources than are described on this rubric.** | **10** | Includes all requirements and incorporates two (2) different scholarly sources each week with in-text citations for each source, and the two must be scholarly. **\*\* An individual discussion may require different sources than are described on this rubric.** | **9** | Includes one (1) different source each week with in-text citations for each source, and the one source can be scholarly or non-scholarly. **\*\* An individual discussion may require different sources than are described on this rubric.** | **8** | Includes no source or no in-text citations. | **0** |
| **Professionalism in Communication** a. References are consistent with APA style/formatting with no error patterns; the hanging indent is not required.  b. Presents information in an organized manner. c. Uses clear and concise language. d. Communicates with no error patterns in English grammar, spelling, syntax, and punctuation. | Meets all of the following criteria: a. References are consistent with APA style/formatting with no error patterns; the hanging indent is not required.  b. Presents information in an organized manner. c. Uses clear and concise language. d. Communicates with no error patterns in English grammar, spelling, syntax, and punctuation. | **15** | Meets Three (3) of the following criteria: a. References are consistent with APA style/formatting with no error patterns; the hanging indent is not required.  b. Presents information in an organized manner. c. Uses clear and concise language. d. Communicates with no error patterns in English grammar, spelling, syntax, and punctuation. | **13** | Meets two (2) of the following criteria: a. References are consistent with APA style/formatting with no error patterns; the hanging indent is not required.  b. Presents information in an organized manner. c. Uses clear and concise language. d. Communicates with no error patterns in English grammar, spelling, syntax, and punctuation. | **12** | Meets one (1) or none of the following criteria: a. References are consistent with APA style/formatting with no error patterns; the hanging indent is not required.  b. Presents information in an organized manner c. Uses clear and concise language. d. Communicates with no error patterns in English grammar, spelling, syntax, and punctuation. | **0** |
| **Participation** a. Posted a substantive response to the initial discussion question(s) by Wednesday at 11:59 pm MT during the assigned week: Sunday, the start of the assigned week, through Sunday, the end of the assigned week. | Posted a substantive response to the initial discussion by Wednesday 11:59 pm MT during the assigned week: Sunday, the start of the assigned week, through Sunday, the end of the assigned week. | **0** | Does NOT post by Wednesday at 11:59 pm MT during the assigned week: Sunday, the start of the assigned week, through Sunday, the end of the assigned week. | **-5** |  |  |  |  |
| **Participation** a. Posted a second time by Sunday, 11:59 pm (MT) of each week, and the two (2) posts are on two (2) different days. | Posted in the discussion at least two (2) times and on two (2) different days this week.   (The assigned week starts on Sunday and ends the following Sunday, except for Week 8, which ends on Saturday.) | **0** | Does NOT post in the discussion at least two (2) times OR does NOT post in the discussion on two (2) different days. (The assigned week starts on Sunday and ends the following Sunday, except for Week 8, which ends on Saturday.) | **-5** |  |  |  |  |