**GUIDELINES FOR ASSIGNMENT: Project Design**

***Introduction:***

Introduction paragraph that grabs the reader’s attention. There must be a thesis statement that tells reader purpose of paper and what will be discussed.

***Sample:***

Describe your participants. What are the inclusion and exclusion criteria?  How will participants be chosen (sampling technique)? How many participants you plan to include in your project? Identify the setting, and describe the environment where the project will be conducted.

***Outcomes:***

What do you think are going to be the outcomes from the strategy(s) you choose to implement? Provide a rationale for your selection of outcomes.

In Assignment #3, you identified best practices that may impact the practice problem or issue. What do you think are going to be the outcomes from the strategy(s) you selected to implement for your quality improvement initiative (I am including the (s) behind the strategy because some of you may have more than one best practice that you are going to use)?  Provide a rationale for your selection of outcomes (**you will need more than one outcome; try to think of at least 3 that are appropriate**). You will need to report reliability and validity for at least one of your outcomes. Therefore, you may want to choose a “latent” variable as an outcome. These variables are something that you can’t see (think pain, quality of life, anxiety, depression, patient satisfaction, etc.). You will have a course in outcomes measurement and program evaluation so this is by no means an exhaustive paper. Our goal is for you to start thinking about what outcomes would be appropriate to use to evaluate the effectiveness of your program. Make sure your outcomes are measurable and relate directly to the evaluation of your program. See the AHRQ website given in the resources section of this unit for some helpful guidance.

**Data Collection Methodology and Measurement:**

What are your ideas about how you will measure these outcomes?  What data collection methods are you going to use to measure the outcomes you have selected?  Will you use qualitative or quantitative methods or both to measure the outcomes?  What kind of instrument or measurement methodology will be used?  What is the validity and reliability of the instrument(s) you have chosen?  Provide 1 instrument that would be appropriate and share the validity and reliability. This tool must measure something and must already exist (you cannot create a data collection tool for this section). Please describe how the validity and reliability were established. Do not just say that it was good. HINT: there is often a statistical test involved. For reliability think test/retest, internal consistency, or inter-rater; validity can be construct, content, or one of the criterion related validities.

**Cultural Considerations**:

**Cultural Sensitivity**:  There are cultural implications for every people group.  In order to plan an effective intervention, you have to consider cultural implications.  How would you modify your intervention to meet the needs of a different culture?  How would you modify to use in Latino, African American or a third group found in your community? What strategies might you use to get buy in from one or more culture groups?  Remember, all groups of people require cultural sensitivity.

If your project idea is more administrative in nature that is not impacted by different culture groups, then choose a people group that you see in your community and speak to the cultural norms of that group and what nurses and other healthcare professionals need to consider when caring for this population in your community.  For example, in Baldwin County, we have a Hispanic population of migrant workers who move to various farms for harvesting.  What do nurses need to know about the group in order to provide the most effective care for them?  How do we alter the care we provide to meet their needs?

**Organizational Culture:**  Within the system where you practice or hope to implement your project idea, describe the organizational culture of that system and how might that culture impact your implementation of best practices?  Are you going to have to modify or change your strategies based on that information?  For example, if someone works in a system that is very hierarchal in decision making (top down) or there are problems with staff morale, they may have challenges to overcome that someone else in a collaborative environment may not have.  Reflect on your system and consider the problems and strengths of that system.  How might that impact the implementation of your project idea?

**Ethical and HIPAA Concerns:**

Will you need to obtain Institutional Board Review (IRB) approval? I will go ahead and tell you that all USA DNP students will navigate the IRB following final project approval. How does the IRB protect human subjects? Do you expect to submit an application for a full, expedited, or exempt review? Keep in mind quality improvement is EXEMPT.

What are possible challenges related to ethics and HIPAA issues you may encounter?  Think about what **could** happen if your best practices were implemented.  How would you plan to address the possible challenges?  You must include at least one ethical concern AND at least one possible challenge related to HIPAA.

In this section you will also need to complete the CITI and HIPAA courses for this section of the paper. Please see the attached instructions and attach the certificates in the Appendix.

**Dissemination:**

 We want you to find a conference that you think is appropriate for your clinical area and share about the conference.  Also, locate a journal that you think would possibly be interested in your final manuscript.

The paper should be carefully written in a formal style, based on primary sources and provide an integration of ideas. Organized flow, logical progression of ideas, and clarity in thought processes are essential.  Page limit:  **6-7 pages.  Page length does not include the title page, reference list or any Appendix.**

Make sure you follow the guidelines above for each section of the rubric.  You MUST use headings corresponding to rubric points.

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| **Criteria** | **Points** |
| Introduction paragraph. There must be a thesis statement that tells reader purpose of paper and what will be discussed. | 1 |
| Sample- Describe your participants. What are the inclusion and exclusion criteria? How will participants be chosen (sampling technique)? How many participants you plan to include in your project? Identify the setting and describe the environment where the project will be conducted. | 4 |
| Outcomes- please be specific, these must be measurable. Include at least 3 outcomes that are clear and direct outcomes of the project being implemented. Include what type of outcome you are stating ie. process, structural, etc. You should also include an outcome that is based on quantitative data and one that is based qualitative data. | 6 |
| Data Collection Methodology and measurement- What data collection methods are you going to use to measure the outcomes you have selected? Will you use qualitative or quantitative methods or both to measure the outcomes? What kind of instrument or measurement methodology will be used? What is the validity and reliability of the instrument This tool must measure something and must already exist- it is not a data collection tool or a checklist. (Include Instrument in Appendices 2 points will be deducted if the tool is not included as an appendix) | 6 |
| Cultural Considerations: People Group and Organizational | 4 |
| HIPAA Considerations (Include HIPPA certificate). | 3 |
| Ethical Considerations- make sure to include the IRB process and which application process your project requires and why? (Include CITI certificate). | 3 |
| Dissemination | 2 |
| Conclusion: Summarize the essential points of paper. | 2 |
| APA/Grammar/Scholarship | 4 |
| **Total** | **35** |

**Deductions:**

All papers submitted to Canvas are automatically submitted to turnitin.com and students are to review the report generated by this software system. Students will be given the opportunity to submit revisions of the paper. Upload the paper in assignments and title with your last name first and then the assignment title. Please note that turnitin can take up to 72 hours to generate the report. Failure to include headings

Papers over the page limit will not be accepted and will result in a 10% point deduction for failure to submit properly on initial submission.

**Scholarship Expectations**

Scholarship is evidenced by organized and logical progression of ideas; effort and attention to detail is evident; communicates effectively all aspects of discussion.  Correct grammar, spelling, and word choice. Liberal number of references (minimum of 10 references).  References are current, appropriately paraphrased, and acknowledged.  Correct use of APA.  Correct title page used for assignment copy.

You are clinical nurse scholars in the making. You are the advanced practice nurses/DNPs and members of the highly literate profession of advanced practice nursing who will chart the future of health care. Good writing ability is as much a required skill for nurses in advanced practice as performing clinical functions. Therefore, precision and scholarship is expected in all assignments