

Mount Carmel College of Nursing Scholarly Project and Written Document Overview

The scholarly project involves the project itself and a scholarly document written and presented in two parts. The process ends with final project team approval and public dissemination of the project.

Expected format¹ and the structural contents of the Part I of the scholarly document include:

Part I (Critical elements for the written document are underlined)

1. Title Page
2. Executive Summary² (1-3 pages in length)
 - a. An overall summary of the DNP project's objectives, rationales, setting, methods
 - b. A clear explanation of the clinical problem and outcomes of the needs analysis
 - c. A summary of methods to be used to address the clinical practice problem
 - d. A discussion of any ethical considerations
 - e. Discussion of anticipated cost-benefit analysis/economic impact
 - f. Clear identification that the change process would be an improvement
 - g. Evidence to support the DNP student's ability to conduct the project including resources
 - h. General proposed timeline of activities to ensure project completion
3. Project Introduction
 - a. Overview of the clinical practice problem
 - i. Significance with scholarly documentation
 - ii. Prevalence in terms of known national or state benchmarks and within practice environment
 - iii. Organizational SWOT Analysis
 - b. Problem Statement
 - c. Project Scope and Purpose/Desired Outcomes of Project
 - d. Guiding Clinical Question/PICOT
 - e. Summative Evidential Review of the Literature leading to the DNP project and strategies for implementation are evidence-based
4. Foundational Framework
 - a. Theoretical or Conceptual – to support the topic
 - b. Procedural – to support the change process
 - c. Summative Application/Rationale for Evidence-Based Change Intervention/Process Innovation
5. Project Implementation
 - a. Contextual Elements – Project Setting and Participants
 - b. Rationale for selection of scholarly project team members. Description of scholarly project team members and their roles in guiding the project
 - c. Timeline
 - d. Clear Procedural Description and documentation of Evidence-based Change Intervention(s)
 - e. Sources of Structure, Process, Outcomes, and Balancing Data with Quality Indicators (Quantitative and Qualitative)
 - f. Project Procedure and Anticipated Timeline
 - i. Institutional Approvals and agreements/letters of support
 - ii. Human Subjects approval or documentation of expedited review
 - iii. Opportunities for Process Improvement

¹APA-Format- See Moran et al. (2017) for Proposal Template – starting with the Title Page

²http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcphc/Documents/environmental-programs/risk-communication/Appendix_E_AGuideToWritingAnEffectiveExecutiveSummary.pdf

1. Data Collection and Management
 - a. Description of specific data to be completed in terms of level of measurement (not data) and how data will be recorded in SPSS
 - b. Data safety plan-if needed
2. Data Display (control charts, etc)
3. Data Analysis Plan
 - a. Formative-assessing completeness and accuracy of data
 - b. Summative-statistical inferences to be made
 - c.
 - d. Specific description of how each outcome can be deemed to be successfully attained that addresses statistical and clinical significance
6. References (APA-format, current edition)
7. Appendices
8. Signed forms (DNP Project Checklist)

NOTE: The project proposal written during NURS 758 and/or 759 will be submitted to the project team after initial format and content approval of the faculty advisor. Project team members will return their comments about the proposal within 10 working days to the faculty advisor. The advisor will review all comments with the DNP student and project members and evaluate completed revisions.

The final proposal described in Part I of the document will be submitted to the project team for final approval. Once approved, the advisor and team members will sign the ***DNP Project Checklist*** which serves as the project proposal completion form. This form will be placed on file in the DNP Director's office and is to be included as an appendix in the final written document.

After successful completion of Part I the student will then work to complete the scholarly project during NURS 759-760. **Part II of the written scholarly document** is completed after implementation, analysis, interpretation, and evaluation of the student's DNP Project. Part II provides the context, processes, and outcomes of the scholarly project in a written format that follows in the same document and formatting as Part I.

Expected format³ and the structural contents of Part II of the scholarly document include:

Part II (*Critical elements for the written document are underlined*)

9. A completed project abstract-suitable for professional/conference-type dissemination. (300 words: background and significance, methods, results, conclusions)
10. Project Findings
 - a. Anticipated and actual time line with any appropriate explanations of revisions for implementation and data collection strategies used during the project.
 - b. Sample data description
 - c. Outcome Analyses
11. Discussion
 - a. Possible explanations for attained outcomes
 - b. Description of how project might be revised if replicated.
12. Interpretive Outcomes
 - a. Organizational System and Sustainability
 - b. Social and population-based implications
 - c. Ethical considerations
 - d. Policy implications and future directions
13. Summary
14. Updated Reference List (APA-format, current edition)
15. Updated Appendices

³ APA-Format-See Moran et al. (2017) for Proposal Template-starting with the Title Page

NOTE: The completed scholarly document written during NURS 759 and 760 will be submitted to the project team after initial format and content approval of the faculty advisor. Part II of the document provides the context, processes, and outcomes of the scholarly project in a written format that follows in the same document and formatting as Part I.

Project team members will return their comments about the document within 10 working days to the faculty advisor. The advisor will review all comments with the DNP student and project members and evaluate completed revisions. The final written scholarly document will be submitted to the project team at least five days prior to public oral presentation.

Oral dissemination of the scholarly project in a public forum at MCCN and project team member signatures on the Project Completion Form will be final criteria needing to be met prior to graduation/degree conferment.

Critical Elements for Project Presentation

1. Complete Project Abstract and PowerPoint-type Presentation. The final presentation will be developed by the DNP student with support from the faculty advisor.
2. Project Evaluation and Interpretive Outcomes
 - a. Project Scope and Purpose/Desired Outcomes of Project
 - b. Summative Update, including Procedural/Process Revisions
 - c. Sociodemographic and Descriptive Findings
 - d. Interpretive Outcomes
 - i. Organizational System and Sustainability
 - ii. Social and Population-based Implications
 - iii. Policy Implications and Future Directions
 - iv. Individual/Developmental Reflections
 - e. Anticipated Venues for Continued Dissemination⁵
3. Critical discourse among presentation attendees
4. Faculty advisor and project team members sign the Project Completion Form

⁴Consider 'SQUIRE 2.0' elements:

<http://squire.citysoft.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewPage&pageID=471&nodeID=1>

⁵Note SQUIRE 2.0 Guidelines – Revised Standards for QI Reporting Excellence:

<http://squire.citysoft.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=page.viewPage&pageID=471&nodeID=1>

