



DR. SUSAN L. DAVIS, R.N.,
& RICHARD J. HENLEY
COLLEGE OF NURSING
Sacred Heart University

DNP Project Journal Article Rubric

Rubric Process:

1. The final DNP project write up is in the format of a journal article. Students, with input from their DNP project team, may select a journal and follow its' author guidelines for practice change projects (e.g. EBP, QI). Students who have not chosen a journal should use the DNP Project Journal Article Rubric criteria as journal article headings.
2. This rubric is to be distributed to the DNP project team members by the project lead or student immediately following the scheduling of the final presentation.
3. The DNP project lead or designee will record applicable team discussion in the comments column.
4. Criteria scored as acceptable or unacceptable will need student revisions and the DNP project team may require the student to present their revised final journal article to the team.
5. The final scored rubric and written paper in journal article format should be submitted to Graduate Administrative Assistant or Program Director within 1-week of the final presentation.
6. Students required to do revisions and not present again should submit their revised journal article after DNP project team approval to the Graduate Administrative Assistant or Program Director and identify the areas that were revised. Students required to present again should follow #4 and should have 2 journal articles and 2 scored rubrics on file with Graduate Administrative Assistant or Program Director.

Student Name:

Criteria	Well Done	Above Average	Acceptable	Unacceptable	Comments
Title	Captures reader's attention and indicates accurately the project and type (e.g. EBP, QI)	Mostly captures reader's attention and indicates accurately the project and type (e.g. EBP, QI)	Partially captures reader's attention and may indicate accurately the project and type (e.g. EBP, QI)	Does not capture readers attention and does not indicate accurately the project and type (e.g. EBP, QI)	
Abstract Word limit and section titles are appropriate for the selected Journal and may differ from those in the rubric columns.	250 word Summary of the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to problem and project objectives • Methods used for implementation and evaluation • Results presented that address objectives • Conclusion summarize main project findings 	Mostly follows 250 word summary of the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to problem and project objectives • Methods used for implementation and evaluation • Results presented that address objectives • Conclusion summarize main project findings 	Partially follows 250 word summary of the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to problem and project objectives • Methods used for implementation and evaluation • Results presented that address objectives • Conclusion summarize main project findings 	Doesn't include 250 word summary of the project or the following elements are missing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to problem and project objectives • Methods used for implementation and evaluation • Results presented that address objectives • Conclusion summarize main project findings 	
Keywords	Lists 4-6 keywords that index the project accurately	Lists 4-6 keywords that index the project that are mostly accurate	Lists 4-6 keywords that index the project that are partially accurate	Does not list 4-6 keywords or selected key words do not accurately index project.	
Introduction/ background	Briefly introduces the practice problem and why important beyond your local practice setting; describes gap between current practice and preferred practice;	Mostly provides a brief introduction to the practice problem and why important beyond your local practice setting; describes gap between current practice and preferred practice;	Partially provides a brief introduction to the practice problem and why important beyond your local practice setting; describes gap between current practice and preferred practice;	Does not provide a brief introduction to the practice problem and why important beyond your local practice setting; or describe gap between current practice and preferred practice; or	

Criteria	Well Done	Above Average	Acceptable	Unacceptable	Comments
	describes projects objectives/aims.	and describes projects objectives/aims.	and describes projects objectives/aims.	describe projects objectives/aims.	
Project site/setting and reason for change	Describes where the change took place, why.	Mostly describes where the change took place, why.	Partially describes where the change took place, why.	Does not describe where the change took place, why.	
Practice change	Describes the evidence-based solution or intervention. Includes concise summary of quality and strength of evidence to support selected solution or intervention	Mostly describes the evidence-based solution or intervention; and concise summary of quality and strength of evidence to support selected solution or intervention	Partially describes the evidence-based solution or intervention; and concise summary of quality and strength of evidence to support selected solution or intervention	Does not describe the evidence-based solution or intervention; or lacks concise summary of quality and strength of evidence to support selected solution or intervention	
Implementation and evaluation plan	Clearly and concisely summarizes how the practice change was carried out including framework used to guide change; and measures used to evaluate if project resulted in intended outcomes.	Mostly summarizes how the practice change was carried out including framework used to guide change; and measures used to evaluate if project resulted in intended outcomes.	Partially summarizes how the practice change was carried out including framework used to guide change; and measures used to evaluate if project resulted in intended outcomes.	Does not clearly and/or concisely summarize how practice change was carried out and evaluated.	
Results	Data analysis is appropriate to project objectives. Results are presented clearly, correctly, and address project objectives. Appropriate use of well-designed tables and figures without repeating results in text.	Data analysis is mostly appropriate to project objectives. Results are mostly clear, correct and address the project objectives. Tables and figures are used and need minor edits as well as text.	Data analysis is partially appropriate to project objectives. Results are partially clear, correct and address the project objectives. Tables and figures are used and need several edits as well as text.	Data analysis has many errors or results are presented incorrectly or results displayed do not answer project objectives.	
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarizes most important results 	Mostly does the following:	Partially does the following:	Does not do the following:	

Criteria	Well Done	Above Average	Acceptable	Unacceptable	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Places results in the context of others' work Reflects on implications of results Reflects on the influence of context on results (e.g. lessons learned) Limitations clearly stated and discussion of how they may have affected results. Briefly describes future steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarizes most important results Places results in the context of others' work Reflects on implications of results Reflects on the influence of context on results (e.g. lessons learned) Limitations clearly stated and discussion of how they may have affected results. Briefly describes future steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarizes most important results Places results in the context of others' work Reflects on implications of results Reflects on the influence of context on results (e.g. lessons learned) Limitations clearly stated and discussion of how they may have affected results. Briefly describes future steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarizes most important results Places results in the context of others' work Reflects on implications of results Reflects on the influence of context on results (e.g. lessons learned) Limitations clearly stated and discussion of how they may have affected results. Briefly describes future steps 	
Conclusion	Brief summary of key project findings	Summary of key project findings	Partial summary of key project findings	Does not include summary of key project findings	
References	Current state of the science references including all appropriate disciplines.	Mostly current state of the science references including all appropriate disciplines.	Partial current state of the science references including all appropriate disciplines.	Missing key citations.	
Clarity of Writing and Writing Technique	Writing is crisp, clear, and succinct. Correct grammar is used.	Writing is mostly crisp, clear, and succinct. Some grammatical errors.	Writing is partially crisp, clear, and succinct. Frequent grammar errors.	Writing is convoluted and/or unnecessary words are used. Misspelled words, incorrect grammar, and improper punctuation are evident.	
APA format or format appropriate for selected journal	Follows all APA paper formatting rules	Minor APA errors in formatting rules	Some APA errors in formatting rules	APA not consistent in formatting rules	

Criteria	Well Done	Above Average	Acceptable	Unacceptable	Comments
Presentation Format Elements include: text/font, text alignment/direction, color/design, layout, transition/animation, smart art, shapes, tables/charts, graphics	Format is clear, succinct and demonstrates professional quality.	Format is mostly clear, succinct and demonstrate adequate professional quality.	Format is generally clear, succinct and demonstrate adequate professional quality.	Format is unclear and poorly designed.	
Oral Presentation	Presenter adheres to professional behaviors in program nursing student guide, is well-prepared and answers questions skillfully.	Presenter adheres to professional behaviors in program nursing student guide, is prepared and answers to questions are mostly incomplete.	Presenter adheres to professional behaviors in program nursing student guide, is somewhat prepared and answers to questions are incomplete.	Presenter does not adhere to professional behaviors in program nursing student guide, is not prepared and answers to questions are incomplete.	
APA format (presentation)	Follows APA presentation formatting rules	Minor APA errors in formatting rules	Some APA errors in formatting rules	APA not consistent in formatting rules	

Approved as is		Needs revisions without presentation		Needs revisions and presentation	
-----------------------	--	---	--	---	--

DNP Project Lead signature/date:

DNP Project Team Member signature/s/date: