Nursing Research Orientation

Tarrant County College, Trinity River Library

Danelle Toups

Nursing /Health Sciences Librarian

AKA: The Information Goddess

Tuesdays, TRHN 4th floor elevator lobby, 7am-2pm

Schedule an appointment: libguides.tccd.edu/nursing/help

Office: TREF 2319H, (In the library on the main campus)

Email: danelle.toups@tccd.edu

Nursing Research Guide:

libguides.tccd.edu/nursing

Cell: 817-475-9954

NOTE:
This handout is designed to be supplemental material for the in-person Information Goddess orientation. For complete instructions on research and writing papers, please use the Nursing Research Guide at libguides.tccd.edu/nursing
### Understanding the Assignment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is the purpose of the paper?</th>
<th>Who is the audience?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Analysis?</td>
<td>□ Fellow nursing students?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Evidence based practice?</td>
<td>□ Nursing professor?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Case study?</td>
<td>□ Patient?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How many sources are required? ___________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What kind of sources are required?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Peer reviewed nursing journal articles</td>
<td>□ Nursing Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Written by nurses</td>
<td>□ Professional website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ American journal article</td>
<td>□ Other:__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Book</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What is the required length for the paper? ___________

### Conducting the Research

- Use class textbook to familiarize yourself with topic.
- Search library databases; email article and citation to self.
- Search the web; create citation for any source read.

### Evaluating Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where did you find the source?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Library database</td>
<td>□ Course textbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Google search</td>
<td>□ Other:__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Library book shelves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What kind of article is it?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Empirical study</td>
<td>□ Book Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Literature Review</td>
<td>□ Continuing Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Statistical Report</td>
<td>□ Other:__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Commentary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Case Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who is the intended audience of the source?</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Student nurses</td>
<td>□ Patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Working nurses</td>
<td>□ Patients’ families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Doctors</td>
<td>□ Other:__________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Other health care workers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Writing the paper

1. Read the source article.
2. Put it down.
3. Take a 15-minute break.
4. Review the Tips for APA Writing (below)
5. Write a 5-6 sentence summary of the article.
   - What problem was addressed? How did the researchers try to solve the problem?
   - How was the study conducted? What did the researchers learn?
6. Write a 3-4 sentence conclusion:
   - How should nurses apply the new knowledge presented in the study?
   - What is the nurse’s role in solving the problem?
7. Write a 3-4 sentence introduction:
   - Why is the topic important? What is the problem?
   - Who is impacted by the topic?
   - To what extent are they impacted?

Formatting the paper

- Review APA: How to format your whole paper tab
- Review the Citing your sources tab and this handout
- Review Using Microsoft Word to Format Papers (this handout)

Getting help

- Text the Information Goddess
- Email the Information Goddess
- Schedule an appointment with the Information Goddess
- Visit with the Information Goddess on Tuesdays in the Nursing building, 7am-2pm

Tips for APA Writing Style

- No first or second person-only third person. Do NOT use: I, me, my, mine, we, our, you or your
- Do NOT use contractions.
- Do NOT use acronyms until you have defined them. Do not introduce them unless you will use them multiple times in the paper.
- Keep sentence structure short and direct.
- Use only active voice, not passive voice. The doctor administered the medication. NOT The medication was administered by the doctor.
- Do NOT use anthropomorphisation. Do not give non-human things the abilities of humans. Do not use: The books/article/website says…
- Do NOT refer to sources by format or title, only by author and date.
- Avoid redundancy. Be clear and concise.
- Do not confuse summary with conclusion. A summary is a restatement of what was said. A conclusion is a presentation of new information based on what was said.
- Pronouns-overuse of pronouns can be confusing. Eliminate ambiguity. Be sure your pronouns match. Patient is singular; they is plural. Do not switch back and forth.
- Colloquial expressions-keep writing professional at all times.
## Advanced Searching in CINAHL

### Search Options

#### Search Modes and Expanders
- **Search modes**
  - BooleanPhrase
  - Find all my search terms
  - Find any of my search terms
  - SmartText Searching Hint

#### Limit your results
- **Full Text**
- **Abstract Available**
- **Author**
- **English Language**
- **Research Article**
- **Search Only Pre-CINAHL**
- **CE Module**
- **Meta-Synthesis**
- **Human**
- **Any Author is Nurse**
- **Journal Subset**
  - Allied Health
  - Alternative/Complementary Therapies
  - Biomedical
- **Language**
  - English
  - French
  - German
  - Italian
  - Japanese
  - Portuguese
  - Russian
  - Spanish
  - Swedish
- **Sex**
  - Male
  - Female
- **Age Groups**
  - Fetus, Conception to Birth
  - Infant, Newborns: birth-1 month
  - Infants: 1-23 months
- **Number of Pages**
  - All
- **Pregnancy**
  - Inpatients
  - Outpatients
- **Special Interest**
  - Advanced Nursing Practice
  - Case Management
  - Chiropractic Care
  - All