

NGR7115 - Philosophical and Theoretical Foundations of Nursing Science

Module 5

Objectives:

- Portray the structure and growth of contemporary nursing knowledge
- Examine selected research traditions and their philosophical and methodological links to knowledge generation in nursing.

Preparation for Assignment:

Meleis, A. (2011). *Theoretical nursing development & progress* (5th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. Chapter 6.

Rodgers, B. L. (2004). *Developing nursing knowledge: Philosophical traditions and influences*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. Chapter 14

Overview of Assignment:

This is a first look at final paper assignment. Often when students write a large paper they block out a weekend or what they consider a large block of time. Once they begin writing, they try to write the whole paper straight through beginning with the abstract and ending with the references. Results of this writing process are papers that do not address the criteria, lack depth and evidence of critical thinking, and do not reflect work at the doctoral level. This assignment will provide you the means to do critical thinking about your phenomenon of interest and get you past that first hurdle in writing, putting thoughts onto paper. It will in no way be the finished product ready to cut and paste into a section, so be aware I do not want to see that. It will allow you to begin to reflect upon the use of your phenomenon for the final paper.

Assignment:

For this informal writing assignment, you will put your thoughts in writing. Contain your writing to 2 pages, focus on being concise. Do not include citations or support from the literature at this time, but remember in the *final* paper citations are a must. This is a thinking exercise. Once you finish writing to these bullet point criteria, cut and paste into the appropriate discussion board for this week. Each of you will post your original work for one another to read. You will read and comment on the posting for each member in your group and at least one posting for a member in the other group.

- Think about the *phenomena of interest* to your nursing practice. (ie., obesity in children, classroom incivility, health literacy at the end of life)
- Select **1** of these phenomena as the one you would like to use for the final paper in the class.
- In your own words *describe this phenomenon*. Provide the information that would allow others to identify it in the empirical world.
- Would other nurses readily identify this phenomenon as one of nursing? Include *the meta-paradigm of nursing* in this part of your writing.
- *What do you know* about this phenomenon? *How did you come to know* these things? Was *inductive or deductive* reasoning used, or both?

Total points possible 3: 1.5 for initial assignment addressing all bullets and 1.5 for comments to others.