NCS1202
Assignment 2
Maureen Buckingham – Senior Learning Adviser
Where to start?

- Carefully read the assignment instructions document and marking guide on the unit Blackboard site. It outlines both Part A and B and the expectations for this assignment.
- Review relevant modules from the unit – for both parts
Where to start?

Carefully read the case study and review the requirements for Part A
Part A

The Issue – select one issue

The answerable question (week 3 material)

Use PICO/PIO to guide you

Justification

You are not answering the question

Justification from a EBP perspective – why does the issue need to be addressed?
Part A

Searching the databases (week 4 material)

Review PPT and recording from SNM Librarian
https://ecu.au.libguides.com/nursing/unitspecificworkshopssem12019

Develop a search strategy and use the Nursing databases

Document the databases used your search strategy – Cinahl, Joanna Briggs, Cochrane etc

Specify the limits you have used

List the search terms used.

A table can be useful to show search strategy
See recording on the Unit Specific Nursing Workshops on the Nursing Library Guide for further explanation and more on smart searching.

Note: Table optional. If you are worried about word count, you could put as an appendix
Part A

Recommendations for best practice

Choose 3 articles from the pool of articles you have found

Write the full end-text reference for the article and then write sentence why the article is relevant to your answerable question and the recommendations for practice from the article.

Note: Put a screenshot of the abstract of each chosen article in an appendix at the end of your assignment.
Example


Relevance to my question
Changing cannulas when clinically indicated did not negatively affect patients.

Recommendations for practice
There was no evidence that peripheral intravenous cannulas need to be routinely replaced.
Part B

Critically appraise the two given articles and identify their merits for practice.

Find the articles: Have you found them and printed them?


Use the content from the relevant unit modules to critically appraise the following aspects from each article:

- Literature Review
- Methods (design, data collection, and data analysis)
- Findings

Then:

- Briefly in your own words summarise the strengths and weaknesses in light of the critical appraisal you have done
- Consider the relevance of the articles to clinical practice
Structure

Introduction

Part A Clinical Issue

Issue

Answerable question

Justification

Searching the databases

Recommendations for practice
Structure

Part B Critical Appraisal

Article 1

Literature review

Methods

Findings

Strengths and weaknesses

Relevance to clinical practice
Structure

Article 2
Literature review
Methods
Findings
Strengths and weaknesses
Relevance to clinical practice
Conclusion
References
Appendix
**Introductions**

**Topic/Orientation** – opens the topic and establishes the broader context. Sometimes includes definitions.

**Purpose/Thesis statement**

**Structure** – outlines your approach

(University of Wollongong, 2000)
Introduction

When considering a nursing case study it is important to first establish the principles of evidence-based practice and how it contributes to the nursing profession. Evidence-based practice refers to the process of applying the knowledge gained through research into practice (Holland & Rees, 2010). It is essential because it promotes a culture of inquiry amongst nurses, enables their accountability and better equips them to provide safe and effective care for their patients (Hoffman, Bennett & Del Mar, 2010). This paper will apply the five-step process of evidence-based practice as described by Holland and Rees (2010) to the case study of Mr Armitage. Firstly, the issues of the case study will be considered and an answerable question will be framed according to any knowledge gap that has been identified. This question will guide the search for the best evidence available using appropriate databases and resources. This evidence will then be critically appraised for its suitability before it is integrated into clinical practice. Finally, this paper will evaluate the success of the process and suggest areas for improvement.
What is critical appraisal?

Critical appraisal enables you to assess the trustworthiness, relevance and results of published papers so that you can decide if they are believable and useful.

1. Is the study valid? (methodological quality)
2. What are the results? (clinical significance)
3. Are the results useful? (application to practice)

http://www.casp-uk.net/appraising-the-evidence
Academic reading is an important skill and key step in being able to complete the critical review.

You need to first critically read and understand the article before you can appraise the article, and address aspects required.
Reading is a vital first step in completing the critical review

Step 1: Skim and scan the article to gain an overview and understand.
Step 2. Then do an in-depth read for understanding and annotate as you go.
Step 3. Then scan for relevant aspects of the articles in terms of the questions that need to be answered. Colour code
Step 4. Engage in your modules and other resources to be able to appraise and answer the question
Step 5. Write up your answers in direct concise sentences and in short paragraphs.
Useful tools for appraisal

Review the Critical Appraisal/Critique Tool provided under Week 4 Learning Materials

Questions to think about when critiquing each aspect.
It also has suggested pages of the core textbook
Page 26 – 30
Page 42 – 47

Optional readings provided on unit BB site
Another useful appraisal tool

http://www.understandinghealthresearch.org/

You could use your article to work through the tool as a starting point to get you thinking.
You will appraise and evaluate the articles and the research process using your academic voice. This will show your understanding and application of the unit content. Your appraisal does not need to be referenced. However, if you integrate ideas from academic sources to support your appraisal then you would reference those.
It is not clear that confidentiality was assured with the participants. Confidentiality of the participants has been attempted by not referring to them by name in the article; however, the number of individuals interviewed within each organisation is so small that it could be determined who made specific comments. Anonymity could not be assured in relation to the interview process because the researchers would have known the details of who they were interviewing. Anonymity may have been assured with the quantitative data collection form because it was self-reported; however, it was not clear how the survey was collected.

* Excerpt from a student paper on a different topic
Conclusion

✔ Restates the topic.
✔ Sums up the key ideas in relation to the topic/case study.
✔ No new ideas.
✔ Finishes with statement to broader topic.
Useful resources for writing your critique

http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe-writing-centre/critical-reading-and-writing/critical-review

Academic Style

Features of Academic Writing

- Written in the third person (no I, we, us, our, you)
- Formal language
- Objective language
- Precise and specific vocabulary
- Clarity and conciseness

- Tentative language
- Accuracy
- Coherence and cohesion
- Correct in-text referencing and paraphrasing
- Accurate reporting words
Clear concise sentences

Two resources

[Improving Sentence Structure](#)
Common Sentence Problems

Use key nouns from the question in your topic sentences
Proofing and editing

- **Editing** focusses on the *structure* of your *ideas* within paragraphs i.e. What you say.

- **Proofreading** focusses on the *grammar and punctuation*. If this is not your strong point, go to this site for the rules:

  [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/6/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/6/)

  and this site for online practice exercises:

  [https://owl.english.purdue.edu/exercises/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/exercises/)

Download a free version of Grammarly

[https://www.grammarly.com/native/windows](https://www.grammarly.com/native/windows)
Good luck!
Where to find the recording and slides of this workshop
Nursing: Nursing Unit Specific Workshops

How to find information for your nursing assignments

Research resources → Referencing → Referencing Journal articles → Specific Nursing Reference Examples → Endnote → Nursing Unit Specific Workshops

Nursing Specific Workshop by Unit

Below is a list of Unit specific workshops that Maureen Buckingham (Senior Learning Adviser for the School of Nursing and Midwifery) and I will be running in Semester One 2018. However if you are not enrolled in any of the units listed please do come along towards the end of workshop where Maureen and I will be available to help you.

These Workshops are in addition to any Unit Drop-ins delivered as part of the Unit Teaching. Refer to your Unit Blackboard site for details of these.

The workshop recordings will be linked to the Workshop Title when they become available.

NCS1101 Health and Healthcare Systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wed April 11</td>
<td>12:30 - 1:30pm</td>
<td>J02.137</td>
<td>Search strategy and using the library databases for your essay</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>12:30 - 1:30pm</td>
<td>J02.141</td>
<td>Search strategy and using the library databases for your essay</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>12:30 - 1:30pm</td>
<td>J02.137</td>
<td>Writing your essay</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
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<td>12:30 - 1:30pm</td>
<td>J02.137</td>
<td>Writing your essay</td>
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Further assistance

General assignment drop-ins

Studiosity (access from Blackboard home page under My Communities)

Referencing queries: library@ecu.edu.au

General learning support queries learningadviser@ecu.edu.au