Exploring the Behaviors of Undergraduate Nursing Students: An Annotated Bibliography

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N450 section 1

Double space the entire document and use 12 point Times New Roman font.

The 6th edition APA manual does not specifically address how to format an annotated bibliography, but NoodleTools does. Alverno librarians recommend using NoodleTools, which is available through the Alverno Library homepage: http://www.alverno.edu/library/

This descriptive mixed methods pilot study used qualitative and quantitative instruments to assess the usefulness of a pedagogy model designed to help nursing students understand the complexity of patient suffering. The researchers found that students' sensitivity to others' suffering was common in undergraduate nursing students and concluded that the following influenced a student’s ability to understand patient suffering: student self-awareness, expanded views of suffering, grasping spiritual aspects of suffering, and learning compassionate and supportive presence.

This study reinforces the importance of preparing students to better understand the suffering of others in order to become compassionate care givers before entering the workforce. While the findings of this study provide valuable information for nurse educators, results from pilot studies are typically not considered the best evidence to incorporate into practice. Other studies that utilize randomized sampling methods, larger sample sizes, and instruments with proven validity should also be examined before educators fully implement the findings of this study.


This study examined strategies used by nursing students to find information for a class assignment in the database CINAHL. The researchers looked for patterns in
information-seeking behavior, barriers to accessing information, and strategies used by students when unsuccessful in their searches. Multiple methods were used to collect data from a sample of eleven nursing students and included having the students document their search strategies using journal entries and in-depth semi-structured interviews. Data retrieved from both methods were coded and analyzed to identify trends in students’ behavior.

This study adds to a growing body of research literature which shows that nursing students frequently lack the information literacy skills required for evidence based practice in a healthcare setting. Selecting search terms and not fully understanding the concepts of keyword and subject heading searching in the CINAHL database represented the greatest challenge for students. Librarians responsible for information literacy programs should be mindful of this barrier when designing programs for nursing students.


The purpose of this study was to investigate whether the presence of nursing students working in hospital wards improved the quality of care given by staff nurses. The researcher collected data in 15 general hospital wards using structured observation methods. Observations were conducted in random order to prevent bias in data collection. Results found that in the presence of students, staff nurses provided higher quality care when compared to their work performance without students. This effect
was found for all quality of care indices used in this study. The authors suggest that students should be considered as a valuable asset to medical and nursing centers, not only as future professionals, but also as a means of improving the quality of care given.