EVIDENCE BASED CAPSTONE: AN INNOVATIVE ON-LINE GRADUATE NURSING COURSE

Carole Liske
Beth Register
Traci Starkey
Presenters:
Carole Liske PhD, MS, RN
Beth Register PhD, MSN, MPH, RN-BC
Traci Starkey PhD, MS, RN

Conflict of Interest:
This presentation offers no conflict of interest with employer,
Western Governors University, sponsorship, nor commercial support
OBJECTIVES

- Articulate the theoretical underpinning of authentic and collaborative project-based online learning
- Describe appropriate course design and teaching strategies for diverse, student learning needs
- Describe the affective outcomes of authentic project-based learning
Enhances authenticity in curriculum development
Enriches the academic experience
Provides flexibility for working students
Maintains life/work balance
Facilitates sense of connectedness in the virtual environment
Promotes perseverance
Leads to increased student satisfaction
This Project-Based Course is Designed for Graduate Students in Leadership & Management and Education Specialties

- Focuses on implementation of an evidence-based practice change, quality improvement initiative, or innovation project
- Offers a collaborative learning experience in which students work with a preceptor and supportive mentoring team
THE PROJECT-BASED ONLINE GRADUATE COURSE

- Allows students to function in the role of a change agent/leader in the health care organization where their evidence based practice change, QI initiative, or innovation is implemented.

- Applies knowledge and experience from previous courses in MSN Program.

- Student learns to apply process of Translating Research into an EBP Change, Quality Improvement Initiative, or Innovation Project.
MAIN COURSE COMPONENTS

- Identification of a Compelling Problem in Healthcare Organization
- Critical Appraisal of Peer Reviewed Evidence to Support Project Plan
The Level of the Evidence + Quality of the Evidence = Strength of the Evidence

Confidence to Act upon the Evidence and Change Practice

Melnyk & Feinhout, 2015
Collaboration with External Stakeholders

Collaboration with a Prepared Preceptor - Serves as the Advisor/Navigator during the Development and Implementation of the Capstone Project

Ongoing support from the Mentoring Team, Capstone Writing Specialist, and University-wide Support Services

Development of the Final Written Capstone Project and Multi-media Presentation
Research Evidence

Clinical Expertise (assessment, resources, internal evidence)

Patient Preferences and Values

Clinical Decision Making

Quality Patient Outcomes

Melnyk & Feinhout, 2015
STUDENT SUPPORT SYSTEM: A UNIQUE, AUTHENTIC FACULTY MENTORING MODEL

- Online support team involves Course Mentors & Student Mentors
- Collaboration with preceptor & key stakeholders in healthcare organization
- Committed to student achievement of nursing program outcomes
- Aligns with the CCNE Essentials of Master’s Education in Nursing
COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

**Student Mentor**
- Works with Student throughout duration of MSN Program
- Develops personalized Degree Plans
- Assists student with course planning, progression, and timeline
- Consistent and regular interaction via phone and email

**Course Mentor**
- Subject Matter Experts
- Offers 1:1 instruction, learning resources, and assistance with course content
- Offers cohorts and webinars

**External Stakeholders**
- Preceptor
- Key stakeholders in healthcare organization where Evidence based practice change, quality improvement, or innovation is being implemented
EXTERNAL UNIVERSITY PARTNERS
STUDENT & MENTOR RESOURCES

Program Operational Resources
- Program Managers
- Product Development
- Assessment Development

Student Resources
- Student Support Center
- Capstone Writing Specialist
- Tech Support, Financial, etc.
- Well Connect/Ecare
ACCESSIBLE > Online

AUTHENTIC > Innovative

ACTIONABLE > Project-Based

RELEVANT > Real-World, Critical Appraisal

COMPETENCY BASED > Translating Evidence to Practice
INNOVATIVE COURSE COMPONENTS

- Critically Appraising the Quality and Strength of the Evidence
- Collaborating with External Stakeholders and Preceptor
- Obtaining Organizational “Buy-in” through the Understanding of Interest, Power, and Influence of Stakeholders
- Developing and Implementing Evidence Based Practice Change
- Writing Scholarly Paper
- Reflecting on how Capstone Project Informs Professional Practice
Mentoring Strategies and Support:

Learning Resources

Capstone Writing Specialist

Course Community

Cohorts, Webinars, Videos

Telephone Conversations

Electronic Communications

Mobile Apps

Technical support/University-Wide Student Support

FACILITATING LEARNING
PERSONALIZED/GROUP
INNOVATIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES
**APPLICATION OF MENTORING MODEL**

**Personalized Student Support**
- Identification of needs/challenges
- Leverage student strengths
- Implement resources
- ESL considerations
- Academic - Writing/APA
- Technical/operational issues
- Wellness resources

**Successful Outcomes**
- Fosters authentic learning
- Promotes collaborative scholarly inquiry
- Enhances student success
- Increased awareness of the complexity of healthcare systems that transformed nursing practice and role as nurse leader/educator.
- Assists in preparation for the DNP/PhD
REFLECTIVE STUDENT FEEDBACK

The online cohorts were exceptional, your availability incredible, and the positive reinforcement kept me believing during a time of growing weary.

I have an appointment to meet with HR, the learning services director, the senior director of nursing, and the ED director for an official proposal presentation to 4 key stakeholders as my implementation process.

I told my director the good news yesterday and she sent out an email to all the nurse leaders and managers and I got lots of wonderful feedback and congratulations.

I could not have succeeded at this challenge without the help of terrific Course Mentors like yourself! I really am proud of this achievement, and I look forward to putting everything I have learned into practice.
Connectedness of all the essential components

Collaboration
Preceptor
Stakeholders
Mentoring
Actionable Evidence
Innovation
Quality
Online
Connectedness
Practice

Authentic
REFERENCES


