



Harris College
of Nursing & Health Sciences

Nursing

TCU Graduate Nursing
Doctor of Nursing Practice

DNP Project Handbook
2021-22

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	4
Overview of the DNP Project.....	4
DNP Program Outcomes.....	4
AACN Statement on DNP Projects.....	5
Types and Examples of DNP Project Ideas.....	5
Quality Improvement.....	5
Healthcare Delivery Innovation.....	5
Program Development and/or Evaluation.....	5
Translation of Evidence into Practice.....	5
Healthcare Policy Analysis.....	5
Executive Leadership.....	5
Systematic/Scoping Review.....	5
DNP Project Committee.....	6
Project Committee Director.....	6
Project Committee Member.....	6
Committee Meetings.....	6
Committee Changes.....	7
Authorship Guidelines.....	7
Project Courses.....	8
Project-Related Courses.....	8
DNP Project I.....	9
DNP Project II.....	9
DNP Project III.....	9
Failure to Progress.....	9
DNP Project Proposal.....	9

DNP Written Project.....	9
DNP Poster Presentation.....	10
DNP Oral Presentation.....	10
Institutional Review Board Requirements.....	10
CITI Training.....	10
Project Forms/ Examples.....	12
DNP Project Courses- Project Director Evaluation Form.....	12
DNP Project Proposal Form.....	13
DNP Project Outline.....	14
DNP Project Evaluation Rubric.....	16
References.....	19
Example Written Format.....	19

Introduction

Welcome the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program at Texas Christian University. No matter which TCU DNP Program students have selected, all DNP programs at TCU and across the country require students to complete a scholarly project as a requirement for graduation. The TCU DNP curriculum allows students the opportunity to complete different elements of the DNP Project throughout the course work to ensure a timely completion of the DNP Project. Dedicated DNP Project courses and practicum hours devoted to the DNP Project aid students to fulfill this scholarship requirement.

Overview of the DNP Project

The DNP Project is intended to engage the doctoral student in translating evidence into practice by impacting nursing practice through a substantive scholarly work. The DNP project is similar in concept to a doctoral thesis but is rooted in the practice focus and is not considered a research project. DNP Projects should not be referred to as nursing research.

Students should enter the DNP Program with a project idea that can be explored during the DNP coursework. Students should select a project that is both in an area of interest and an area of expanding expertise with the goal of impacting patients, populations, communities or institutional, local, state, federal, or global health policies. The project should result in a positive change in the health care system and/or improved outcomes for a targeted population. The DNP Project serves as a springboard for future scholarly work and impact on the nursing profession.

DNP student growth occurs through the knowledge and expertise gained through the process of creation, innovation, development, planning, implementation, and resulting impact of the DNP Project experience. The DNP Project should illustrate a synthesis of knowledge gained throughout the DNP Program from all coursework and practicum experiences.

TCU DNP Program Outcomes

1. Demonstrate values and behaviors that support the vision, mission, and core values of TCU and TCU Nursing.
2. Apply principles of advanced decision making to evaluate the complexities of healthcare in a global society.
3. Assume leadership roles for effective transdisciplinary collaboration in healthcare systems to promote optimal outcomes.
4. Use information systems to design, select, and evaluate programs of care, healthcare systems, and health outcomes.
5. Critically analyze healthcare policies to influence and educate policy makers and stakeholders.
6. Employ ethical principles to decision-making in healthcare practices and systems.
7. Design, deliver, direct, and disseminate high-quality evidence-based practices.

American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Statement on DNP Projects

The scholarly work may take on various final forms depending on the academic institution's requirements and the student's area (specialty or role) of study/practice. Key elements of the scholarly work include problem identification; a search, analysis, and synthesis of the literature and evidence; translating evidence to construct a strategy or method to address a problem; designing a plan for implementation and actual implementation when possible, and an evaluation of the outcomes, process, and/or experience (AACN, 2021, p. 31).

TCU DNP Project Types and Examples

Quality Improvement Project

Quality improvement initiative to improve safety, efficiency, patient experience, and/or care delivery.

Health Delivery Innovation

Development of technology-based intervention to improve health outcomes.

Program Development and/or Evaluation

Creation of a program to address patient-specific populations (i.e., cancer survivorship group)

Translation of Evidence into Practice

Toolkit to improve education, identification, and treatment of Type I Narcolepsy in adolescent males ages 12-17.

Health Policy Analysis

Comparison of vaccination initiatives and program funding for COVID-19.

Executive Leadership

Program initiative to address nursing burnout and improve staff resilience in hospital-based nursing.

Systematic/Scoping Review with Guideline Development

Systematic review of neonatal abstinence syndrome and development of treatment guideline to standardize care.

DNP Project Committee

Each student will be assigned a DNP Project Director and Project Committee member to engage with during the DNP Project work. Faculty selections will be made based upon faculty availability and alignment of expertise to the project concept. Faculty selections will be determined during Graduate Program Committee meetings by the graduate nursing faculty. Project Director and Project Committee assignments will be shared with the student after review of the proposed DNP projects by the program coordinators. Committee assignments will take place early in the program and prior to DNP Project I.

DNP Project Director Responsibilities

- Orient the student to the process and guidelines for the DNP Project
- Meet with students on a regular basis (a minimum of once each semester) to facilitate project planning, development, implementation, writing, and dissemination
- Guide the development of the project idea and proposal
- Provide feedback on the project proposal and readiness to submit the DNP Project Proposal Form
- Determine readiness to submit proposal to the TCU IRB for review and mentor student through the process
- Approve the project timeline and budget- if applicable
- Evaluate progress by completing DNP Project Director Evaluation Form (Appendix A) each semester providing written feedback and goals
- Critique and provide feedback on written and oral project submissions
- Approve completion of the Final DNP Project (written and oral) and eligibility for graduation
- Approve Final Project PowerPoint Presentation and Poster

DNP Project Committee Member Responsibilities

- Meet with students and the DNP Project Director on a regular basis (a minimum of once each semester) to provide additional feedback and guidance
- Review the timeline and budget (if applicable) for additional feedback and concerns
- Critique and provide feedback on written and oral project submissions
- Approve completion of the Final DNP Project (written and oral), Project Poster, and eligibility for graduation

Committee Meetings

Students should schedule meetings with the DNP Project Chair and Committee Member at their convenience via face-to-face, zoom, or teleconference. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure meetings occur at least once per semester with the DNP Project Chair and as needed with the Committee Member for additional feedback. Students may request additional

committee meetings to ensure progression of the DNP Project or for questions and/or concerns at any time during the DNP Program. Students may meet with the committee members separately but should attempt to have a minimum of one committee meeting per semester quarter where all members of the committee are present. Students who do not meet with the committee at regular intervals could jeopardize approval of DNP Project submissions and progression towards graduation.

Committee Changes

DNP Project Committee membership could change during the DNP Program. Changes may occur if:

1. DNP Project Director or DNP Committee member is no longer able to work with the student or leaves TCU.
2. A good working relationship is not able to be maintained between any members of the DNP Project Committee and the student. Efforts should be made to mediate issues but if the issue becomes unresolvable or disruptive to student progression, the student or committee member may request a membership change.

A request for change should be explored through an email to the Director of Graduate Nursing outlining the request and explanation or reason for the request. The Program Coordinator's and the Committee members will be consulted and a new assignment will be made once information is conferred and a new faculty member agrees to the assignment.

Authorship Guidelines

Dissemination of scholarly work by DNP graduates is important to advance nursing science. When a DNP student collaborates with faculty on a project or publication, the authorship of the article should be discussed early in the process.

Authorship of the article is as follows:

- the DNP student is the first author, and
- The Project Committee Director will help the student determine listing of authors based on the guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE).
<http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>

According to the ICMJE (2021) guidelines, "authorship should be based on the following four criteria:

- Substantial contributions to the conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data;
- Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and

- Final approval of the version to be published.
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.”

“All those designated as authors should meet all four criteria for authorship, and all who meet the four criteria should be identified as authors. Those who do not meet all four criteria should be acknowledged.... These authorship criteria are intended to reserve the status of authorship for those who deserve credit and can take responsibility for the work” (ICMJE, 2021).

DNP Courses

Most DNP courses align with the development of the DNP Project. Opportunities will arise during the DNP program to explore areas of the DNP Project through course information and/or assignments. Students should be thinking about how an assignment or knowledge gleaned through the DNP course work can be translated to, enhance the project, or integrate with the DNP Project work.

Students will also be completing required practicum hours that can be used to work on the DNP Project requirements outside of their normal work schedule. Practicum hours should be approved through Program Coordinators prior to completion.

Although each course is a separate entity with course objectives and outcomes, courses were developed to aid students in the step-by-step process of the DNP Project. The courses further the DNP Project idea, development, planning, implementation, evaluation, and dissemination. Each student will have a unique expertise and practice experience to guide the scholarly project. Through collaboration with course faculty and the DNP Project Committee, students should progress through each semester with goals related to the DNP Project and receive feedback to ensure progression on the DNP Project.

Foundations of Scholarly Inquiry, Translational Research, & Emerging Science for Advanced Practice: The topic of interest, population, and project aim/goals will be identified. Students will explore the significance and background of the topic. The literature review will be conducted. Students should begin developing drafts of Chapter I & II of the written project to support the DNP Project Proposal and Final Written Project and complete CITI Training. Certificate must be submitted and retained for IRB.

Health Policy & Politics: Students will consider the policy implications of the proposed project and continue working on development of the introduction and literature review.

DNP Project I: Students will continue to work on Chapter I & II of the written project and submit a DNP Project Proposal. Students will complete and submit TCU IRB Submission forms for approval prior to implementation or further development of the DNP Project. CITI certificate must be available for IRB submission.

DNP Project II: Further development, data collection, and project implementation (if applicable) will be completed. Students will submit IRB forms to site-based IRBs (if applicable). The written project draft will be developed and finalized with exception of the project results (if applicable). Evaluation steps will be reviewed and initiated, as appropriate. Final draft will be submitted based upon feedback from DNP Project Director and Committee Member.

DNP Project III: Project evaluation and results should be available for completion of Chapter IV. Final written project will be submitted for approval prior to February 15th. Students will develop a project poster and oral presentation for dissemination prior to graduation.

Failure to Progress - DNP Project

Student evaluations occur through DNP Project Committee evaluations (see DNP Project Evaluation Form). An unacceptable evaluation by the DNP Project Committee could result in a delay of progression in the program affecting the student's graduation timeline. The student must meet with the Director of Graduate Nursing and the Program Coordinator to determine next steps if this occurs.

Students who do not receive final approvals on the DNP Project Proposal, the Written Project, the Oral Presentation, or the Project Poster will not progress to graduation. Students will meet with the Director of Graduate Nursing and the program administrator, the Director of APRN Studies or the Program Coordinator, to determine a plan for completion. Students may need to enroll in additional courses to graduate.

DNP Project Proposal

The DNP Project Proposal will be submitted in DNP Project I. Student proposals will be evaluated by assigned Graduate Faculty and approve or sent back to the student for revisions. Additional information will be provided in DNP Project I. The DNP Project Proposal Form can be reviewed in the appendices (Appendix B).

DNP Written Project

The DNP Project must be written following the American Psychological Association (APA) 7th edition (or newer) guidelines. Papers that do not adhere to APA formatting guidelines will not be approved. A DNP Written Project Outline is available in the appendices (Appendix C). Not every project will have all sections or headings but in general, most will follow this outline. DNP Project Committees will advise on requirements should the project type not fit the outline.

Written projects should be no more than 20-25 pages excluding references and appendices.

Some students engage the services of an editor to help adhere to APA guidelines and improve the DNP Project Proposal and Written Project. While this is not required, it is recommended that students consider personal writing skills and work to ensure well-written submissions throughout the program. The [TCU writing center](#) is also available to help students struggling with writing and may have suggestions for available editors.

DNP Project Poster

Students will receive guidelines for development and dissemination of the DNP Project Poster in DNP Project III.

DNP Oral Presentation

To enhance presentation skills and dissemination of the DNP Project, students will provide a PowerPoint presentation of the DNP Project prior to graduation. The presentations will be completed during DNP Project III. Additional information will be provided in the course about requirements and timing. Student presentations will be evaluated by the DNP Project Committee and the Graduate Faculty in attendance. Approval of progression to graduation will be completed at this time.

CITI Training

Students must complete CITI Training prior to beginning the project and submission to TCU IRB. CITI Training is a requirement of the Foundations for Scholarly Inquiry course but can be completed any time prior to this course while enrolled in the program. If a student has completed CITI training prior to enrolling, the training must have been completed in the previous 3 years and must not expire prior to the end of the project or graduation. Information on TCU CITI Training can be found on the [TCU Research website](#).

IRB Guidelines

Students will submit the DNP Project for approval by TCU IRB. TCU IRB procedures can be found through [TCU Institutional Review Board](#). Students should familiarize themselves with the protocols, forms, and procedures of the TCU IRB prior to the DNP Project I course, the development of TCU IRB Submission Forms, and the development of the DNP Project Proposal. As processes and procedures are subject to change, TCU and DNP required IRB forms will be available in the DNP Project I Course.

Many institutions also require IRB approval to complete a DNP Project in the facility in which the project will take place. It is the student's responsibility to ensure proper IRB processes are being adhered to and application forms and deadlines met.

Some institutions can take considerable time approving IRB submissions. Be aware of deadlines, meeting times, and requirements of the facility and prepare early for institutional submissions.

Failure to apply for or adhere to institutional or TCU IRB requirements can result in expulsion from the DNP program.

It is the student's responsibility to identify the requirements for submission and move forward the required forms and documents. Students should discuss submission and requirements with the DNP Project Committee prior to DNP Project I. Late submissions to an Institutional IRB may have severe consequences such as project revisions, not meeting DNP Project deadlines, and/or failure to progress to graduation.

Project Forms



TCU GRADUATE NURSING DNP PROJECT PROGRESS EVALUATION FORM

The DNP Project Progress Evaluation Form is to be completed at the end of each DNP Project course or each semester. This is to keep students on track with the project and ensure communication between student and the DNP Project Director. When the progress report has been completed, please email it to the student for submission in courses.

Student name: _____ Date: _____ Anticipated Graduation: _____

Project Director: _____ Current Project-Related Course: _____

____ Student has contacted me at least once during the course or semester.

____ Student has made progress on the DNP Project.

____ Student has responded to my feedback regarding the required work for the DNP Project during this semester.

Describe what goals have been met on the DNP Project during the semester:

Areas for improvement:

Areas of strength:

Next steps/ Goals for next semester:

Project Director signature: _____ Date: _____

Project-related course work:

Foundations of Scholarly Inquiry, Translational Research, & Emerging Science for Advanced Practice: The topic of interest, population, and project aim/goals will be identified. Students will explore the significance and background of the topic. The literature review will be conducted. Students should begin developing drafts of Chapter I & II of the written project to support the DNP Project Proposal and Final Written Project.

Health Policy & Politics: Students will consider the policy implications of the proposed project and continue working on development of the introduction and literature review.

DNP Project I: Students will continue to work on Chapter I & II of the written project and submit a DNP Project Proposal. Students will complete and submit TCU IRB Submission forms for approval prior to implementation or further development of the DNP Project.

DNP Project II: Further development, data collection, and project implementation (if applicable) will be completed. Students will submit IRB forms to site-based IRBs (if applicable). The written project draft will be developed and finalized with exception of the project results (if applicable). Evaluation steps will be reviewed and initiated, as appropriate. Final draft will be submitted based upon feedback from DNP Project Director and Committee Member.

DNP Project III: Project evaluation and results should be available for completion of Chapter IV. Final written project will be submitted for approval prior to February 15th. Students will develop a project poster and oral presentation for dissemination prior to graduation.



Harris College
of Nursing & Health Sciences

Nursing

**TCU GRADUATE NURSING
DNP PROJECT PROPOSAL &
REVIEW FORM**

Student Name (s)			
Program of Study:		Program Track/ Certification:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Post Master's DNP <input type="checkbox"/> BSN-DNP <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse Anesthesia		<input type="checkbox"/> Leadership <input type="checkbox"/> AGACNP <input type="checkbox"/> PMHNP <input type="checkbox"/> CNS <input type="checkbox"/> FNP <input type="checkbox"/> CRNA	
Project Director		Project Committee Member(s)	
Project Start Date		Anticipated Completion Date	
Is this a group project? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Project Type:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Quality Improvement <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Delivery Innovation (ex: Technology) <input type="checkbox"/> Program Development and Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Translation of Evidence into Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Other		<input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Policy Analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Systematic / Scoping Review <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Leadership	
if other, briefly explain:			
DNP Project Review Questions			
1. Will the proposed project involve testing an experimental drug, device (including medical software or assays) or biologic?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
2. Has the project received funding (e.g. federal, industry) to be conducted as a human subjects research study?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
3. Is this a systematic investigation designed with the intent to contribute to generalizable knowledge (e.g. testing a hypothesis, randomization of subjects; comparison of case vs. control; observational research; comparative effectiveness research; or comparable criteria in alternative research paradigms)?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>**STOP** If YES to any of the DNP Project Review Questions, project will likely require review by the TCU Institutional Review Board (IRB). Work with Project Director to submit all required IRB forms for this type of project. If NO to all of the DNP Project Review Questions, students should complete the Not Human-Subject Research Request Form for review by TCU IRB.</p>			

The written portion of the DNP Project must follow the 7th edition (or newer) American Psychological Association (APA) guidelines. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in the written project not receiving final approval. Some projects may require slightly different sections based upon the project type. In this case, the Project Director and Project Committee will advise on what sections will be required.

In general, the written portion of the DNP Project should include the following:

- I. Title Page
- II. Abstract with Keywords
- III. Acknowledgements
- IV. Table of Contents
- V. Chapter I- Introduction
 - a. Statement of Problem
 - b. Purpose/Aim of Project
 - c. Background and Significance
 - d. Impact of the Project/ National Quality Aims
 - e. Short and Long-term Goals of Project
 - f. Conceptual Framework
- VI. Chapter II- Literature Review
- VII. Chapter III- Project Design
 - a. Population of Interest
 - b. Project Setting
 - c. Project Questions
 - d. Purpose of the Project
 - e. SWOT Analysis
 - i. Strengths
 - ii. Weaknesses
 - iii. Opportunities
 - iv. Threats
 - f. Data Collection (include data collection tool- if applicable)

- g. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria (if applicable)
 - h. Plan/ Procedure
 - i. Resources Required (include budget)
 - j. Project Timeline
- VIII. Chapter IV- Project Results and Dissemination
- a. Participants
 - b. Methods
 - c. Results
 - d. Discussion
 - e. Significance of Project to Nursing Practice
 - f. Limitations
 - g. Recommendations
 - h. Dissemination Plan
- VIV. References
- IX. Appendices, Tables, Figures

**TCU Nursing DNP Program
Texas Christian University
DNP Project Evaluation Rubric**

Student:
Title of Project:
DNP Presentation Date:
Evaluator:

Criteria and points	Ratings				
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Inadequate	Score
Knowledge and Skills					
Chapter I Introduction					20
Statement of Problem	Problem is clearly identified. Nature and significance of problem is well described.	Problem mostly identified clearly the nature and significance of problem is well described.	Problem is somewhat identified and the nature and significance of problem is somewhat well described.	Problem not is identified and the nature and significance of problem is omitted .	
Project Purpose and Aim	Purpose of the project is described in one well written sentence. Aims appropriate for project	Purpose of the project is described in one mostly written sentence. Aims are mostly appropriate for project.	More than one sentence is used to state the purpose of the project. Aims somewhat appropriate.	Purpose of the project is unclear, poorly written, and unnecessarily long. Aims are inappropriate.	
Background and Significance; Impact of Project	Relevance clearly stated and clinical issue clearly defined; impact of project clearly stated	Relevance (mostly) clearly stated and clinical issue clearly defined	Relevance somewhat clearly stated support and clinical issue somewhat clearly defined	Relevance not clearly stated and clinical issue not clearly defined	
Conceptual Framework/ Model	Model/framework selected to change practice are identified and rationale for selection provided.	Model/framework selected to change practice are identified and rationale for selection provided missing (one item missing)	Model/framework selected to change practice are identified and rationale for selection provided is missing (two items missing)	Model/framework selected to change practice are identified and rationale for selection provided missing. (three items missing)	
Chapter II Literature Review					20
Literature Review (Evidence)	Literature search terms, number of articles retrieved /reviewed are identified. Evidence from studies regarding	Literature search terms, number of articles retrieved /reviewed is missing or evidence cited is old (>10yrs) or	Literature search terms, number of articles retrieved /reviewed is missing or evidence cited is old (>10yrs) and	Search terms and breadth of literature is missing and evidence regarding practice change is not	

	practice change is clearly summarized and evaluated for quality .	Evidence from studies regarding practice change is not clearly summarized and evaluated for quality .	Evidence from studies regarding practice change is not clearly summarized and evaluated for quality .	summarized or evaluated.	
Chapter III Project Design					20
Population of Interest and Project Setting	POI and Project setting clearly described	POI and Project mostly setting clearly described	POI and Project somewhat setting clearly described	POI and Project setting not clearly described	
Methodology/Evaluation	Appropriate methodology utilized; appropriate setting, outcomes measurements clearly described	Mostly appropriate methodology utilized; appropriate setting, outcomes measurements mostly clearly described.	Somewhat appropriate methodology utilized; appropriate setting, outcomes measurements somewhat clearly described.	Inappropriate methodology utilized; In inappropriate setting, outcome measurements not clearly described.	
Plan/ Procedure; Timeline; Resources needed (Budget)	Clearly outlined with timeline and resources needed	Mostly Clearly outlined with timeline and resources needed	Somewhat Clearly outlined with timeline and resources needed	Not clearly outlined; lacks timeline or resources.	
Chapter IV Project Results and Dissemination					20
Analysis	Analyses appropriate for project; well described	Analyses mostly appropriate for project; somewhat well described	Analyses somewhat appropriate for project; somewhat well described	Analyses not appropriate for project; poorly described	
Results	Interpretation of results accurate with good synthesis	Interpretation of results mostly accurate with good synthesis	Interpretation of results somewhat accurate with poor synthesis	Interpretation of results not accurate with poor synthesis	
Discussion; Significance of Project, Limitations; Recommendations	Discussion correlates with findings and includes limitations, and recommendations	Discussion mostly (>70%) correlates with findings and includes limitations, and recommendations	Discussion somewhat (<70% but at least 50%)correlates with findings and includes limitations and recommendations	Discussion does not correlate with findings and does not include limitations and recommendations	
Communication and Presentation					20
Writing	No grammatical, spelling, punctuation, or formatting issues; paper easy to read; in student's own words	A few grammatical, spelling, punctuation, or formatting issues; paper is challenging to	Several grammatical and spelling, punctuation, or formatting issues; paper is difficult to read; but	Numerous grammatical, spelling, punctuation, and formatting issues; paper is difficult to read; not in	

		read at times; but mostly in student's own words	mostly in student's own words	student's own words	
APA and References	Consistent with current APA in-text citations; relevant references; current references (<5 yrs)	Mostly (>70%) consistent with current APA in-text citations; relevant references; current references (<5yrs)	Consistent (< 70% but at least 50%) with current APA in-text citations; relevant references; references (<5 yrs)	Consistent (< 50%) with current APA in-text citations; relevant references; references (<5 yrs)	
Electronic Presentation	Slides are clear and easy to see and read; do not contain spelling or punctuation errors	Slides are mostly clear and easy to see and read; do not contain spelling or punctuation errors	Slides are somewhat clear and easy to see and read; and contain few spelling or punctuation errors	Slides are not clear or easy to see and read; and contain spelling or punctuation errors	
Verbal Presentation	Presentation is clear, succinct, engaging, and allows adequate time for Q & A	Presentation is mostly clear, succinct, engaging, and allows adequate time for Q & A	Presentation is somewhat clear, succinct, engaging, and allows little time for Q & A	Presentation is not clear, succinct, or engaging, and does not allow time for Q & A	

References

American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2021). The Essentials: Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education.

<https://www.aacnursing.org/Portals/42/AcademicNursing/pdf/Essentials-2021.pdf>

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (2021). Defining the Role of Authors and Contributors.

<http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>

Example of Written Project Formatting

See following pages.

TITLE OF PROJECT: IN ALL CAPS

By

Name of Student

DNP Project

Submitted to the TCU Graduate Nursing Faculty
in the Harris College of Nursing and Health Sciences
at Texas Christian University

In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Doctor of Nursing Practice

Month and Year

Acknowledgements

Abstract

Keywords:

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	
Statement of Problem.....	
Purpose/ Aim of Project.....	
Background and Significance.....	
Impact of the Project/ National Quality Aims.....	
Short and Long-term Goals of Project.....	
Conceptual Framework.....	
Literature Review.....	
Project Design.....	
Population of Interest.....	
Project Setting.....	
Project Questions.....	
Purpose of the Project.....	
SWOT Analysis.....	
Strengths.....	
Weaknesses.....	
Opportunities.....	
Threats.....	
Data Collection.....	
Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria.....	
Plan/Procedure.....	
Resources Required.....	
Project Timeline.....	
Project Results and Dissemination.....	
Participants.....	
Methods.....	

Findings.....

Discussion.....

Significance of Project to Nursing Practice.....

Limitations.....

Recommendations.....

Dissemination Plan.....

References.....

Appendices, Tables, Figures.....

Introduction

Introduce the project. Make sure to indent paragraphs 0.5" and follow APA formatting. Everything should be written in past tense as the final written project will be submitted after the project is complete. Start this now to make it easier.

Section headings may vary depending on project. Project Director and Committee Members will advise on required headings for your project. This is an example only based on the outline!

Statement of the Problem

Purpose/Aim of the Project

Background and Significance

Impact of the Project: National Quality Aims

This may be different for your project. You may use a different aim such as Healthy People 2030 or the Future of Nursing 2030 Report. Align your project with the best national goals. How will your project make a difference?

Short and Long-term Goals of the Project

What do you want to accomplish immediately and what plans do you have to add to this project in the future?

Conceptual or Evidence-Based Practice Framework

Find a framework that complements what you are accomplishing with your project. What will guide your plan? How will you strengthen the structure of your project? Briefly discuss how the theory aligns with your project idea and plan.

Literature Review

In this section you will explore the relevant and current literature related to your project. Your sources should be no more than 5 years old unless you have classic or sentinel studies or research to share. This section should explore the project idea and the concepts. Seek guidance and feedback from your DNP Project Committee. Use a Literature Matrix and contact Alysha Sapp for help with searching terms and databases.

Project Design

Population of Interest

Project Setting

Project Questions

Purpose of the Project

SWOT Analysis

Every project should be reviewed for barriers to implementation and opportunities for change. Consider the population, the setting, openness to change, leadership support, etc.

Strengths

Weaknesses

Opportunities

Threats

Data Collection

Describe what information will be collected and how this will be done. Look for available programs and/or tools to help with data collection.

Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

How will you decide who is included in the project? Staff? Patients? What excludes participation or specific data? Describe here.

Plan/Procedure

Provide a step-by-step explanation of how the project will be conducted.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Resources Required

Will you need handouts, fliers, presentations, forms, websites? What will you use to conduct your project? Outline here. If you will need to purchase items or services, please provide a budget explanation here and provide budget breakdown in an appendix.

Project Timeline

Explain when you will accomplish what activity toward completion of your project.

Provide the project timeline in table format as an appendix.

Project Results and Dissemination

Participants

Methods

Findings

Discussion

Significance of the Project to Nursing Practice

Limitations

Recommendations

Dissemination Plan

References

Appendix A

