NSG330 Research Methods

Paper 1

The Challenge!
Develop a concept map by identifying concepts/sub-concepts and integrating their relationships through the use of directional arrows or broken lines into a cohesive, graphic representation of current thinking. Then, select a problem from clinical practice and prepare a 2-3 page paper presenting the problem and identifying the theoretical model which best provides the framework for the solution.

Guidelines

Introduction
Usually one or two paragraphs that introduce the subject matter of your paper in a clear, precise, and formal manner. It sets the tone for the rest of the scientific writing in your paper, and gives direction to your study.

Concept Map
“Draw” a map of all of the elements that are related to, or associated with, your overall area of clinical interest. Please use an electronic format (Word or PowerPoint for example). The Concept Map will help you formulate a Problem Statement. This Concept Map must be included in your first paper.

Problem Statement (Paper One)
Usually one paragraph, but may be more. The problem is the unsatisfactory condition for which a solution is sought. The Problem Statement should be a clear, concise, and logical statement of the relationship between the specific variables and the identified population. Remember that the independent and dependent variables have to be measurable in the real world. The Problem Statement is the cornerstone of your study.

Importance of the Problem (Paper One)
Justification, significance or “so what” related to the Problem Statement, usually described in a number of paragraphs. Reference any material supporting the problem with appropriate APA citations.

Theoretical Framework (Paper One)
Identify a theoretical framework(s) which describes or explains a phenomenon, integrates observations and concepts, and summarizes them in an orderly fashion. The theoretical framework should also explain what is known and not known about particular observations and concepts while bringing them all together in a coherent structure. A Theoretical Framework should give direction to, or support, the Problem Statement, which in turn helps you to organize your thinking/understanding. Describe why you chose this/these particular framework/s and how it/they give/s direction and organization to your research undertaking. Usually this section accounts for two or three pages.