GUIDELINES FOR CONCEPT PAPER

1. The focus of this paper is to select and analyze a concept of interest to you and the discipline of nursing. Describe the concept in clear and simple language, and why it is of interest to you.

2. Provide various definitions of the concept as it is used in nursing and other disciplines. What is the parent discipline from which it comes? What are its attributes, characteristics, components, and/or dimensions?

3. Where is the concept found? Is it derived for another discipline? How is it used in theory, nursing and otherwise?

3. Compare the concept with similar and related concepts in order to differentiate this concept with other like concepts.

4. Discuss how and at what level the concept would be quantified. How will you know it exists; empirical referents? How is it measured; nominal, ordinal, interval, and/or ratio?

5. Identify the antecedents and consequences of the concept.

6. Give an exemplar (model case) of the concept from your practice. Include empirical findings if located. Note an example of what it is not; a marginal or borderline case.

7. Ultimately, define how you define the concept for use in your practice.

8. Short PowerPoint presentation (8-10 slides) outlining major points for class presentation.

This paper will be no more than 8 typed, double-spaced pages in length, not including the References, and must be in correct APA format. Papers will be stapled in the upper left hand corner, and will NOT be submitted in folders, binders, or plastic wrap.

This paper is worth 30% of your final grade and will be evaluated using the general rubric attached.