**Module 7: Change and Leadership in Nursing Education**

Module 7 discusses how to function as a change agent and leader, while respecting legal and ethical guidelines. You will familiarize yourself with nursing organizations that develop nurse leaders. You will peruse nursing accreditation websites to see the requirements for accreditation and learn about requirements for approval through your state’s Board of Nursing. The role of the nurse educator as leader will be examined.

Change and leadership in nursing education requires a solid understanding of legal and ethical realms in both practice and education. This module provides an overview of the legal and ethical issues related to student academic performance that nurse educators commonly face in the classroom and clinical setting. A discussion of the importance of student-faculty interactions is highlighted, as well as legal and ethical issues related to academic performance, including the provision of due process, the student appeal process, assisting the failing student, and academic dishonesty. Finally, this module concludes with differentiated view of ethics, morality, and law as it relates to patient education initiatives within the health care setting.

**Readings**:

* Bastable, S. B. (2014). *Nurse as educator: Principles of teaching and learning for nursing practice* (4th ed.). Boston: Jones & Bartlett. Chapter 2.
* Billings, D. M. & J. A. Halstead. (2012). *Teaching in nursing: A guide for faculty* (4th ed.). St. Louis: Saunders. Chapter 3.
* Utley, R. (2012). *Theory and research for academic nurse educators: Application to practice.* Boston: Jones & Bartlett. Chapter 6.

**Websites:**

* American Nurses Association website: <http://nursingworld.org/>
* Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education website: <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation>
* National Council State Boards of Nursing website: <https://www.ncsbn.org/index.htm>
* National League for Nursing website: <http://www.nln.org/>

**Assignments**:

Critical Thinking Exercises: **3 pages**

Write paper (adhering to APA format) on each the following topics, **using at least 5 references synthesized into your discussion.**

* Picture yourself in a teaching, scholarship, or service role. Describe a situation where you could be a change agent and leader. What outcome are you trying to achieve, and what steps would you take to achieve this outcome?
* Describe a leadership theory that resonates with you. Why does this particular theory appeal to you in contrast to the other theories that were described in the readings? Have you ever seen a nursing leader utilize this theory?
* Six competency areas essential for creative leadership include technology master, problem solver, ambassador, change maker, communicator and team player. Which one of these attributes is a personal strength for you already? Provide an example. Which attribute will require the most in terms of your own self-development? How do you intend to grow in that area?
* Conduct a literature search on “incivility” in nursing education. Summarize the findings of the evidence-based article, and describe how you as a leader would engage with fellow professionals to mitigate this behavior.

**Discussion Question and Forum** **1 page**

Describe the advantages of becoming a Certified Nurse Educator through the National League for Nursing. Is this an avenue you hope to pursue? If so, when? If not, why not? What are your strategies for achieving this distinction?

**Professional Development: 3 pages**

Write a paper, adhering to APA format on the following topic, **using at least 5 references synthesized into your discussion:**

* Select a specific issue in nursing education or nursing practice you would like to see changed and create a plan to change that issue, describing how you would act as the change agent, and describing the leadership theory that would be the framework for enacting the change.

**Summary**:

In Module 7 you learned how to be a leader and change agent. You visited strategic professional websites to research State Board of Nursing approval and CCNE accreditation. You also perused the NLN and ANA websites to find leadership development and membership opportunities. You discussed the value of obtaining the CNE credential after graduation. You selected a specific issue in nursing education that you would like to see changed and created a plan to change that issue.

This module presented an introduction to the legal and ethical issues related to the academic performance of students. The development of positive student-faculty interactions and the faculty role in evaluation of student performance was discussed. The legal and ethical concepts that guide student and faculty interactions and relationships were explained. Academic failure in the classroom and clinical setting were explored, as were methods of assisting student thorough a difficult experience while ensuring their rights to due process. The importance of clear, mutual communication of expectations between students and faculty was emphasized.