

Assignment meets the following course objectives:

- Apply leadership and management theories to achieve high quality nursing care.
- Incorporate effective communication techniques to support interprofessional collaboration for the delivery of patient-centered care.
- Discuss concepts related to health policy, finance and regulatory principles as they apply to the nursing leadership role.
- Demonstrate nursing leadership role in advocating for social justice related to healthcare access, equity and affordability.

Purpose:

- To formulate written professional communication that advocates for a key nursing issue
- To explore advocacy tools and resources for nurses
- To reflect on nursing leadership attributes and personal perspective r/t how each contributes to and influences healthcare policy, social justice, and professional nursing practice

Goal:

- To highlight the importance of nurse centered advocacy, and identify that all nurses including students have a voice and expertise that is valued and can inspire change.

Directions:

Use the template provided to complete the following items:

1. Identify key nursing issues that matter to you
2. Learn more about your issue. Attend a meeting, webinar, or volunteer activity
3. Identify your pathway and complete an information table
 - Option A: write an opinion editorial (op-ed) for a newspaper, or publication
 - Table includes types of publications and editors contact information

- Option B: write a letter/email to an elected official
 - Table includes national, state, and local elected officials based on your zip code. Learn who represents your voice

4. Write about one key nursing issue

- Option A: write an opinion editorial (op-ed) for a newspaper, or publication
 - Submit to a publisher or editor identified in your table
- Option B: write a letter/email to an elected official
 - Send via email to an elected official identified in your table

5. Write a reflection describing how leadership attributes in nursing can help to support (or oppose) your key issue.

6. Write a personal reflection of how this assignment made you feel

Resources:

- Yoder Chapter 9
- ANA Guide for Engagement with Legislators doc
- Tips for Effective Letters to the Editor and Emailing Elected Officials doc
- ANA Effective Messaging for Legislators, Regulators, Media & Colleagues ppt
- Advocacy Meetings, Webinars, & Volunteer Links doc
- <https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/advocacy/> web link

Grading Rubric

Grading Criteria	Weight	3 Exemplary	2 Satisfactory	1 Needs Improvement	0 Not complete
1. Identify Key Nursing Issues	10%	Identifies a federal, state, and local issue (3 total) with comprehensive supporting evidence for all areas. Selects 3 different issue topics.	Identifies a federal, state, and local issue (3 total) with minimal supporting evidence for all areas. Selects 3 different issue topics.	Identifies 3 issues, but applies same supporting evidence for two or more areas: local, state, & federal.	Identifies less than 3 issues, or does not provide supporting evidence for any issue
2. Learn more about your issue. Attend a meeting, webinar, or volunteer activity	10%	Provides highly detailed notes across all 6 criteria including Date location organizing group others attended/roles topic discussed leadership attributes key takeaways	Provides detailed notes or only addresses 4-5 criteria including Date location organizing group others attended/roles topic discussed leadership attributes key takeaways	Provides notes or only addresses for 2-4 criteria including Date location organizing group others attended/roles topic discussed leadership attributes key takeaways	Does not attend or provides notes for less than 2 criteria
3. Identify your pathway, table Option A or Option B	10%	Table complete with accurate information provided for 5-6 contacts	Table partially complete with accurate information provided for 3-4 contacts	Table partially complete with accurate information provided for 1-2 contacts	Does not complete or information is not accurate

4. Write about one key nursing issue and submit for publication, or send to an elected official	45%	Submits writing that demonstrates a well-supported position with a personal sparkler r/t a key nursing issue utilizing the resources provided. Adheres to 250 max word count	Submits writing that demonstrates a weakly supported position or does not include a personal sparkler r/t a key nursing issue utilizing the resources provided, or submission is > 250 word count	Submits a form letter or other writing that is mass produced by a group or person other than the student and is designed for mass distribution	Does not complete, or does not provide evidence via screenshot of whom the email/letter was sent to including date or timestamp.
5. Reflection leadership attributes	10%	Provides a 3-4 sentence thoughtful reflection describing leadership attributes r/t advocacy	Provides < 3-4 sentences or a minimal reflection describing leadership attributes r/t advocacy	Does not discuss nursing leadership	Does not complete
6. Reflection personal	10%	Provides a 3-4 sentence thoughtful reflection answering three questions: feelings r/t assignment, and tools for future practice	Provides < 3-4 sentences or a minimal reflection answering three questions: feelings r/t assignment, and tools for future practice	Does not answer all three reflection questions.	Does not complete
7. Spelling & Grammar	5%	Zero spelling or grammar errors	1-2 spelling or grammar errors	3-4 spelling or grammar errors	5 or more spelling or grammar errors

Nursing Advocacy Assignment Template

Assignment: Please complete all sections of this template and upload as one document to Blackboard.

1. Identify Key Nursing Issues that Matter to You! Find nursing topics through the ANA advocacy site, state government sites, or through your local newspaper. List one issue each for federal, state, and local. Include notes or links to supporting evidence or key points you want to include in your letter. Think of this section as your idea board!

Federal Issue:	
State Issue:	
Local Issue:	

2. Learn more about your issue. Attend a meeting, webinar, or volunteer activity to gain insight into the scope of the issue, and what is currently being done to address the issue. A list of current meeting links, recorded & live webinars, and activities with identified key nursing issues will be provided.

1. Take notes including date and location of attendance/viewing
2. What group or persons organized the meeting/activity?
3. Who was there: nurses, other healthcare professionals, public members? Focus on professional roles and specialized positions, please do not include names.
4. What topic was discussed?
5. What leadership attributes did you observe?
6. What are your key takeaways to apply what you learned in this meeting to professional nursing practice?

Copy and paste notes here. Screenshots and photos are acceptable.

3. Identify your pathway:

- Option A: write an opinion editorial (op-ed) for a newspaper, or publication
- Option B: write a letter/email to an elected official

Please complete the table that corresponds to the pathway you have chosen

Option A: Opinion Editorial

Your State of Residence: Your zip code: Resource: Google & web-based search engines		
Type of Publication	Name of Publication	Editors Name & Email
Local Newspaper		
National Newspaper		
Nursing Publication		
Web-based Publication		
Other		

Option B: Letter to an elected official

Your State of Residence:		
Your zip code:		
Resource: https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials		
Title	Name	Email
US Senator		
US Representative		
State Governor		
State Senator		
State Representative		
Mayor, Selectman, Local Official		

4. Write about one key nursing issue

- Option A: write an opinion editorial (op-ed) for a newspaper, or publication
 - o Submit to a publisher or editor identified in your table
- Option B: write a letter/email to an elected official
 - o Send via email to an elected official identified in your table
- 250 max word count
- Ensure your work is original, including a personal “sparkler
- Form letters or other writing that is mass produced by a group or person other than the student and designed for mass distribution will not be accepted
- Writing must include
 - o Key Message
 - Your single point
 - o Key Facts
 - Your supporting details
 - o Sparkler
 - Your anecdote or personal perspective
 - Your story that illustrates your key message

Copy and paste email/letter here showing date, name and title of the person you sent it to. Screenshots including date stamps of email are acceptable.

5. Write a 3-4 sentence reflection describing how leadership attributes in nursing can help to support (or oppose) your topic.

6. Write a 3-4 sentence personal reflection of how this assignment made you feel.

1. Were you excited, fearful, nervous?
2. Once the assignment was complete did you feel accomplished, empowered, undecided?
3. Do you see yourself using these tools in your future practice?

