

The purpose of constructing a personal philosophy of nursing is to enable the student to conceptualize or re-conceptualize his/her nursing philosophy, create one's own definitions of the concepts in the nursing metaparadigm, and relate nursing theory to the student's personal philosophy of nursing.

Part 1: Personal philosophy of nursing

This should be a statement of **your** philosophy on nursing. It should be a minimum of five sentences as one cannot appropriately convey a personal nursing philosophy in less than five sentences. As these are your thoughts, there is no need to reference in this section. In the last section you will be relating your philosophy to two nursing theories or philosophies. Be sure that when one reads your philosophy the theories can be identified. For example, if you are correlating your philosophy to Jean Watson's Theory of Transpersonal Caring and you never mention the word caring in your own philosophy, you will not be convincing that there is a correlation.

Part 2: Definitions of the concepts in the nursing metaparadigm and list two assumptions/values related to each concept

Define person, health, environment, and nursing. A definition is the statement of the meaning of something. Definitions are to be congruent with the concept. You have read and heard about a several theorists and their definitions of the concepts in the nursing metaparadigm. Now you are to establish your **own** definitions.

With each concept and definition list at least two assumptions/values that you hold in relation to the concept and definition. **Be sure the assumptions/values are congruent with the concept.** These assumptions/values are things that you believe or assume about the concept/definition. For example, under individual an assumption/value might be:

- All people are capable of change but not all people want to change.

An example of something that would not be congruent with the concept of person would be:

- Nurses must have compassion for people. This example is about nurses and not people.

As these definitions and assumptions are **your** thoughts, there is no need to reference in this section. Definitions and assumptions should be written as complete sentences. Be sure it is clear where the definition ends and the assumptions begin.

Part 3: Correlation to nursing theories and relationship to the literature

Relate your personal philosophy to a minimum of two nursing theories (or philosophies). You should clearly explain the correlation of your philosophy to each theory in a minimum of one paragraph per theory. **It is imperative that you make it clear and explain how the nursing theory (its core components, characteristics, and or terminology) and your personal philosophy correlate.** For example if you would choose Nightingale, then somewhere in your philosophy I would expect to see the word "environment. The theories may relate to your definitions or to your understanding of nursing practice and you may include that in the discussion in this section; but you **MUST** show how the chosen theories or philosophies relate to your personal philosophy.

You should utilize a minimum of one peer reviewed/scholarly resource to support the information about the theories/philosophies. This resource must be from the last fifteen years.

Organization, expression and format

Organize your paper according to the format and style suggested by APA. This includes a title page, body of the paper including introductory paragraph and conclusion, use of headings, and a reference page. An introductory paragraph should arouse the reader's attention and explain the scope of the paper. A conclusion should not just be a repeat of what you have already written but summarize and give the reader something to think about or enforce why what you wrote is important. For this paper your conclusion should identify why it is important for a nurse to be able to state his/her personal philosophy of nursing. An abstract is not required for this assignment. The paper should be a minimum of three (not 2.5) content (body) pages.

Remember that formal writing requires clarity and accuracy. Use correct grammar and spelling. Since you are writing your philosophy, you may use first person when indicated but **do NOT use first person in the introductory paragraph, use third person.**

This assignment is worth 20% and will be graded as follows:

Personal Philosophy of Nursing Paper Grading Rubric	
Paper content (40 points)	Possible points
Introduction	
• Presents an interesting overview of the theory/theorist	1
• Explains the scope of the paper	1
• Written in third person	1
Part 1-Personal Philosophy Organizes thoughts on personal philosophy. This is done in a minimum five sentences.	6
Part 2-Definitions Defines all concepts in the nursing metaparadigm (person, health, environment, nursing) and definitions are relevant to the concepts.	4
Part 2-Assumptions/ values • Includes a minimum of two assumptions/ values with each concept (person, health, environment, and nursing) that are relevant to the concept. • Makes a clear delineation of when the definition stops and the assumptions begin.	8
Part 3-Theorists	
• Clearly demonstrates the correlation of the personal philosophy to a minimum of two nursing theories or philosophies. You must have a minimum of one paragraph for each theory discussed.	10
Conclusion Discusses why it is important for a nurse to have a personal philosophy of nursing.	3
References	
• Utilizes one peer review/scholarly resource to support information in Part 3.	4
• Reference(s) must be from the last 15 years.	2
Organization, expression, and format (8 points)	
Organizes paper using headings to identify sections.	2

Uses skillful language that consistently communicates meaning to readers with clarity and fluency, and is virtually error-free of spelling and grammar errors.	4
Uses correct APA format.	4
Follows page requirement guidelines. No points. Paper will not be accepted if minimum page (3) requirement is not met.	
TOTAL	50