

# RN-BSN

## Capstone Manual

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*Welcome to the RN-BSN program.*

The School of Nursing has established a Capstone Project to be completed in the RN-BSN Capstone course. To help you plan ahead for this eight week course, below is a preview of the project along with the purpose and parameters of the course.

The course objectives for the RN-BSN Capstone course, listed below, outline what you should be able to do after you complete the course. **Keep these in mind when choosing your capstone project.**

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| 1. Critically appraise the integration of the Nine Principles in a nursing organization | 5. Critique teams for effectiveness that will assist the strategic plan   |
| 2. Analyze the global forces that are impacting the profession of nursing               | 6. Synthesize the components of strategic planning  |
| 3. Contrast the application of strategic planning concepts                              | 7. Create a professional development plan   |
| 4. Design an application of the Balanced Scorecard and Five Forces business models      | 8. Present a professional ePortfolio that showcases the work completed in the program and illustrates how programmatic outcomes have been met |

In addition to these course objectives, the programmatic objective aligned with RN-BSN Capstone Project is: Display concepts of lifelong learning to enhance personal and professional nursing practice. This objective will be utilized for your ePortfolio, but should also be a motivating factor for choosing your project.

Below are the steps for the Capstone Project. Please note, **this project is not due until the end of the RN-BSN Capstone course**; however, providing you with the full outline of the project early should help you make plans to complete it in a timely manner.



## Steps for the Capstone Project

### Step 1: Design a Project

Consider how you might design a project that incorporates one of the course outcomes above and the programmatic outcome for RN-BSN Capstone Project, and what you will do to support that you have met these objectives/outcomes. Examples of possible projects include (but are not limited to):

- Interdisciplinary collaboration on an order set using evidence-based research
- Revise a policy and procedure using evidence-based journal articles from the online library
- Create a patient teaching project for a knowledge deficit
- Organize a journal club during unit meetings and present the first report
- Volunteer at a local Head Start and introduce a current pediatric teaching method
- Arrange to provide an educational offering at a local church or library
- Evaluate a community disaster plan
- Attend a nursing faculty committee meeting and describe leadership styles
- Work with faculty to address an educational need, or present to faculty on a student issue
- Write a 5-10 page formal, scholarly paper that uses an exhaustive literature review to identify best practices on a topic of interest
- Create a scenario for a Human Patient Simulation Center utilizing evidence-based content
- Work collaboratively with a public health department to develop a teaching plan
- Publish an article in a nursing journal
- Begin a monthly unit newsletter on the use of technology and informatics
- Research Advanced Practice Nursing programs
- Sit for a certification

As you can see the opportunities are endless, constrained only by your creativity. Be certain your choice addresses the objectives/outcomes and obtain approval from your Instructor.

### Step 2: Week 1 Discussion and Assignment

**Discussion:** For your Capstone Project you will be asked to review the Programmatic Outcome for this course and choose one of the Course Objectives. Consider what you might do to support that you have met these outcomes/objectives. Thread the outcome with the chosen course objective, and choose a project that will allow you to meet those goals. This is not met in theory; it should actually be carried out and completed. Include the Programmatic Outcome, chosen Course Objective and project plan and outline in your Discussion post for this week. Respond to peers' plans with helpful suggestions.

**Assignment:** Submit your project plan from this week's second Discussion Forum question to the dropbox for approval from your Instructor. This assignment will be graded based on completion and is worth 10 points. You must gain approval from your Instructor before beginning your project.



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### **Step 3: Complete your project. Keep in contact with your Instructor during the process.**

### **Step 4: Week 7 Assignment**

After completion of the project, create an outline of your project; research, analysis, development, initiation, and evaluation. Submit this information, along with any additional documentation you created for your project (This information will be project-specific such as lesson plans, certification documents, presentation materials, etc.), to the dropbox for grading. In addition, create 3-5 PowerPoint slides that contain the Programmatic Outcome for this course, the Course Learning Objective you have chosen and a brief explanation of how the project you completed support how these have been met. These slides will be added to your slides from the previous seven (7) courses in this program and will be presented and graded in Week 8. You do not need to submit these slides this week.

### **Step 5: Week 8 Presentation**

Review the ePortfolio Manual. This week you will present the PowerPoint Presentation you have been working on throughout the program. For this assignment you will create a presentation in a media of your choice (PPT, Camtasia, etc). The presentation must contain a verbal narrative that describes your journey and each slide as well as how it has met the Programmatic Outcome and Course objective. You should also add Speaker's Notes to the PowerPoint Presentation which function as a narrative, walking the reader through this journey you have taken and assist in explaining how you have met each outcome/objective. The presentation will include all the slides you have created from each previous course as well as the slides from your Capstone Project in this course. During the presentation describe how you have met Programmatic and Course Outcomes with your artifact(s) from each course. Summarize how this has impacted your current and future role as a nurse leader with an advanced degree.

### **Step 6: ePortfolio**

Review the ePortfolio Directions and create your ePortfolio, if you haven't already done so. Add your project documentation, PowerPoint Presentation and/or full verbal presentation and your Professional Development Plan from this course to your ePortfolio. Also, add any additional supporting documentation from each course such as assignments or other artifacts to the ePortfolio prior to submission.



The following Programmatic Objectives and artifacts should have been addressed and/or uploaded throughout the RN to BSN Completion Program:

<b>Transition to Professional Nursing</b>	<i>Objective:</i> Synthesize available resources to apply critical thinking to complex clinical situations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PowerPoint slides</li><li>• Case study from week 5</li><li>• Final project – the nursing process paper</li></ul>
<b>Health Assessment for Professional Nursing</b>	<i>Objective:</i> Exercise accountability when providing and ensuring safe, efficient, quality patient care. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PowerPoint slides</li><li>• Week 8 assignment: the complete head to toe assessment</li></ul>
<b>Theoretical Concepts of Research in Nursing</b>	<i>Objective:</i> Employ clinical judgments based on evidence-based practice standards and ethical practices. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PowerPoint slides</li><li>• Week 7 assignment: ethics and prevention</li><li>• Week 7: Final Project Nursing Theory and Research</li></ul>
<b>Nursing Informatics</b>	<i>Objective:</i> Apply clinical technologies and informatics in practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PowerPoint slides</li><li>• Week 8 Final Project</li></ul>
<b>Nursing Leadership and Management</b>	<i>Objective:</i> Utilize effective communication in oral, written, interpersonal, and electronic modes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PowerPoint slides</li><li>• Week 8 Final Project</li></ul>
<b>Population Health in the Global Community</b>	<i>Objective:</i> Demonstrate proficiency in caring for communities and populations experiencing threats to well-being. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PowerPoint slides</li><li>• Week 2 PE: needs assessment of a community</li><li>• Week 3: Education program to meet health goals</li><li>• Week 5 PE: Family health promotion teaching plan</li><li>• Week 7 PE: PowerPoint Presentation</li></ul>
<b>Case Management Concepts</b>	<i>Objective:</i> Select culturally competent care concepts for individuals and families across the lifespan. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PowerPoint slides</li><li>• Week 4 assignment: cultural sensitivity in educational materials</li><li>• Week 8 assignment: comprehensive case management plan</li></ul>
<b>RN-BSN Capstone Project</b>	<i>Objective:</i> Display concepts of lifelong learning to enhance personal and professional nursing practice. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PowerPoint presentation</li><li>• Capstone Project</li><li>• Professional Development Plan</li></ul>

Submit a link to your completed ePortfolio in the dropbox for your instructor to view and grade.