

Canadian Doctoral Network Nursing Conference 2023

Abstract Submission

Title: Exploring strategies and process used to achieve academic success by undergraduate nursing students in non-university affiliated polytechnic programs.

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Stage of doctoral program: Doctoral candidate (2nd year).

Abstract

Research problem: Academic success in nursing education impacts the collective response to address the demands of a growingly complicated health care system. Across Canada, undergraduate nursing education programs are housed within non-university affiliated polytechnic institutions. Non-university affiliated polytechnic nursing programs differ from those offered in colleges and universities in terms of institutional mandates, faculty credentials and structure, and access to resources for research capacity development. There is a gap in nursing education research which focuses on identifying a process for academic success achievement in in this unique higher educational setting. **Objective:** The objective of this study is to develop a co-constructed theory or abstract conceptualization of the process utilized by undergraduate nursing students in non-university affiliated polytechnic programs to achieve academic success. **Method:** A constructivist grounded theory approach will be employed to achieve the study objectives. This qualitative research approach will include conducting semi-structured interviews with final year undergraduate nursing students from three non-university affiliated polytechnic nursing programs across Canada. Data analysis will be an iterative process. Data collection and analysis will happen concurrently using open and selective coding. Constant comparison of data will be facilitated by reflective memo writing to raise the core conceptual category and increase the trustworthiness of the findings. Theoretical sampling, unique to grounded theory research, is a key methodological tool in the data analysis. **Findings:** The ethics review for this study is pending. **Significance:** The purpose of this study is to identify approaches to optimize academic success for students enrolled in the target educational environment.