

RN-to-BSN Education, Global and Population Health Project: Think Global, Act Local

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Introduction

An associate degree in nursing (ADN) is an established pathway to becoming a Registered Nurse (RN) in the United States (US) however there is a push for ADN trained RNs to pursue further training and obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). Within the AACN Essentials, Essential VII: Clinical Prevention and Population Health a Community Health and Population-Focused Health Promotion Activity is required to be met for all BSN trained RNs. The poster outlines a novel way of meeting this requirement so that students may develop knowledge and skills around public health, health promotion and disease prevention at the individual and population level.

Background

Within the United States there are four main academic routes to achieve RN licensure they are an

1. Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN)
2. Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
3. Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)
4. Master of Nursing (MN).

For those who have achieved their RN via an ADN there is a national push for conversion of this degree to BSN.

As BSN trained RN have shown to provide high quality care and better patients outcomes

Reasons to convert from ADN to BSN

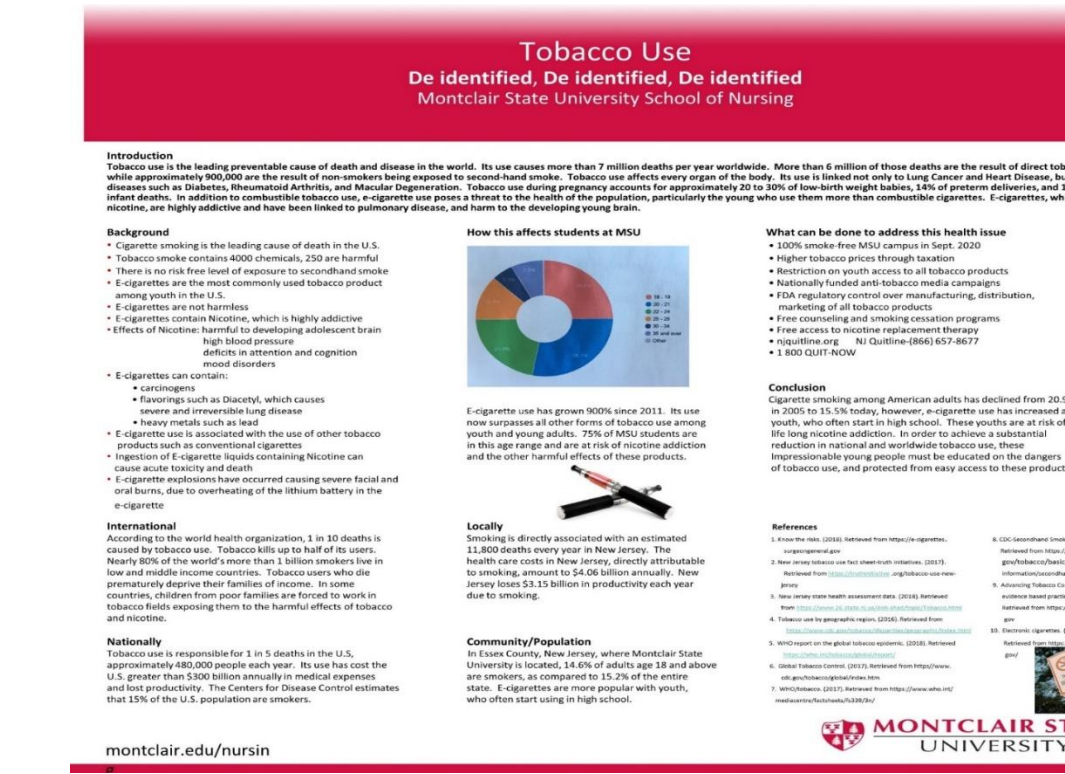
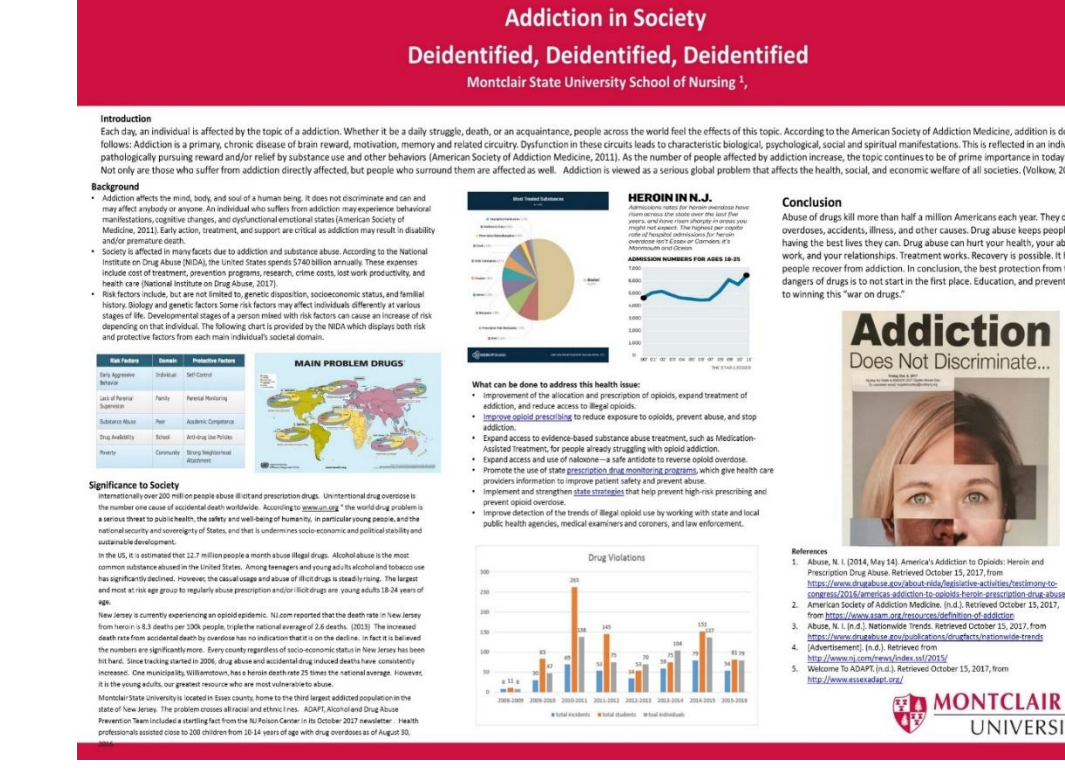
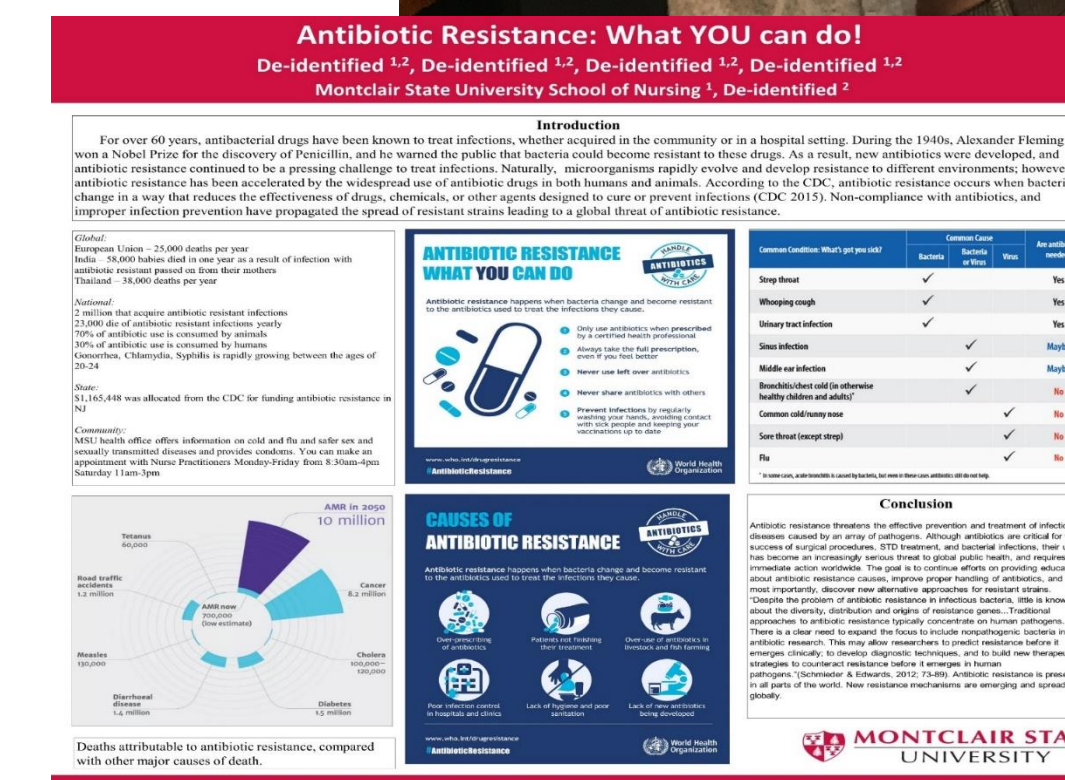
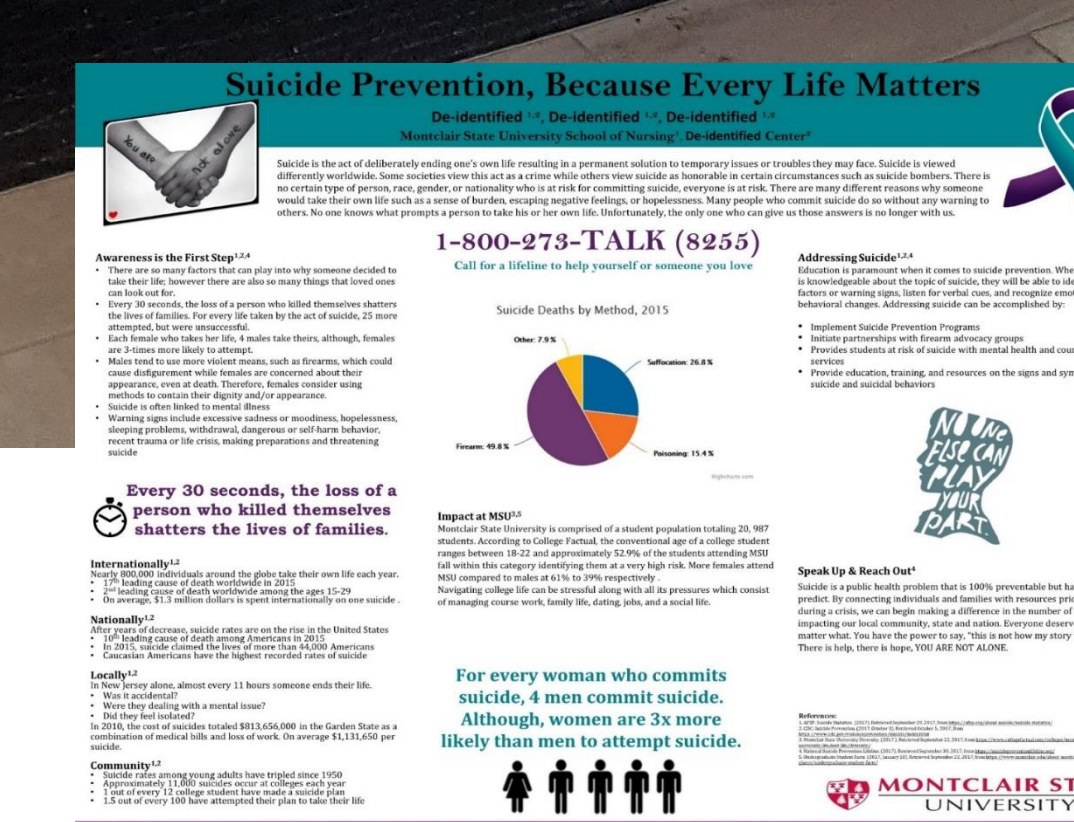
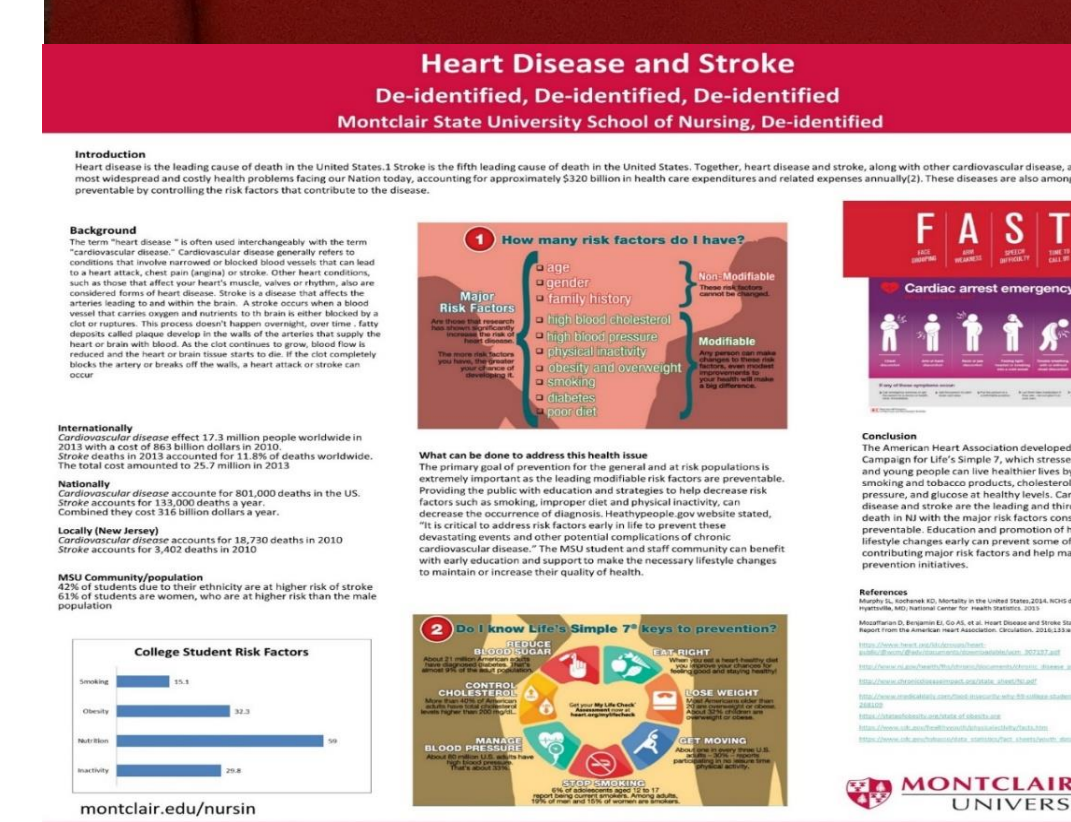
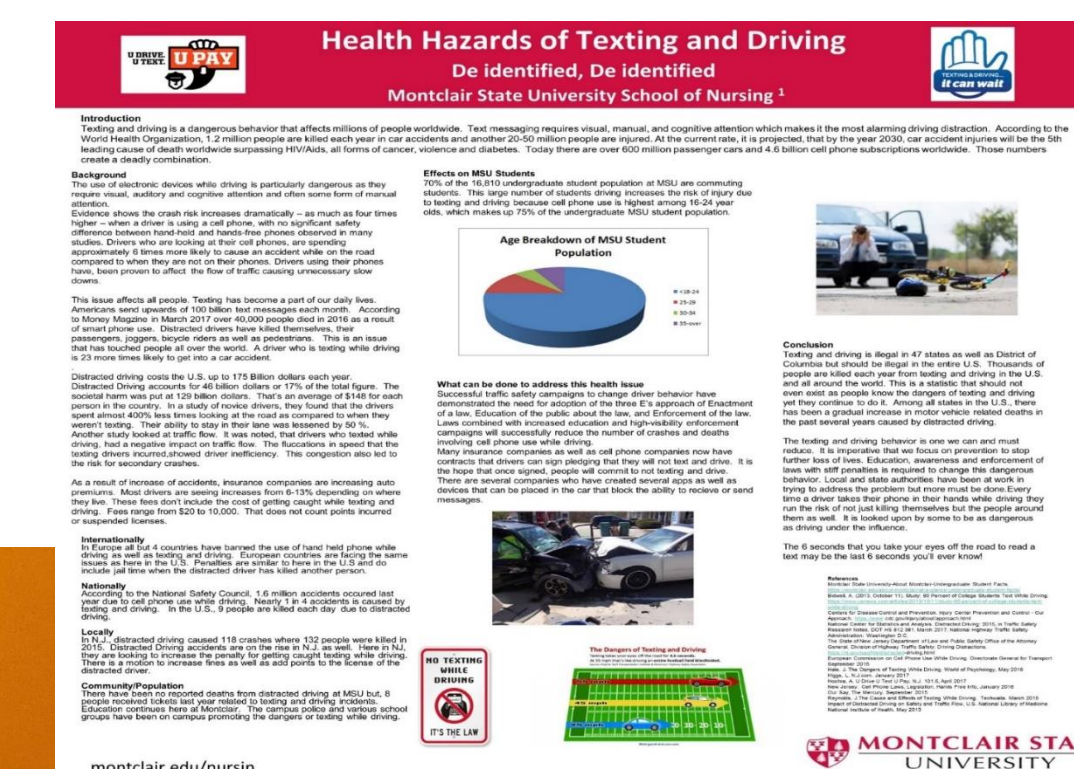
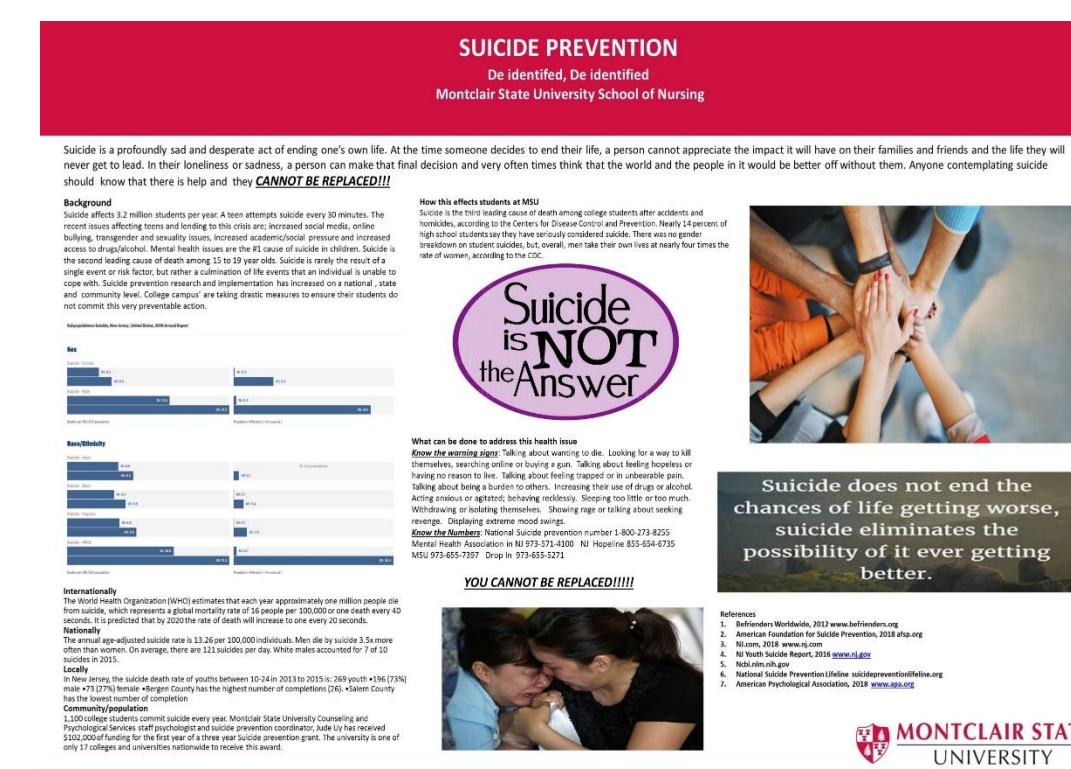
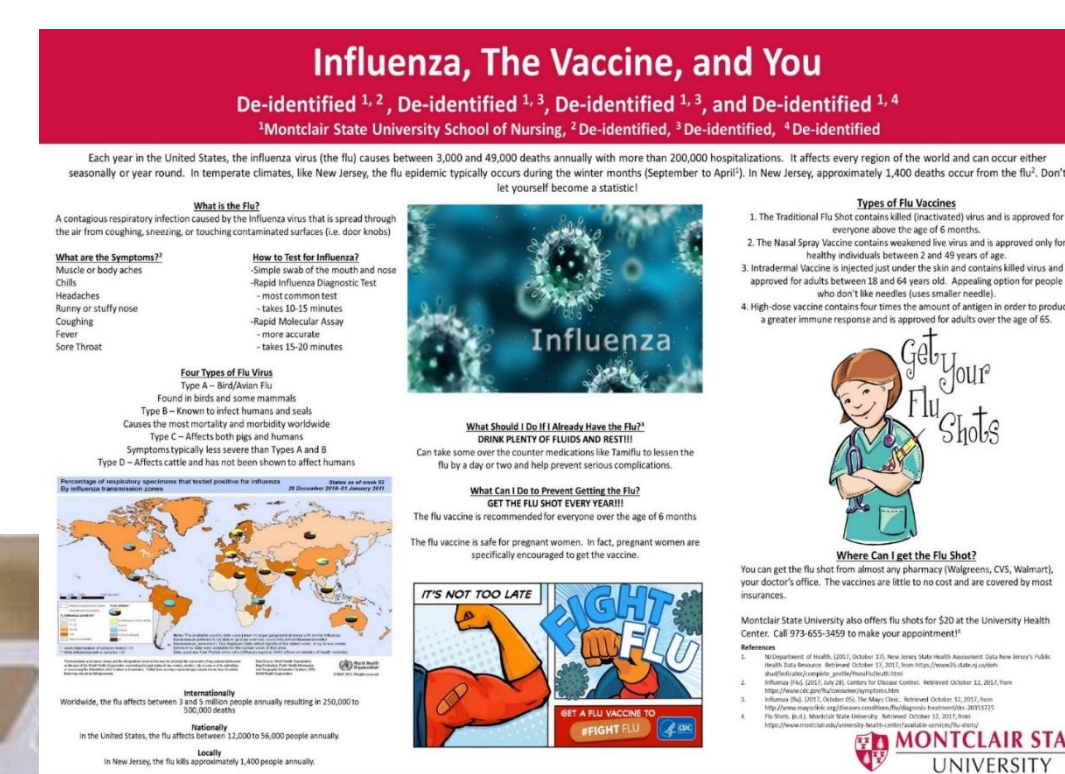
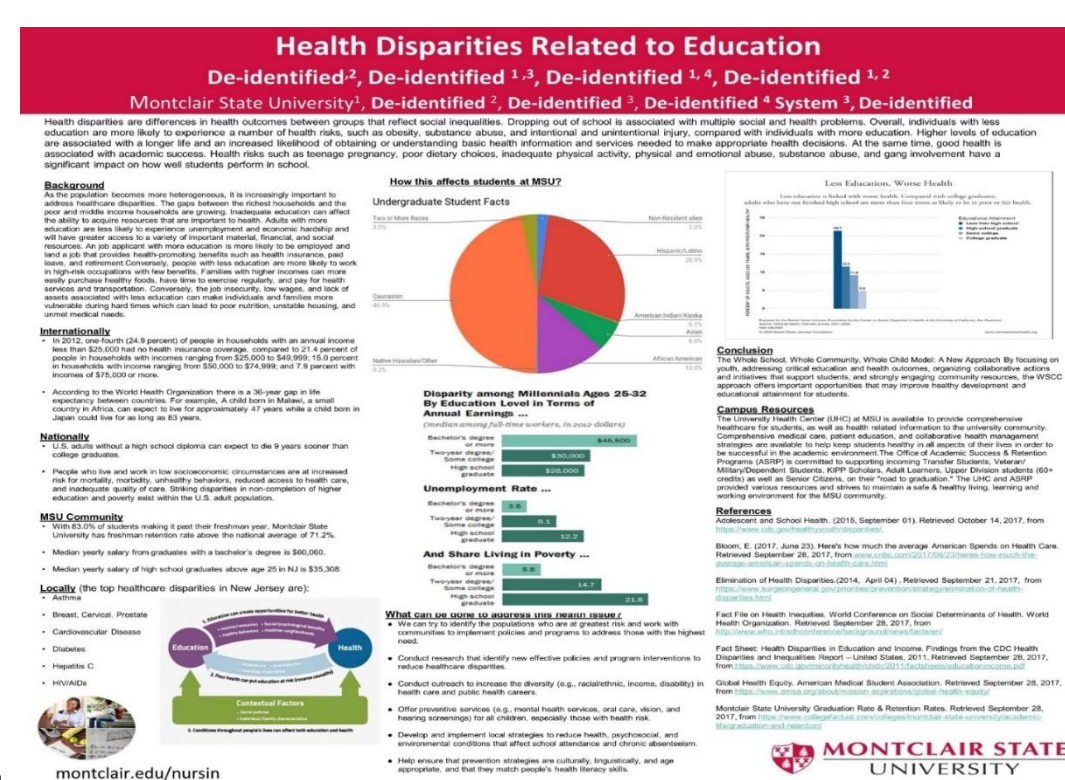
- Greater opportunity for career mobility
- Greater opportunity for educational mobility
- Desire to have a bachelor's degree
- Increased opportunities for professional development
- Desire to pursue an advanced/graduate education
- Status
- Expectation of high salary.

RN to BSN conversion

ADN typically take 2 years to complete whereas other programs take 4-5 years. ADN programs are more focused to clinical practice and for the most part neglect subjects such as Leadership, Statistics, Evidence based practice and Public health requirements

Achieving Public health requirements

To meet the AACN Essential VII: Clinical Prevention and Population Health a Community Health and Population-Focused Health Promotion Activity in an ADN to BSN program students choose a topic based on the CDC National Health Initiatives, Strategies & Action Plans to present to the MSU community.



Review

The health promotion day activity was presented to their peers with syntheses of the data collected. Further analysis of the project was done on an individual basis requiring the students to submit an individual assignment on their health promotion topic, the activity and their individual analysis of the health promotion day.

Conclusion:

This activity aligns with the Community Health and Population-Focused Health Promotion Activity for RN to BSN which is a requirement for the AACN The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice and is a model for alternative practice for RN to BSN curriculum.



The health promotion activity

Groups of students (2-4) developed a health promotion activity on campus which included a poster (see examples) on the health topic addressing its importance

- Globally
- Nationally
- Locally
- University

Around this poster a wider health promotion activity was developed to engage the university community in their selected topic.

Students also contacted local national and international organizations to source or develop their own written material around the topic or services to be handed out on the HPA day. Evaluation of the HPA was required so each person who visited the HPA were offered to undertake a simple 10 item online survey using Qualtrics © platform using principles outlined in the CDCs Community Health Assessment and Group Evaluation (CHANGE) Action Guide This accessed either by computers or tablets provided.

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