



Graduate Students' Nursing Perspectives

Sigma Theta Tau International - 26th International Nursing Research Congress

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Disclosure

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Learner Objectives:

Conflict of Interest: None

Employer: Lubbock Christian University


Sponsorship or Commercial Support: None



Introduction

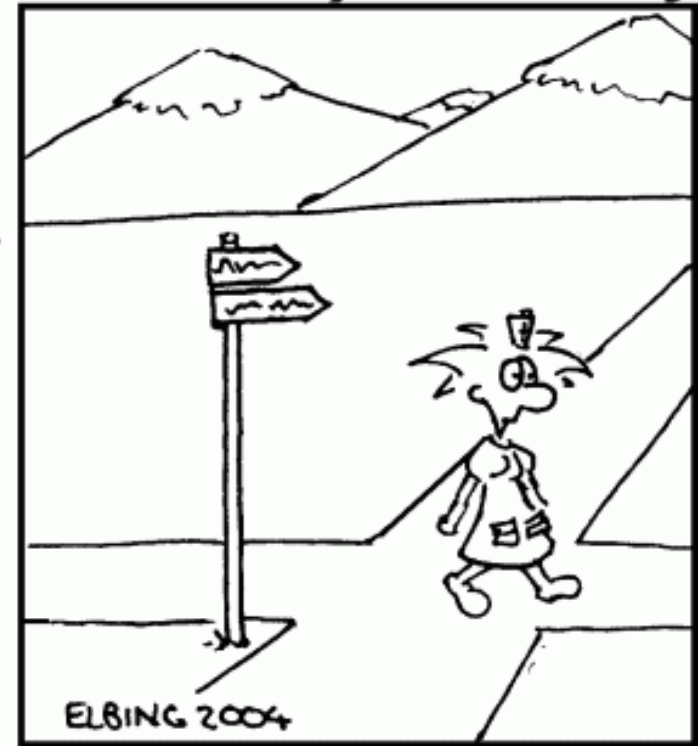
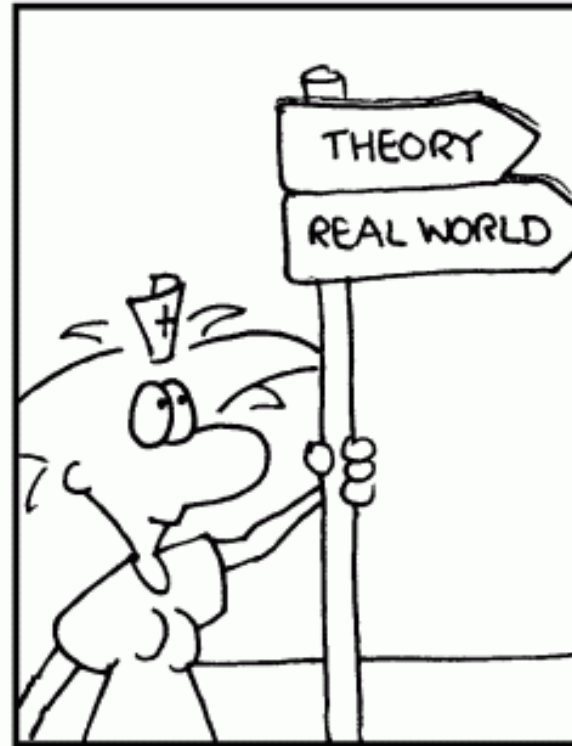
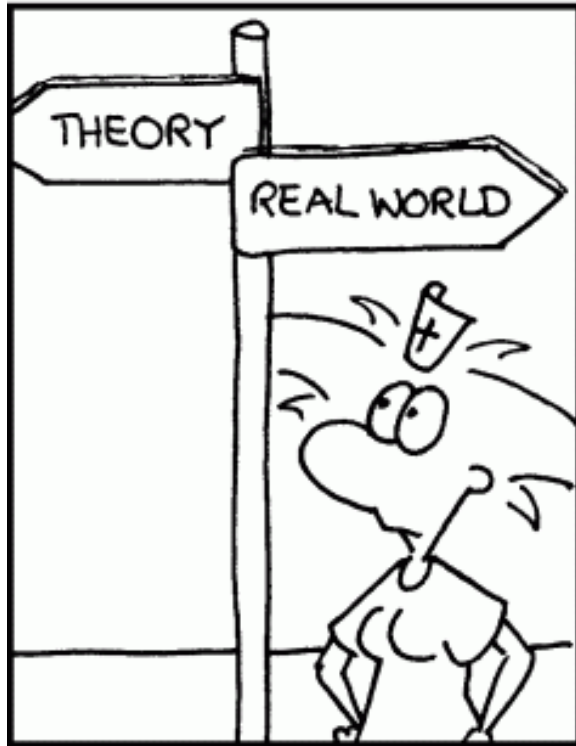
- ▶ Graduate nurses have the opportunity to serve as innovative leaders and contribute to the improvement of nursing and health care practice.
- ▶ Having a foundation of nursing theory enhances nursing practice.



- ▶ What has nursing theory got to do with it?
 - ▶ Does it get the same kudos as other nursing courses?
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Nurstoons

by Carl Elbing



www.nurston.com

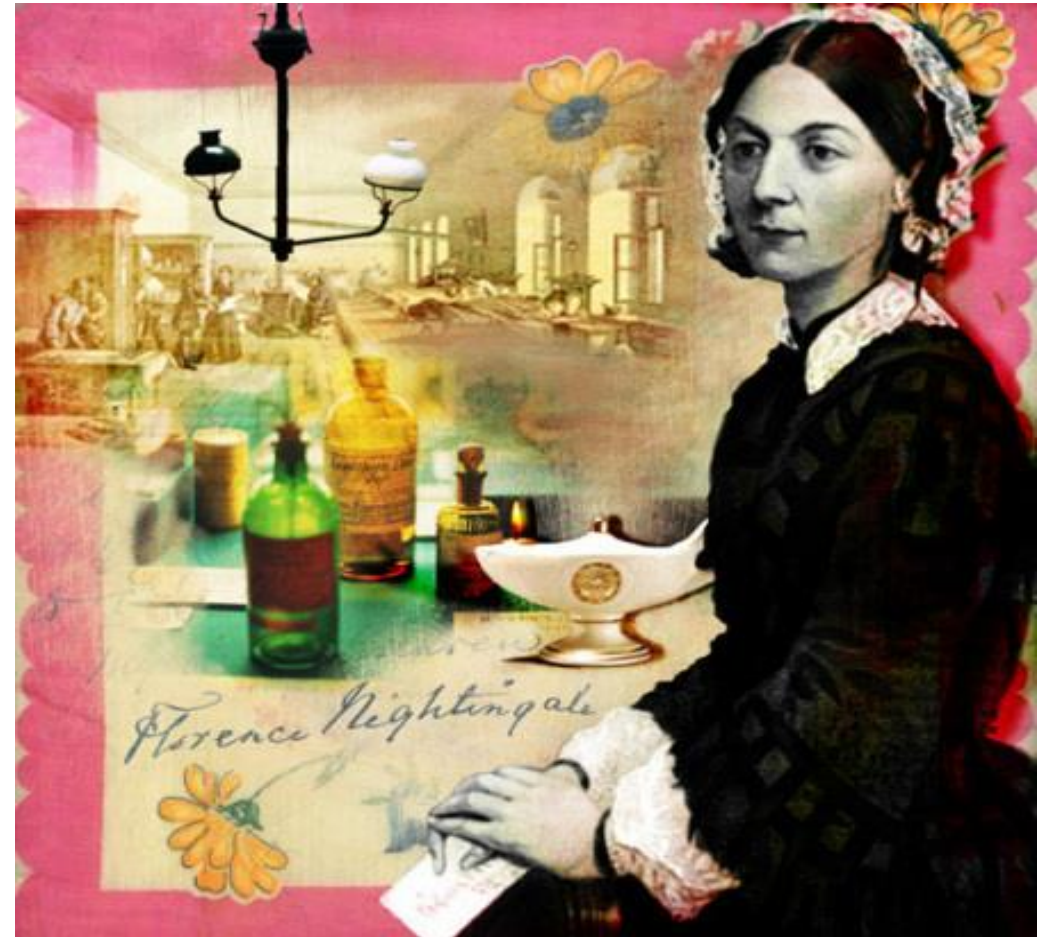
Question

- ▶ Do graduate nursing students have a change in perspective regarding nursing care after taking a nursing theory course?



Beliefs About Nursing Theory

- ▶ A nursing theory course provides the opportunity to examine existing theories and relate them to practice.
- ▶ The application of appropriate theories provides a base for nursing practice as well as better care.
- ▶ Understanding the connection of nursing theory and patient care may improve the delivery of health care for all patients.



Course Description

- ▶ The Nursing Theory course examines historical and contemporary theoretical bases for advanced nursing practice.
- ▶ Analysis of selected models and theories from nursing and other disciplines are considered in the context of traditional, alternative, and complementary approaches to health promotion, disease prevention, and human responses to illness at the level of individual, family, and community.
- ▶ The concepts of person, health, environment, spirituality, and nursing are explored.



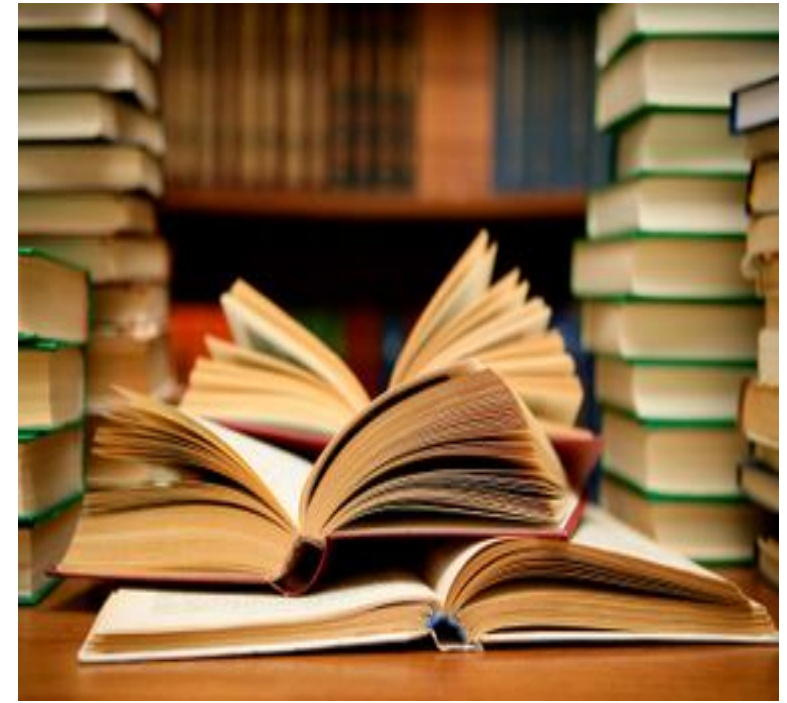
Graduate Nurse Preparation

- ▶ The demand of graduate level nurses continues to rise.
- ▶ Preparing graduates to continue their journey as critical thinkers, who utilize and develop new knowledge through scholarly inquiry and nursing theory is essential to the rapidly changing healthcare environment we continue to experience.



Background and Significance

- ▶ The aim of the study is to understand graduate nurse's perception of the utilization of nursing theory in their practice.
- ▶ Having a change in the nurses practice after having the opportunity to examine existing nursing theories to enhance their nursing practice.



Design

- ▶ A pilot study using quantitative and qualitative methods in a pre-post survey design to determine graduate nurse's perception regarding nursing care after taking a nursing theory course?
- ▶ Data was collected at the beginning of the semester and at the end of the semester course.



Method

- ▶ Students enrolled in NUR 5305-Nursing Theory were asked to complete a pre-course survey on their perceptions of nursing theory in to practice.
- ▶ Students were asked what nursing theory is utilized in their practice.



Surveys

- ▶ The pre-course and post-course surveys included a 4-point Likert scale (strongly disagree to strongly agree) items that requested the student to indicate their level of agreement with statements related to nursing theory perspective.



Method

- ▶ Each student was asked to select a random number when completing the survey and note this number on the top of their survey.
- ▶ Students were asked to utilize this same random number for the post survey.
- ▶ Each student completed a post-survey on the last day of class, noting the same number from the beginning class survey.



Method

- ▶ Students were asked if they had a change in perspective as a result of their nursing theory learning.
- ▶ Identification of the numbers was not viewed by the instructors.
- ▶ Twelve (12) students participated.



Pre-Knowledge Nursing Theory

Nursing Theory Awareness

Pre-Self Evaluation

ID# _____

(All Responses will remain confidential and identified only by the student completing the evaluation)

Circle Gender: M F

Age: _____

RN Program: Diploma _____ ADN _____ BSN _____

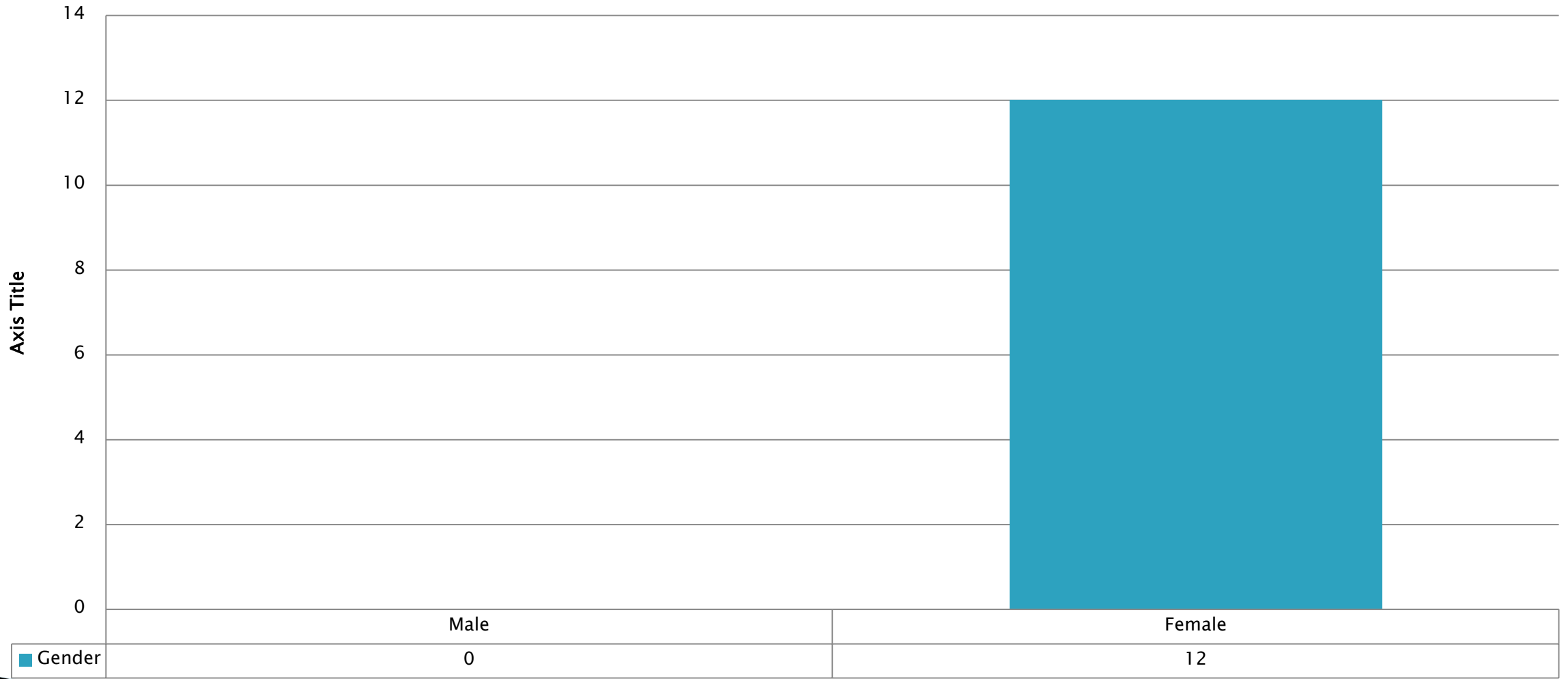
Years in Nursing Practice: _____

Please circle the correct response:

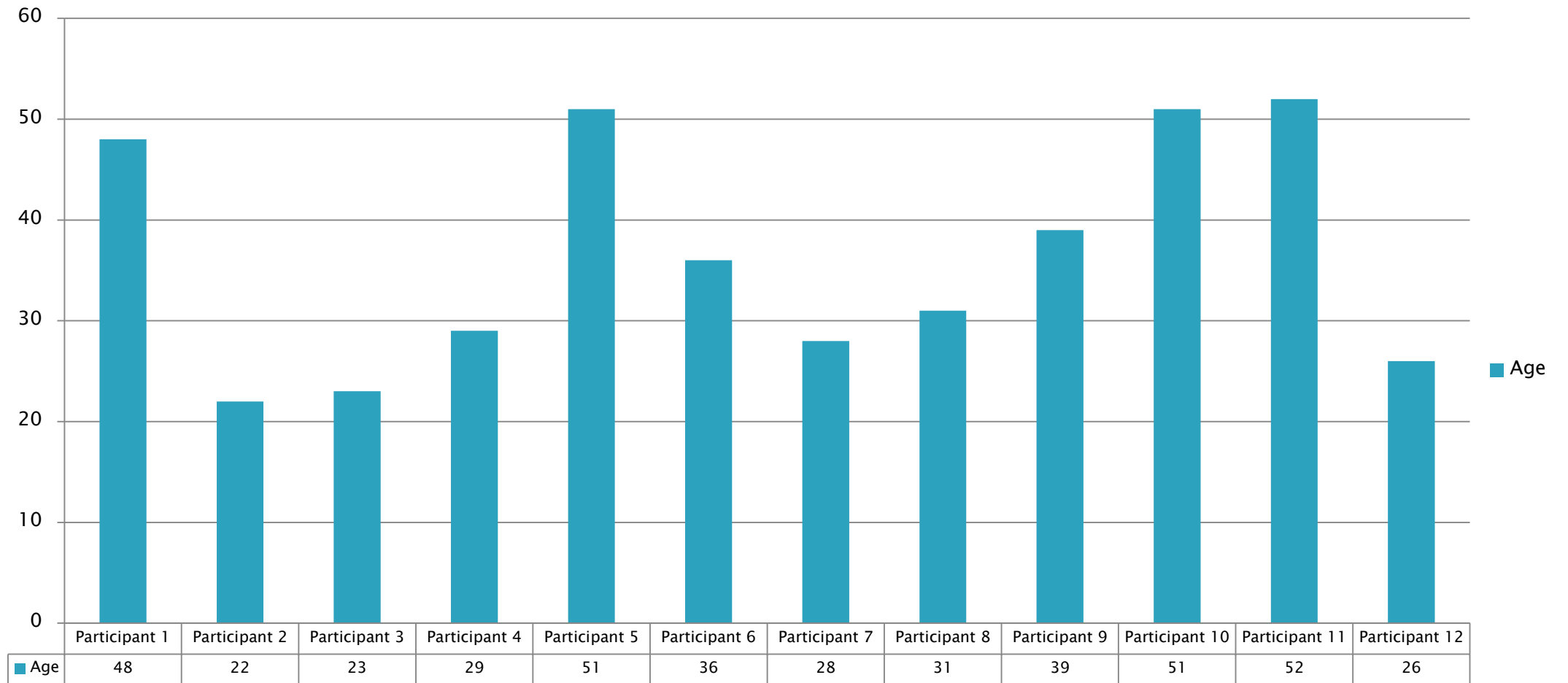
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
1. I learned about nursing theory in my RN program.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
2. My workplace utilizes a nursing theorist/theory.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
3. I accept & adopt the nursing theory of my workplace.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
4. I believe nursing theory enhances nursing practice.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
5. I have knowledge and understanding of one nursing theorist and her theory.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
6. I am open to learning new concepts surrounding nursing theory.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
7. I believe a course related to nursing theory will open new doors and opportunities to my future as a nurse.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
8. I have had a shift in my thinking regarding nursing theory after reviewing the book "Notes on Nursing."	5	4	3	2	1	N/A

My thoughts and beliefs about nursing theory are:

Gender

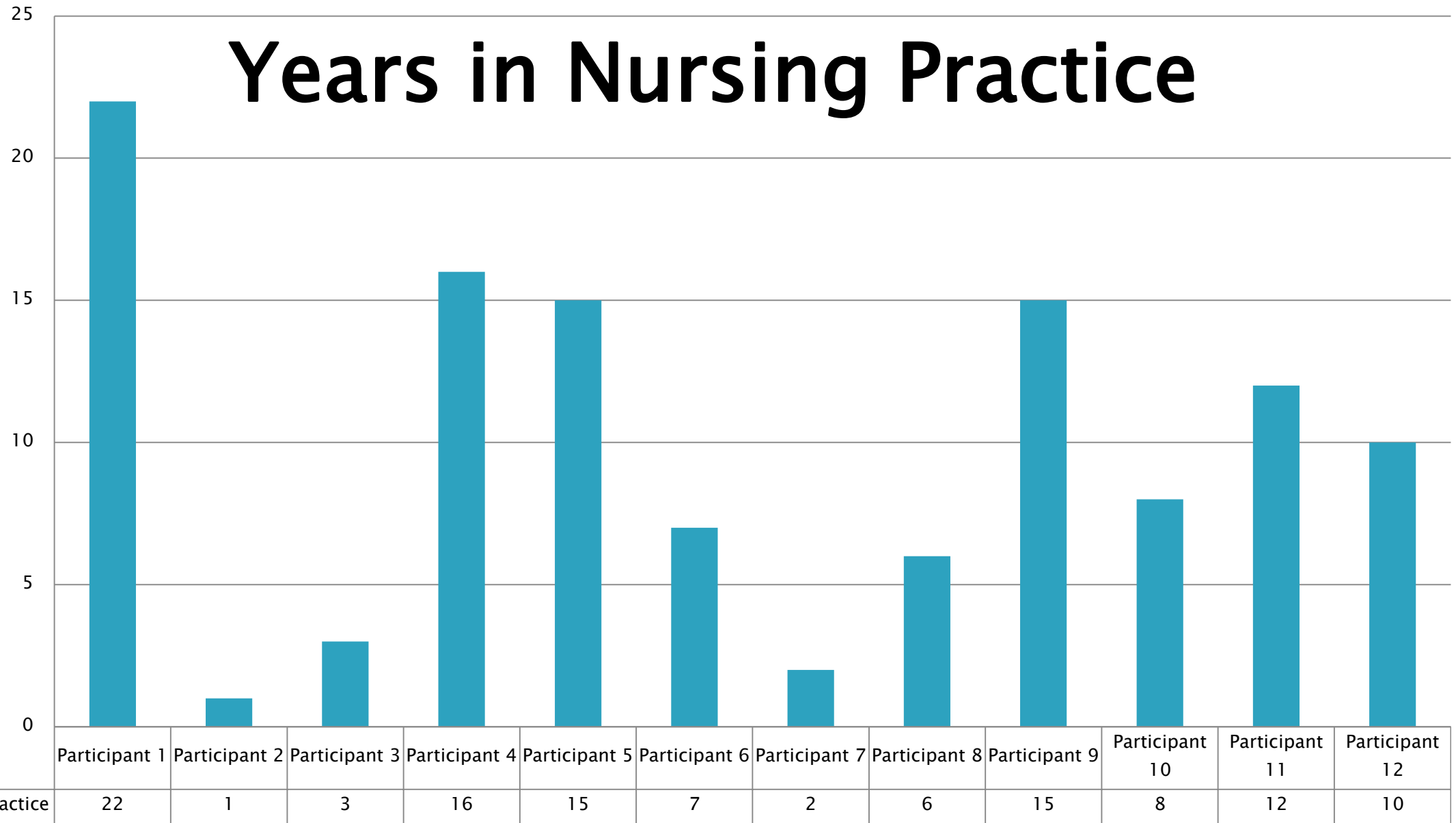


Age



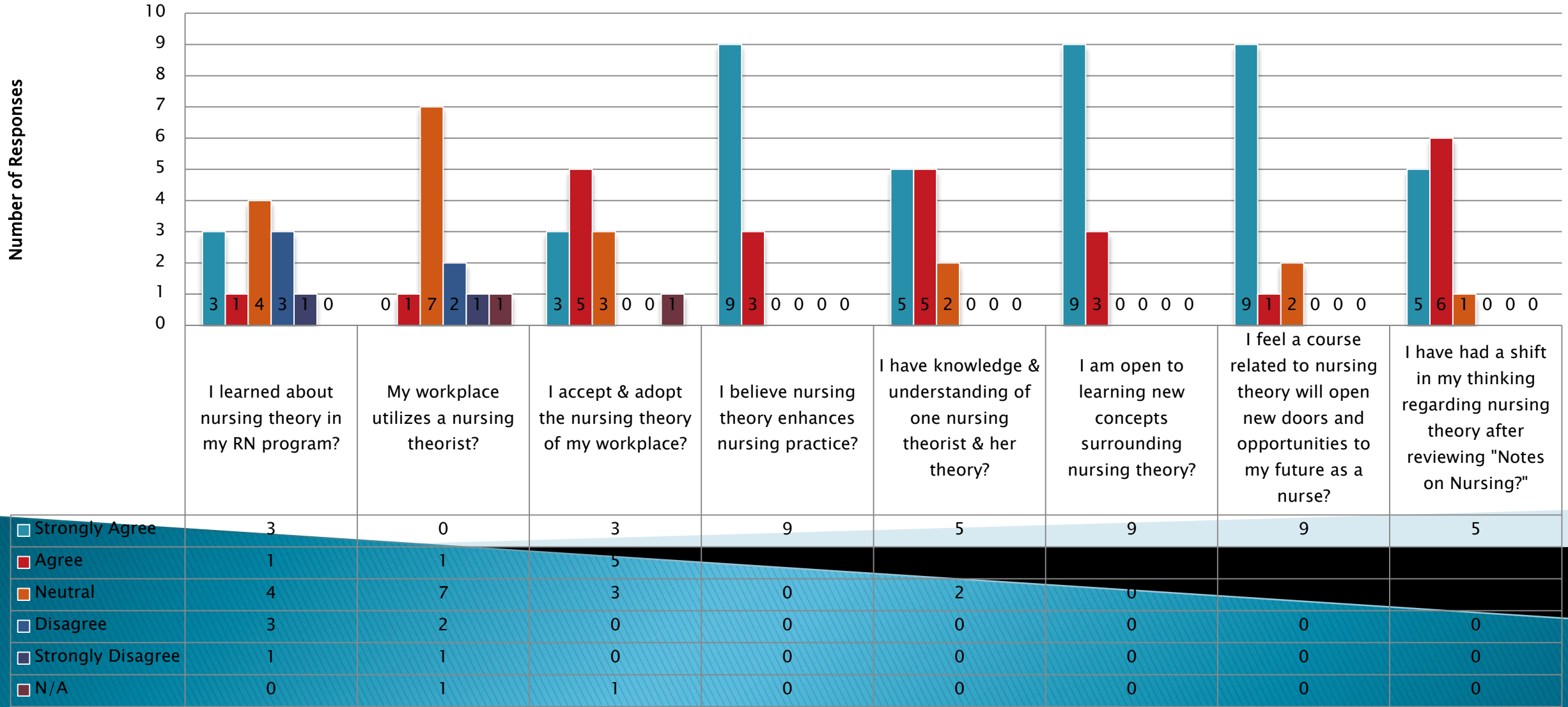
Years in Nursing Practice

Axis Title



■ Years in Nursing Practice

Nursing Theory Awareness



Post-Knowledge Nursing Theory

Nursing Theory Awareness

Post-Self Evaluation

ID# _____

(All Responses will remain confidential and identified only by the student completing the evaluation)

Circle Gender: M F

Age: _____

RN Program: Diploma _____ ADN _____ BSN _____

Years in Nursing Practice: _____

|

Please circle the correct response:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A
1. I learned about nursing theory in my RN program.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
2. My workplace utilizes a nursing theorist.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
3. I accept & adopt the nursing theory of my workplace.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
4. I believe nursing theory enhances nursing practice.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
5. I have knowledge and understanding of one nursing theorist and her theory.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
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7. I believe a course related to nursing theory will open new doors and opportunities to my future as a nurse.	5	4	3	2	1	N/A
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My thoughts and beliefs about nursing theory are:

Outcome

- ▶ Graduate students have a change in their perspective regarding nursing care after completion of the nursing theory course



Qualitative Outcomes

Pre-Knowledge Nursing Theory:

My thoughts and beliefs about nursing theory are . . .

I expect to get the following from the course NUR5305 Nursing Theory . . .

Post-Knowledge Nursing Theory:

My thoughts and beliefs about nursing theory are . . .

My nursing practice has changed due to the graduate course NUR5305 Nursing Theory in the following ways . . .



... and using it in nursing practice

- ▶ Increased awareness
 - ▶ Foundation for care
 - ▶ Greater thought in care
 - ▶ Gives meaning to care
-
- Nursing Theory is integral to nursing practice:

*“I think
one's feelings
waste
themselves
in words;
they ought all to
be distilled into
actions which
bring results.”*



FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

References

- ▶ Carrier, W. (2009). *Notes on Nursing: a guide for today's caregivers*. Elsevier Health Sciences UK. Updated by the International Council of Nurses.
- ▶ Parker, M. & Smith, M. C. (2010). *Nursing theories and nursing practice*, (current ed.) Philadelphia: F.A. Davis.
- ▶ Tye, J. & Schwab, D. (2009). *The Florence Prescription: from accountability to ownership*. IA: The Values Coach Inc.

Questions

