TITLE (in all caps)

A Doctor of Nursing Practice Project

by

STUDENT NAME

Submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies  
of Prairie View A&M University

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

May or August or December/year

Major Subject: Nursing

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Approved as to style and content by:

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 Name Name  
 Chair of Committee Member

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 Name Name  
 Department Head Dean of College

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 Camille Gibson  
 Interim Dean of Graduate Studies

May or August or December/Year

Major Subject: Nursing

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Title in Title Case

Student Name

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# ABSTRACT

Title  
 (Month/Year of Graduation)

Student Name and Undergraduate Degree and Institution

Graduate Degree and Institution

Chair of Dissertation Committee: Chairperson’s Name

Text begins here. The abstract should reflect the entire document and summarize the research and findings in your project. Ideally, the Abstract will be relatively brief and information dense but should cover the following: (1) purpose of the study, (2) current approaches to problem and gaps in the literature, (3) PICOT questions, (4) methodology used including population, (5) main findings, and (6) main conclusions.

The text is double-spaced. There must be no additional space before or after titles and headings**.** Use the same margin settings and fonts as used throughout the document. It is up to you, based on guidelines of your discipline and related style guides and *in consultation with your chair,* to design the contents of the Abstract.

*Keywords*: <indented, in italics, words in lowercase except proper nouns; no punctuation> (see APA 7th edition, p. 38-39)

# DEDICATION

Text begins here. The dedication page is optional, follows the Abstract page, and should be one page in length. The title DEDICATION is capitalized and centered at the top of the page. Use the same margins, font style, and size as used in the rest of the document.

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Text begins here. Text begins here. The Acknowledgements page is optional, follows the Dedication page, should be one page in length. The title ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS is capitalized and centered at the top of the page. Use the same margins, font style, and size as used in the rest of the document.

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**CHAPTER I**

# INTRODUCTION

## Background

Content begins here. Background is a Level 2 sub-heading, flush left, in bold. Be Margins are preset to align with TDDP Manual, 1.50 left margin, 1.25 top margin, 1 inch bottom and right margins. Notice that this page begins with 1 in the upper right-hand corner. The remaining pages in the document will automatically be numbered sequentially. Also, remember that graduate level paragraphs should, at minimum, be three paragraphs, that is topic sentence, supporting detail(s), conclusion.

The majority of citations should reflect the last five to seven years. If you do use older references, make sure to pair them with more recent sources. Make sure you do not write in present tense supported by citations that are out of date (for instance citations 10, 15 or 20 years old). Just as important, the majority of your citations should be from primary sources. A primary source represents original content (American Psychological Association, 2020). Citing secondary sources should be avoided except for instances such as “the original work is out of print, unavailable, or available only in a language that you do not understand” (American Psychological Association, 2020, p. 258). APA presents guidelines for citing secondary sources (see p. 258) but the manual cautions the practice should be used sparingly. **The last line on this page should end here to preserve the spacing of the style statement below**.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This Dissertation Project follows the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th Edition.*

### Level 3 Sub-Heading

This is Level 3 sub-heading, flush left, bold. Only use this sub-heading if you have a sub-topic from the Background section. If you do not, delete it and when you re-populate the TOC, it will disappear.

## Statement of the Problem

This section covers the problem statement. The prescribed length is according to your discipline and chairperson.

## PICO Questions

Problem/Patient/Population, Intervention, Comparison, and Outcome Process Questions.

## PICO Definitions

Text begins here.

## Purpose of the Study

Text begins here.

## Significance of the Study

Make sure you qualify your statements with words like *may* or *can*. Rarely are there absolutes in research. At best, extrapolations and inferences can be made but keep in mind, there are always exceptions. Also, at best, the data from your study reflects the participants’ beliefs and experiences in *your* study. Further, at the proposal stage, you do not want to prejudge your data. As a researcher, you must be willing to follow the data – not lead the data.

## Definition of Terms

Terms that appear here should be in alphabetical order and unique to the discipline. They are not every day common words with common meanings. Methodological terms are rarely included here. They are defined in Chapter III.

***Word***: definition with citation at the end.

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## Organization of the Study

This section explains how you organized the rest of the study. It typically consists of short explanations of what is covered in each subsequent chapter. Remember to have at least three sentences for each paragraph.

**CHAPTER II**

# LITERATURE REVIEW

Introductory paragraph to literature review should begin with a restatement of the purpose of your study. Next, it explains what you are reviewing and its significance to your topic. Recall that a literature review is not a book report or a summary of the literature. It is designed to analyze and synthesize what others have produced related to your topic.

A word about tense – according APA 7th edition, you should use past tense when you are expressing or referring to something or a condition that occurred at “a specific, definite time in the past, such as when discussing another researcher’s work” (p. 118). This means, as you discuss literature that has already been written, you should use past tense (e.g. Smith and Jones (2019) **stated** or **said** or **found** or **contended** or **argued**). Recommended verb tenses by APA 7th edition can be found on page 118.

Finally, this chapter is more apt to use level three and four sub-headings. APA 7th edition sub-headings can be found on page 48. However, the sub-level headings are driven by your research. You are not obligated to have multiple sub-headings. For ease of formatting, examples were added below. Just delete them if you do not need them.

## Search Strategies

Discuss the strategies you used to research the literature in this section.

## Theoretical Framework

Text begins here.

***Sub-topic*** (this is level three sub-heading)

Sub-topic of Sub-topic (this is level four, indented, bold, with a period).

## Summary of the Chapter

A summary of this chapter and a preview of the rest of the study is written here.

**CHAPTER III**

# METHOD

## Introduction

Introductory paragraph in general, should address what you will cover in this chapter. You should have at least five sentences. The chapter should cover project design, intervention, data collection, measurement tools, and data analysis*.* The chapter usually concludes with ethical considerations, risk, and a summary.

## Study Design

Text begins here. Sentence introduces Figure 1.

Figure 1

*Title of Figure*

## Study Setting/Participants

Text begins here.

## Study Sample

Note that the study sample is different from study population. The population is everyone who meets the basic criteria for the study. The sample is the group you pull from the population that will participate in the study. It is a misnomer to use sample population.

## Instrument(s)

Text begins here.

## Data Collection and Management

Text begins here.

## Data Analysis

Text begins here.

## Ethical Considerations and IRB Approval

Text begins here.

## Risks

Text begins here.

## Chapter Summary

Text begins here.

**CHAPTER IV**

# results

## Introduction

Text begins here.

## Purpose of the Project

Text begins here.

## Demographic Characteristics

Text begins here. If you use a Table for illustrative purposes, an example is provided. Note that the Table title is one double space below the caption. However, in order for Word to pick up the Table title, leave it on the same line and then when the TOC is formatted, come back and move the title to the second line. Also, according to APA 7th edition, it is permissible to use font smaller than 12 pitch inside Tables and Figures. The formatting is the same for Tables and Figures. Finally, make sure the Table or Figure is aligned with the left margin.

Table 1: *Table Title*

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## Inferential Statistics

Text begins here.

## Chapter Summary

Provide a summary of the chapter’s findings in at least a paragraph (three to five sentences).

**CHAPTER V**

# discussion and conclusions

## Introduction

Text begins here.

## Summary of Results

Text begins here.

## Discussion of Conclusions in Relation to the Literature

Text begins here.

## Strengths and Limitations

Text begins here.

## Implications for Practice

Text begins here.

## Recommendations for Future Research

Text begins here.

## Concluding Thoughts/Summary

Here is where you put your final point on your study. This section can be as brief as one paragraph or as extensive as two to three pages. Be sure that you tie everything together, not introducing new or unrelated conclusions that do not appear anywhere else in your document.

# References

American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American psychological association* (7th ed.). Washington, DC: APA.

# appendices

# curriculum vitae