

Experiential Learning Assignment  
**Interview of Public Health Nurse, School Nurse, Parish Nurse,  
Occupational Health Nurse, or Correctional Health Nurse**  
Points Possible: 10

**Purpose/Overview**

The purposes of this assignment are for students to interview a nurse who works in the community, to better understand the roles, functions and leadership attributes of nurses who practice in schools, faith communities, work sites, or public health agencies. Students will develop a broader understanding of the scope of practice of professional nursing at all three levels of practice across the prevention continuum.

**Preparation**

Contact a school nurse, public health nurse, parish [faith] nurse, occupational, or correctional health nurse to schedule an interview. **Be clear in your first contact on what your intentions are**, which include: (1) you are a BS in Nursing student in a public health course, and (2) would like to better understand the role of nurses who practice within a community-setting.

1. The following are suggestions for finding a nurse to interview:
  - **Licensed School Nurse (LSN)**  
Contact school nurse in your community  
Conduct web search for district health services
  - **Faith Community Nurse (Parish Nurses; FCN)**  
Contact your faith community administration  
<http://www.fcntc.org/find-a-nurse.html>
  - **Public Health Nurses (PHN)**  
Contact county public health agency in your community
  - **Occupational Health Nurse (OHN)**  
Contact local business such as a meat packing plant, factories, etc
  - **Correctional Health Nurse (CHN)**  
Contact a local jail, detention facility, or prison
  
1. Read Schoon, Porta, & Schaffer (2019) Chapters 2 & 11 and Savage (2020) Chapters 18 (school health) & 20 (occupational health)
  
3. Visit Websites for information about your clinical site and nursing practice:
  - If visiting with a **school nurse**, go to the websites:
    - National Association of School Nurses (NASN), [www.nasn.org](http://www.nasn.org)
    - Minnesota School Nursing Association (SNOM), <http://www.minnesotaschoolnurses.org>
  
  - If visiting a **faith community nurse**, go to the website:
    - The Health Ministries Association, [www.hmassoc.org](http://www.hmassoc.org)
    - *Faith Community Nurse Network of the Greater Twin Cities*, <http://www.fcntc.org>
  
  - *If visiting a **public health nurse**, go to the website:*
    - American Public Health Association (APHA)  
<http://publichealthnursing.weebly.com/what-is-public-health-nursing.html>
    - National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)  
<http://www.naccho.org/topics/HPDP/>

- *If visiting an **occupational health nurse**, go to the website:*
  - American Association of Occupational Health Nurses <http://aaohn.org>
  - Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments <http://envirn.org>
- *If visiting a **correctional health nurse**, go to the website:*
  - International Association of Forensic Nurses  
<https://www.forensicnurses.org/page/CorrectionalNursing>
  - American Correctional Health Services Association-National Organization  
<https://aca.org/>

4. Review Observation Guide (on D2L course site) to aid in collecting information during your visit

### Instructions/Grading Criteria

For this assignment you will:

**Interview:** (Submitted Interview Guide- 2 points)

- Visit with the nurse and find out about the nurse's role and responsibilities.
- Gather information about the population served (i.e. who they are, their major health and social problems/needs, services they receive)
- Interview the nurse using the interview guide.

**Follow-up:**

- Send the nurse you interviewed a thank you note. (No points, professional courtesy)

**Reflection:** (8 points)

In your paper, reflect on what you learned. Give a few examples and explore the meaning of your interview/observations. Cite content from Schoon et al., 2019 and other appropriate sources to answer the following questions in your paper:

- Write a short description of the person you interviewed, the population served, the clinical setting, etc.
- What did you learn about the role of the nurse, the nurse's responsibilities, and nursing practice?
- How was this nurse's practice different from that of nurses in acute or long-term care settings?
- Describe 3 leadership qualities necessary for a nurse to be successful in this setting. Why are these important qualities for the nurse to possess?
- What did you gain from this experience? For example, you might think about:
  - What were the most significant things that you learned?
  - Did anything surprise you or challenge your opinions or beliefs?
  - How will this experience affect your nursing practice in the future?

### Assignment Submission

Submit an APA formatted Reflection paper and the Interview Guide in the D2L assignment dropbox by the due date specified in the course calendar.

## Interview Guide for PHN, LSN, FCN, OHN, or CHN

**Name of Nurse** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Organization** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Contact Information** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Population and Health Concerns</b>	
List the people you met and their positions	
How did the nurse describe his/her job and responsibilities?	
Describe the population served	
What are the major health concerns of the population served? You may use what the nurse stated and what you observed.	
<b>Level of Prevention</b>	
<b>Describes the work that the nurse does using these three levels of prevention</b> (be sure you have a clear understanding of the difference between these levels)	
<b>Level of Prevention</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Primary	
Secondary	
Tertiary	
<b>Level of Practice</b>	
<b>Describe the work that the nurse does within the three levels of practice</b> (be sure you have a clear understanding of the difference between these levels)	
<b>Practice Level</b>	<b>Describe the Practice Level Activity</b>
Individual/Family	
Community	
System	
<b>Public Health Interventions</b>	
<b>Using the MDH Public Health Framework, describe 4 interventions of the PHN, LSN, FCN, OHN, or CHN in this work setting.</b>	

<b>Public Health Interventions</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Surveillance	
Diagnose and Health Event Investigation	
Outreach	
Case Finding	
Screening	
Referral and follow-up	
Case Management	
Delegated Functions	
Health Teaching	
Counseling	
Consultation	
Collaboration	
Coalition Building	
Community Organizing	
Advocacy	
Social Marketing	
Policy Development and Enforcement	

**Nurse Qualities and Characteristics**

What are some of the nurse’s leadership qualities?

What personal characteristics does the nurse think contributes to his/her success?