**NURN – The Professional Role**

**Reflection Assignment for the Concept of Professionalism**

**Background**: In an article entitled, *What Do Nurses Really Do?,* author Suzanne Gordon (2006) wrote:

“Several weeks ago, I was invited to speak to a group of undergraduate students who had been asked to read my new book, Nursing Against the Odds, for their history of science class at Harvard University. During the hour-and-a-half discussion, one question that kept popping up was: "What do nurses really do?" As I left the room, I pondered, as I often do, why the public has so little under-standing of the consequential nature of nursing practice. Clearly, it's because of traditional stereotypes about nursing. But it's also because nurses have been socialized to be silent about their work or to talk about it in ways that fail to reverse these traditional stereotypes.”

Gordon, S. (2006). What do nurses really do? Topics in Advanced Practice Nursing eJournal, 6(1).

**Directions:** Locate (using the library databases) and review a full-text, scholarly U.S. nursing journal article published within the last 5 years that relates to the topic of Professionalism in Nursing. Reflect on the concept of Professionalism as discussed in class and in your assigned readings. In a typed, double spaced, 2-3 page maximum (excluding title page and reference page) reflection paper (using correct APA format with reference list that includes at a minimum your nursing journal article and your two N129 course textbooks) be sure to address the following points:

* Why did you choose this particular article?
* What were the main points of the article and how do they relate to the concept of Professionalism?
* How have your personal perceptions of the role of the nurse changed since beginning nursing school; include one thing you have learned so far that has surprised you most and how you now feel about your career choice.
* How has learning about Professionalism affected your actions as a nursing student, and your future actions as a practicing nurse?

**Hints for success:** Five to six well written, well developed, and insightful paragraphs that address each of the bullet points above should contribute to a successful paper. A well written scholarly paper will have the following: An introduction paragraph stating the purpose of the paper and a list of the major topics discussed in the body; the body of the paper addressing the questions that must be answered; and a conclusion paragraph which is a summary of the major points made in the paper. The conclusion ties the paper’s content together for the reader but DOES NOT introduce any new material or thoughts. If you come up with new ideas that you want to express, then go back and put those new thoughts into the body of the paper, not in the conclusion paragraph.

Use the guidelines on APA format. Everything you need from paraphrasing to correct APA format is posted there for you. Please pay attention to how to use a running head title (see the 6th edition paper example), Level 1 headers, proper citing of a reference in the body of the paper (whether paraphrasing or quoting a source), and how to do a Reference list. Lastly, be sure to refer to the Grading Rubric posted in Blackboard and use the rubric to help guide your paper.