IFNC14 Twitter Assignment/Learning Activity

Social media platforms, such as Twitter, have become of the ways in which family nursing and family health scholars and practitioners engage with each other and share their expertise. Particularly during conferences, social media platforms and specific hashtags (e.g., #IFNC14) allow these individuals to interact with each other onsite and across distances.

These platforms also offer a way to engage students in scholarly conversations and conferences to further the objectives and goals of a course. The example assignment/learning activity below is one way to engage your students in the International Family Nursing Conference.

Assignment/learning activity details for students:

The biennial International Family Nursing Conference (IFNC) is the premiere family nursing conference. Attended by interprofessional researchers from around the world, the conference proceedings provide an excellent opportunity to highlight leading issues in family health practice, research, education, and policy.

During the week of the 14th conference (IFNC14; August 13-16), students will follow tweets about IFNC14 on Twitter using #IFNC14. In a discussion board, the students will post a summary commentary for class discussion. Specifically, each student will follow 2–3 attendees tweeting about IFNC14 and post a summary of the experience that includes the following:
- Brief bios and perspectives of Tweeters, including a link to the individual's Twitter feed
- A summary of the major topics of tweets posted
- A discussion of how these tweets relate to family nursing and family health, including links to or screenshots of exemplar tweets

The course instructor will provide feedback and discussion prompts throughout the week of the discussion. Additionally, the course instructor will be attending IFNC14 and will use their Twitter feed to highlight conference topics for students and potential tweets for discussion using #(*insert relevant course number/designation*). The attached grading rubric will be used for this assignment.

This assignment will set the stage for a follow up in-class discussion focused on approaches to translation of research findings into changes in family nursing education, practice, and policy, which will be guided by the IFNA Position Statements.

IFNC14 Twitter Discussion Board General Grading Rubric

Asynchronous discussion can enhance learning through sharing your ideas, perspectives, and experiences with the class. You develop and refine your thoughts through the process, as well as broaden your classmates' understanding of the course content. The following rubric will be used to assess the quality of your contributions to the IFNC14 Twitter discussion.

Criteria	Unacceptable 0 Points	Deficient 1 Point	Good 2 Points	Excellent 3 Points
Initial posting	Posts no original comment/question.	Posts adequate initial summary with superficial thought and preparation.	Posts developed initial summary that demonstrates some level of synthesis of the Twitter activity.	Posts well-developed initial summary that demonstrates a high level of synthesis of the Twitter activity.
Frequency	Does not participate at all.	Participates 1-2 times on the same day.	Participates 3-4 times but postings are not distributed throughout week.	Participates 4-5 times and posts throughout the week.
Follow-up postings	Posts no follow-up responses to others.	Posts shallow contributions to discussion (e.g., agrees or disagrees) that do not enrich the discussion.	Elaborates on an existing posting with further comment or observation.	Demonstrates analysis of others' posts; extends meaningful discussion by building on previous posts.
Content contribution	Posts information that is off-topic, incorrect, or irrelevant to the discussion.	Repeats but does not add substantive information to the discussion.	Posts information that is factually correct; lacks full development of concept or thought.	Posts factually correct, reflective and substantive contribution; advances discussion.
References and support	Includes no exemplar tweets, references to the readings, or supporting experience.	Uses personal experience, but no exemplar tweets, references to the readings, or supporting evidence.	Incorporates some exemplar tweets, references from readings, and personal experience.	Uses exemplar tweets, references to literature, readings, or personal experience to support comments.
Clarity and mechanics	Posts long, unorganized, or rude content that may contain multiple errors or may be inappropriate.	Communicates in a friendly, courteous, and helpful manner with some errors in clarity or mechanics.	Contributes valuable information to the discussion with minor clarity or mechanical errors.	Contributes to the discussion with clear, concise comments formatted in an easy to read style that is free of grammatical or spelling errors.