

Empowering the Next Generation of Nursing Leaders: A Healthcare Leadership & Policy Project for Pre-licensure Students

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Background

Baccalaureate nursing programs prepare students to be nursing leaders.

Pre-licensure students struggle with leadership concepts due to the abstract and complex nature, lack of exposure, and lack of hands-on experience in leadership.

Nurses need to be able to advocate for their patients, their profession, and the healthcare system.

Purpose

To create a **team-based project** helping students develop their understanding of:

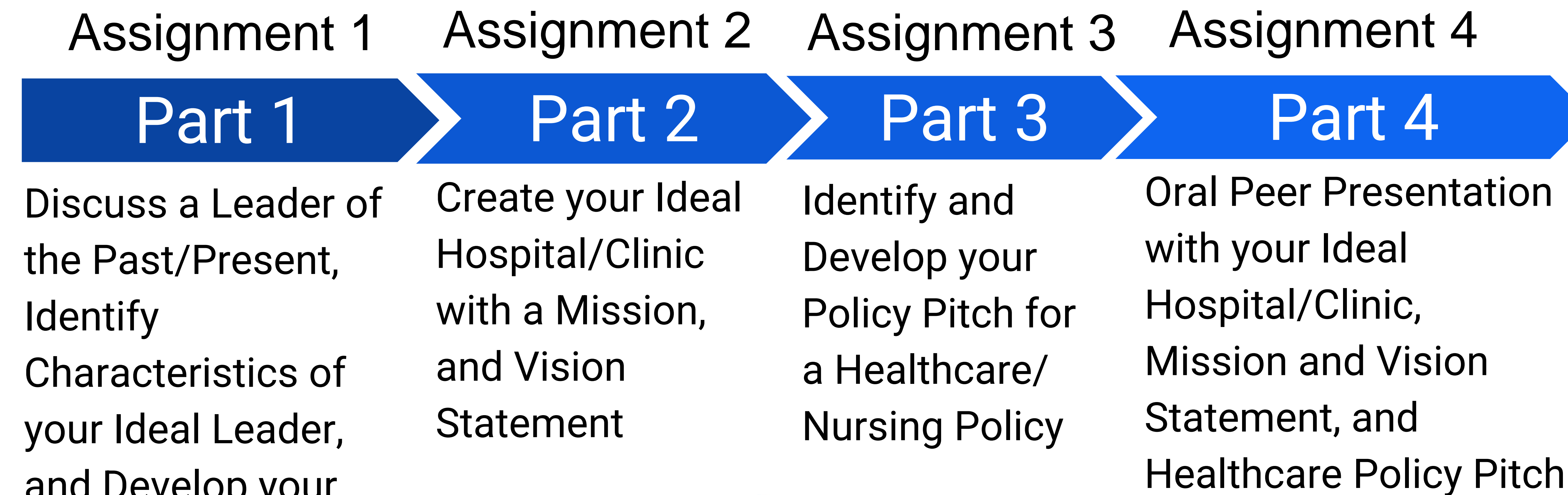
- leadership
- organizations
- health care delivery
- health care policy

Using didactic and experiential learning

LEADERSHIP



Methods

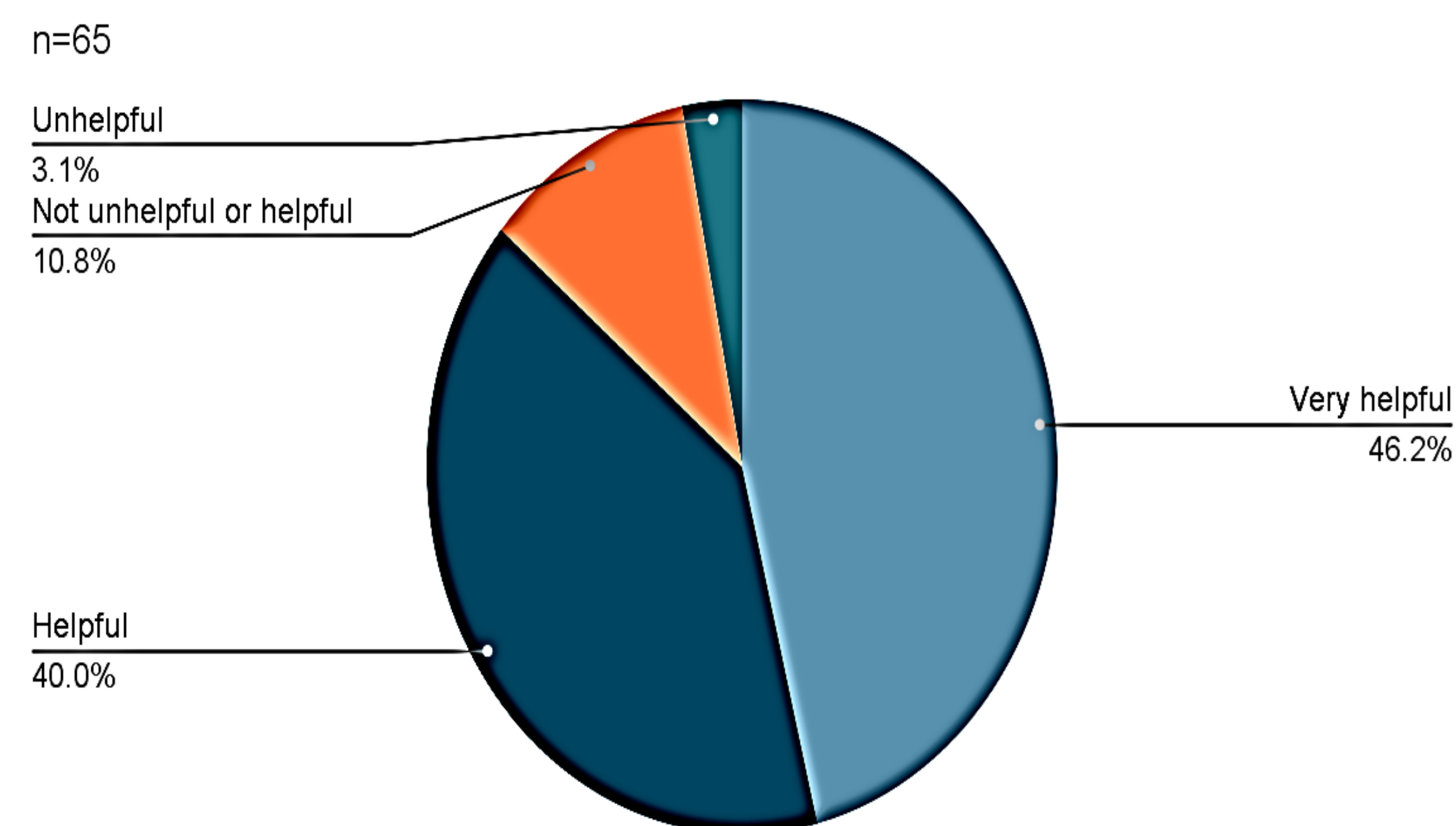


77 students = 11 teams

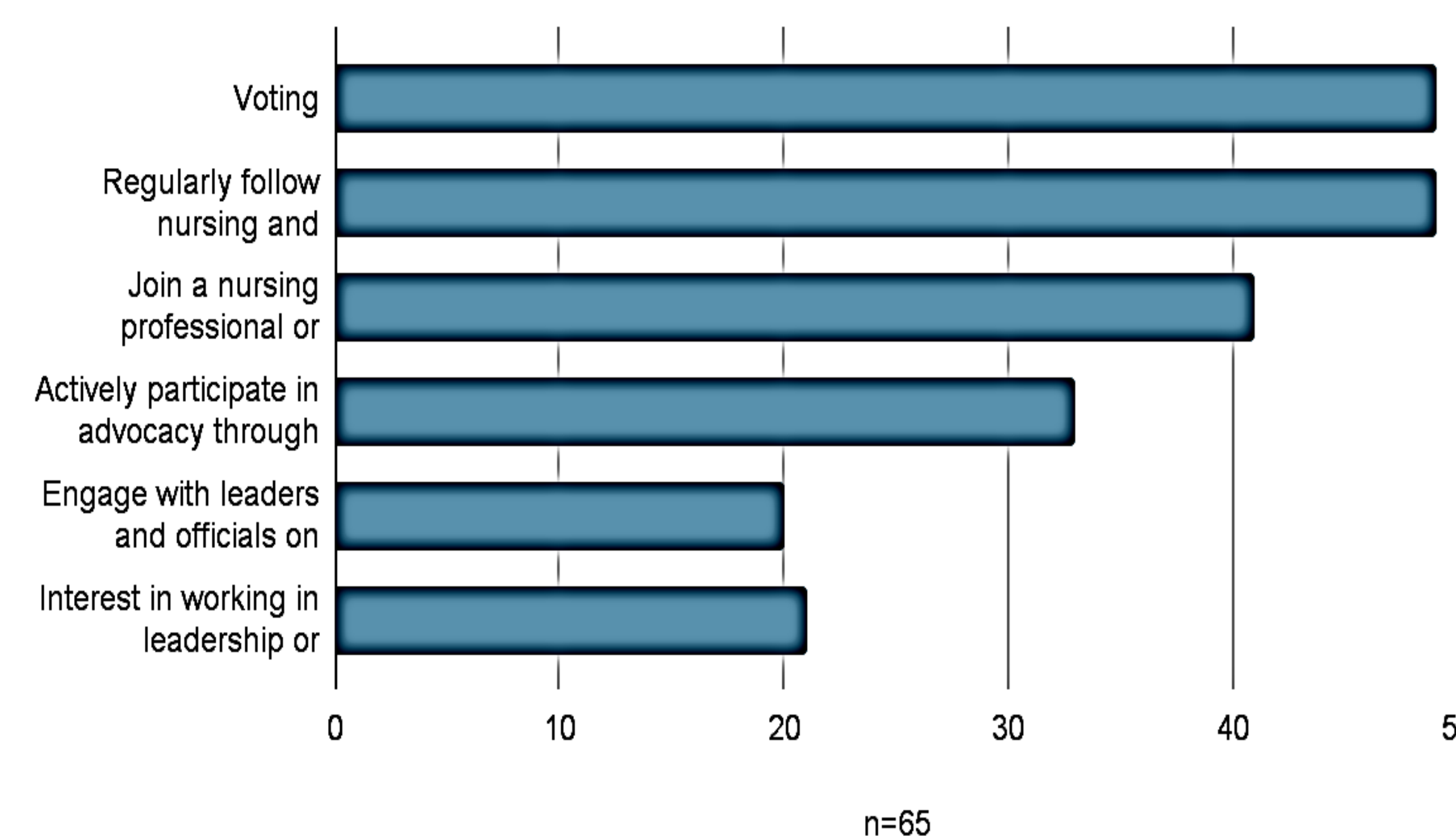
Timeline: 15-week semester

Results

Overall, how helpful was the Healthcare Leadership Project for your future nursing professional growth & development?



How do you plan on being active in health policy activities in your future nursing career? Select all that apply.



Pre/Post student survey **revealed increased students' perceptions of leadership and health policy**, including their commitment to being nurse leaders and change agents in their nursing practice, their understanding of the characteristics of a good leader, their ability to work in teams, and their belief in the importance of health policy in nursing and patient care.

Anecdotal feedback

"We learned a lot about policy making and how to be the best nurses we can be."

"I enjoyed the policy project. I think it allowed me to get a sense of how the policy pitch process truly works."

Implications for Practice

Equips students with the knowledge and skill to apply leadership concepts to real-world situations

Enables students to see how nursing leadership concepts play out in everyday life

Team based projects can be completed without a specific practicum site

Reinforces leadership skills needed for nursing practice

Limitations

This project is limited to one cohort of nursing students.

References



Acknowledgements

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