

Writing Sample Rubric – NKU DNP Program Admission

Please submit a scholarly writing paper about a nursing topic designated for a professional audience. The paper should be a minimum of four pages excluding the title page, abstract, and reference page. The paper and references should be written using the Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) style guide – 5th Edition.

	Acceptable 4-5 points	Unacceptable 0- 3	Score/Points
Page Limit, title page, and reference page	Adheres to a 4 page MINIMUM excluding title page, abstract (not required), and references.	3 pages or less of content; missing title page and or reference page.	
Writing demonstrates synthesis about a nursing topic.	Articulates topic and demonstrates synthesis of understanding about the topic.	Writing lacks clarity and focus.	
APA style for expression and mechanics of writing.	Uses APA style with no or minor APA errors in the content area, title and reference pages.	Many APA Errors	
Graduate Level Writing;	Writing is scholarly and appropriate for a professional audience; paper is written in the third person; grammar is appropriate; writing is fluid and organized.	Writing is vague, unclear and lacks a professional focus; contains multiple grammar errors;	
Total			/20 < 16 points is unacceptable.