Oral Defense Announcement
University of Missouri – St. Louis Graduate School

An oral examination in defense of the dissertation for the degree
Doctor of Philosophy in Education with an emphasis in Teaching and Learning Processes

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COVID-19’s Pivot to Online Education and BSN Graduates’ Readiness to Practice

Date: April 7, 2020
Time: 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Place: Remote

Abstract
There is a major nursing shortage worldwide, and amid the COVID-19 pandemic, it is essential to invest in the acceleration of nursing education to meet global needs. Schools had to pivot to online education overnight, and many are unsure how this has affected students. The purpose of this study is to see if the pivot to online education prompted by COVID-19 affected the readiness to practice and GPA of graduating Bachelor of Nursing Students. In this quantitative study, a casual-comparative survey design is used to test for readiness to practice and program modality. A cross-sectional design is used to look at GPA and program modality. This data suggests that when face-to-face nursing education, though ideal, is not possible, then the online format does deliver much, though not all, of the benefit of face-to-face.

Defense of Dissertation Committee
Chairperson, Keith Miller, Ph.D.
Natalie Bolton, Ph.D.
Carl Hoagland, Ph.D.
Keeta Holmes, Ed.D.