

# Effect of an Immersion Experience on Perceived Caring in Undergraduate Nursing Students

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# Disclosure and Acknowledgements

There are no conflicts of Interest to disclose

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## Acknowledgements

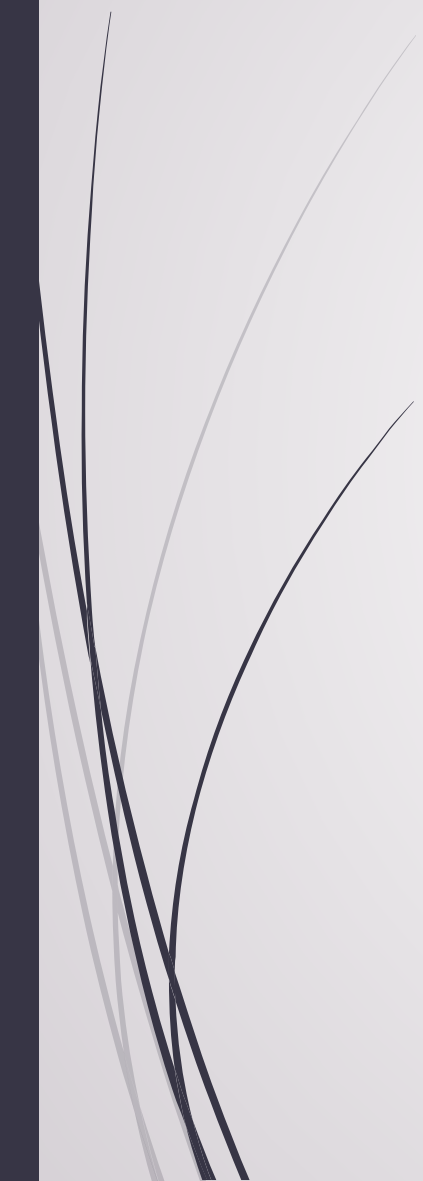
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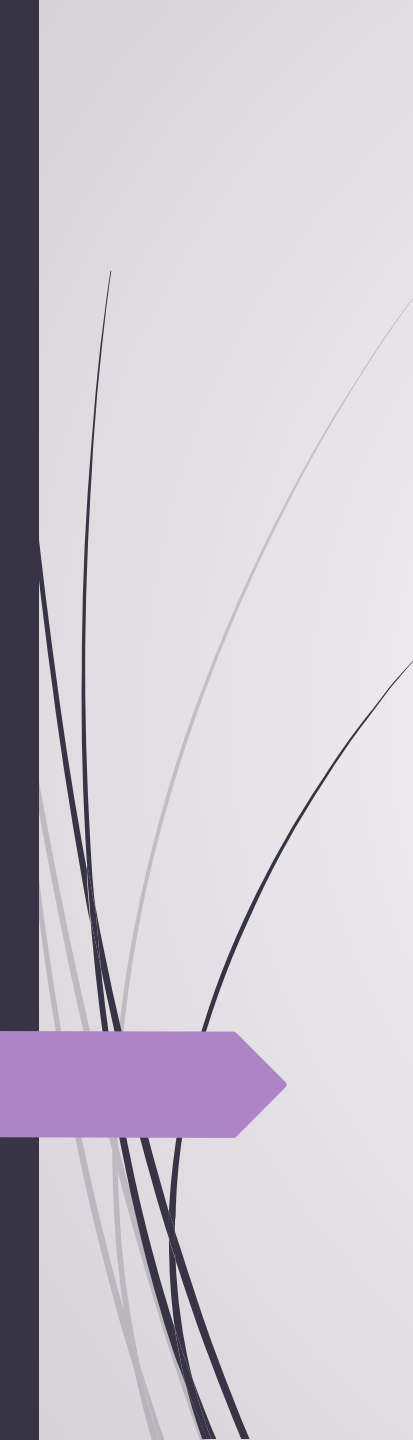


# Goals and Objectives

- ▶ Session goal: Immersion Experiences

- ▶ Objectives:

- ▶ To explain the impact of an immersion experience on the self-reported caring perceptions of undergraduate nursing students.
  - ▶ To explore the use of immersion as a method to increase caring and critical thinking
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“Caring practices and astute nursing judgment are called ‘art’ because they are not predictable or perfect...we know them when we experience them, and we recognize them when they are missing.”

Benner (2000)

# BACKGROUND

## CARING



- ▶ Central tenet to nursing's metaparadigm
- ▶ Multiple theories of nursing relate caring to shared experiences with others
- ▶ Caring requires ongoing development through being present with others (Watson & Smith, 2002)
- ▶ Goal of caring is for patient to reach a level of higher functioning or meaning as a result of the transactions with nursing.
- ▶ Caring scores have been linked to higher critical thinking abilities (Pai, Eng & Ko, 2013; Ou & Lin, 2006)



# WATSON'S THEORY OF CARING

- ▶ Premise that all persons are caring by virtue of their humanness
- ▶ The essence of caring is a shared experience in which nurses and patients interact to improve the overall well-being of the patient  
Caring requires ongoing development
- ▶ Expressed in *Caritas* behaviors

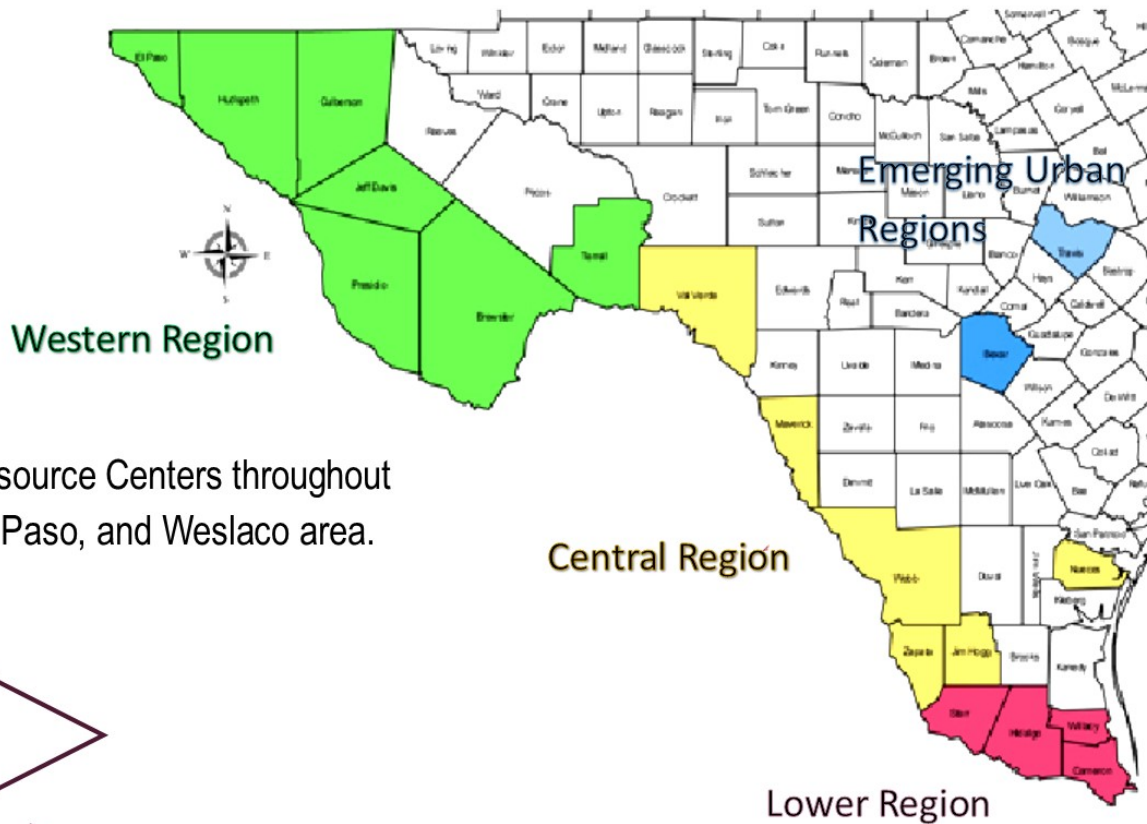
# INTERVENTION

## 5-WEEK DIDACTIC

- ▶ Factors contributing to vulnerable health status
- ▶ Cultural considerations
- ▶ Social justice in healthcare
- ▶ Health literacy of vulnerable populations
- ▶ Strategies for health promotion education for vulnerable populations
- ▶ Life in the *Colonias*

## 5-DAY IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

- ▶ Health Promotion Teaching projects
  - ▶ Domestic violence
  - ▶ Bullying
  - ▶ Basic First-Aid/Safety
  - ▶ Men's Health screenings
- ▶ Home visits
- ▶ Round table luncheon discussions



**42**

Community Resource Centers throughout the Laredo, El Paso, and Weslaco area.

**1,254 Miles**

**2,500 Colonias**

**Over 500,000 People**

Source: College of Architecture, Texas A&M, 2014 (reproduced with permission)



# IMMERSION EXPERIENCE



# INSTRUMENTS

- Caring Factors Survey – Care Provider Version
- 20-Questions
- 7-Point Likert Scale
- Documented validity (Cronbach's alpha 0.92) (Johnson, n.d.)

## Caring Factor Survey–Care Provider Version (CFS-CPV)

Strongly Disagree 1	Disagree 2	Slightly Disagree 3	Neutral 4	Slightly Agree 5	Agree 6	Strongly Agree 7
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# Results Summary

- ▶ Significant increase in overall Caring Factor Surveys from pre-intervention to post-immersion in the group who received both interventions  $F(2, 16) = 15.121, p < .05$
- ▶ No significant difference from pre-intervention to post-didactic for the group who received didactic only
- ▶ Main areas of significant change
  - ▶ Teams being able to solve problems
  - ▶ Caring for physical, emotional and spiritual needs



# Specific Questions

Q2

▶ I believe the healthcare team solves unexpected problems really well

Q4

▶ As a team my colleagues and I are good at creative problem solving to meet individual needs

Q10

▶ I create an environment that helps patients heal physically and spiritually

Q14

▶ I work to meet the physical needs as well as the emotional or spiritual needs of the patients I care for

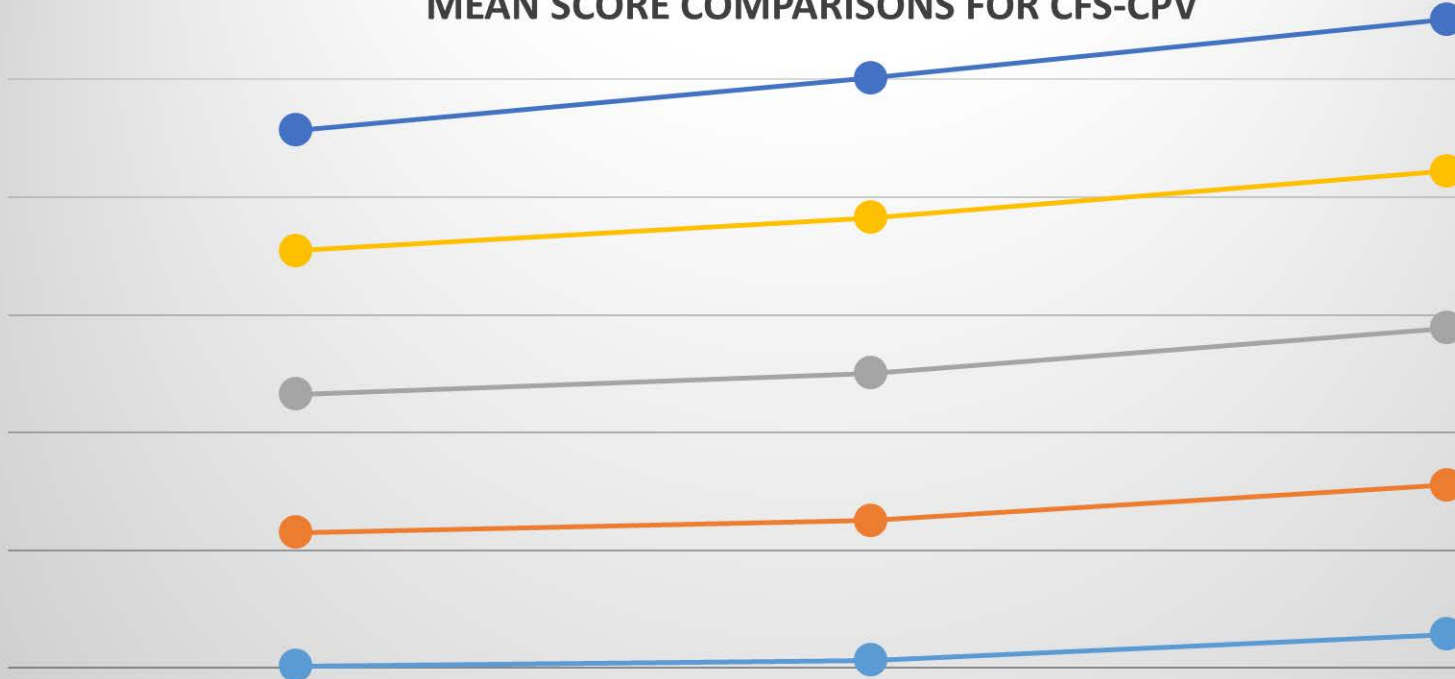
Q15

▶ Everybody on the healthcare team values relationships that are helpful and trusting

# Specific Mean Score Comparisons by Question

MEAN SCORE COMPARISONS FOR CFS-CPV

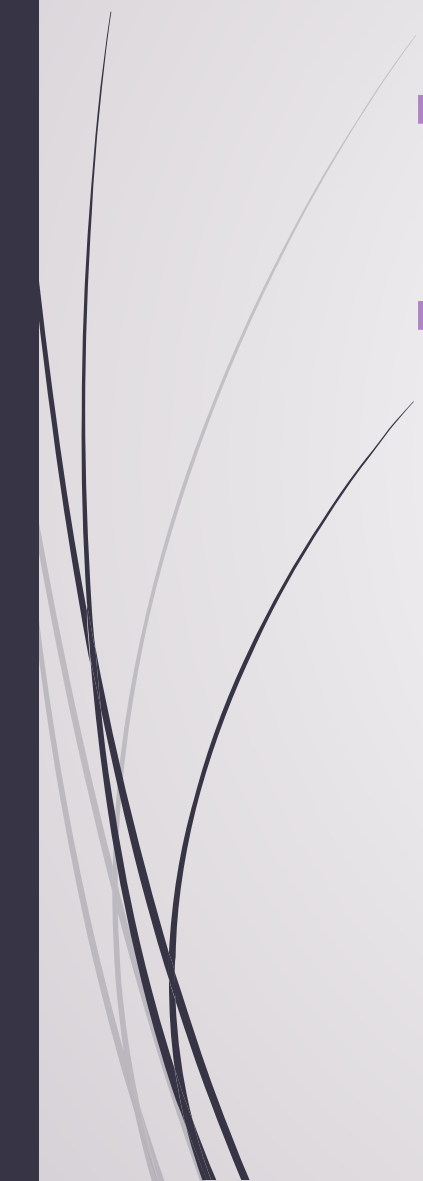
MEAN SCORES



	PREINTERVENTION	POSTDIDACTIC	POSTIMMERSION
Q15	5.1212	5.9333	6.4444
Q14	6.0909	6.6	6.6667
Q10	5.8788	6.2667	6.6667
Q4	5.66	5.93	6.33
Q2	5.09	5.33	6.44

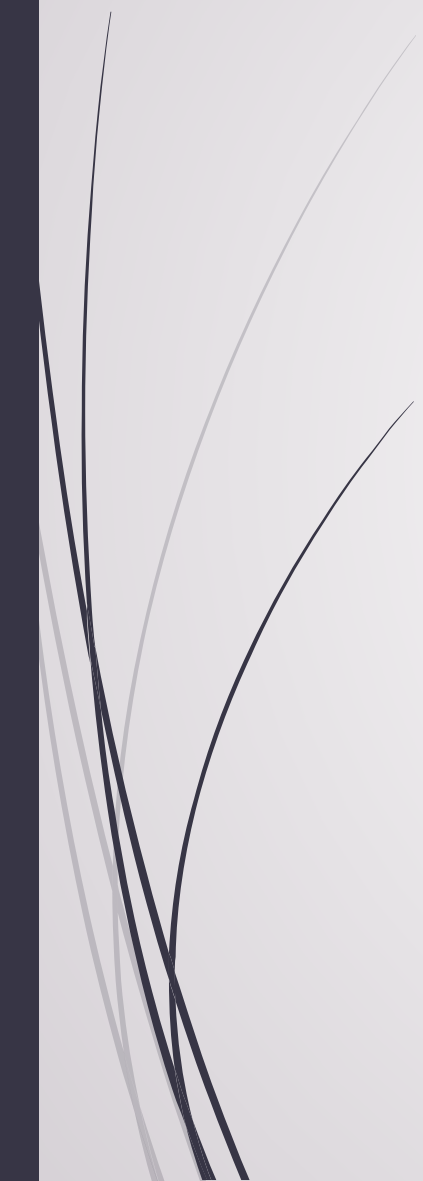


# SIGNIFICANCE OF PROJECT

- ▶ Caring can be enhanced through educational strategies
  - ▶ Immersion experience combined with directed instruction has significant impact on perceived caring factor for undergraduate nursing students
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# RECOMMENDATIONS

- ▶ Replicate study with larger numbers
  - ▶ Comparative analysis of Caring Factors Surveys with critical thinking scores on standardized measures
  - ▶ Recommend immersion/service learning experience whenever feasible for schools to implement
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