

**Front Range Community College- Westminster Nursing Program Essay Topic Rubric**

Topic: Describe how you have overcome an obstacle or challenge on your journey to become a nurse.	Exceeds Expectations	Meets Expectations	Approaching Expectations	Below Expectations
<b>Content and Originality</b> <i>Points will be deducted for plagiarism.</i>	Writer clearly identifies the obstacle, and handles the discussion of the obstacle they encountered and how the obstacle was overcome, with originality and depth. Includes personal reflections. Abstract ideas are reflected throughout relevant details. Tone is evident and reveals the feelings and thoughts of the writer.  <b>50-48 Points</b>	Writer discusses obstacle they encountered and how they overcame it with general detail. Includes personal and general reflections, along with concrete language and some details. There might be some digression from the topic.  <b>46-45 Points</b>	Writer does not go into depth about obstacle encountered and how it is overcome, writing is vague, general and lacks originality and insight. Little detail regarding the topic is provided.  <b>43-41 Points</b>	Writer does not discuss the obstacle encountered and/or how it is overcome. Lacks originality and insight. There is little to no self-reflection. No details support the topic. Lacks content.  <b>39 Points</b>
<b>Structure</b>	Topic well developed throughout essay. Points discussed are clear, well organized and tie back to thesis.  <b>20-18 Points</b>	Topic is developed throughout essay but some points are unclear, unorganized, or do not tie back to thesis.  <b>16-15 Points</b>	Topic is poorly developed throughout essay, thoughts are unclear and do not tie back to the thesis.  <b>13-10 Points</b>	No development of the topic.  <b>8-5 Points</b>
<b>Mechanics</b>	Contains no errors in sentence structure, punctuation or grammar. Words are spelled correctly.  <b>20 Points</b>	Minor errors in sentence structure or grammar. May contain a few errors in punctuation and/or spelling.  <b>17-16 Points</b>	Some errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar or sentence structure.  <b>14-10 Points</b>	Major errors in sentence structure, punctuation, spelling and grammar.  <b>8-5 Points</b>
<b>Length</b>	Essay is 200-400 words.  <b>10 Points</b>	-----	-----	Essay is less than 200 words or exceeds 400 words.  <b>0 Points</b>