

THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE GRADUATES' PRE-BOARD RATINGS AND THEIR BOARD EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE: BASIS FOR PREDICTION OF THE PERFORMANCE OF THE FUTURE GRADUATES

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In her interest in the field of nursing education and its licensure examination, the researcher conducted a descriptive-correlational study with documentary analysis to probe deeper the relationship between the graduates' Course Audit (Pre-board) ratings and their Board Performance. A total enumeration of all the 637 nursing graduates for the period 2010-2012 who were first takers of the Nursing Licensure Examination, were considered. Data were analyzed through frequency, percentage, Pearson-product moment correlation and simple linear regression analysis.

As a whole, the three batches of nursing graduates performed at a "very poor/failure" level in all areas of the pre-board examination under the college's Course Audit Program. Of the five parts of the examination, graduates faired the highest in Nursing Practice, or NP1 (53.80%) and lowest in NP4 (48.25%).

Based on the over-all rating, batch 2011 manifested the lowest in terms of pre-board rating (46.40) among the three batches. Graduates of 2010 (51.10%) ranked the second and 2012 (54.12%), the highest. Said percentage of failure indicates a need to undertake measures to enhance performance in the pre-board examination.

The findings showed a high positive correlation between the pre-board rating and the board examination performance, For the graduates of 2010-2011, there was still a positive correlation that existed, however only to a moderate extent. Having noted this, the administration and the faculty members intervened by intensifying their efforts not just in the lecture and clinical experience of the students, more so, on the Course Audit Program. Hence, a high positive correlation was noted for the graduates of 2011-2012. Basically the high-to-moderate positive degree of correlation implies that the pre-board rating is a good predictor of board examination performance. The predicted performance of batch 2013 is 52.10 percent based from the performance of the last three batches of graduates. When the pre-board examination ratings of the three batches of graduates were regressed, it yielded a significant influence in the NLE performances of 2010 and 2012 graduates. This means that the ratings for the pre-board examination significantly contributed to the performance in the Nursing Board Examination. Recommendations and further researches to improve the program and consequently the future graduates' program outcomes, were suggested.