

Online Professional Identity

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## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of the report is to explore current requirements of the nursing profession and compare them to current online professional identity of Victoria Simonyakina. The most valuable criteria of the job were identified based on the analyzed job ads and LinkedIn profiles. The criteria are education, RN license, experience, CPR certification, and collaboration and communication skills. Then the online identity of Victoria Simonyakina was checked with the use of online search engine systems. As a result, Victoria was identified as intelligent, social, and spiritual person who uses tools of digital writing. Finally, the required criteria were compared to current online identity of Victoria which demonstrated some strength: communication and collaboration skills, CPR certification and weaknesses: RN License, experience. However, the fact that Victoria is still nursing student gives her time to build upon her weaknesses. In conclusion, ability to be presented online can be very beneficial if it carefully planned and analyzed.

## **The Future Professional Me**

I came to the US for the first time in 2006. This journey opened my eyes to a completely different world. I couldn't even imagine before how much I enjoyed traveling. Firstly, I have traveled around the US. After that I went back home to Russia. I have traveled around Russia, China, and Thailand. Despite the beauty of each country I visited, there was something I started noticing, something which wouldn't leave me indifferent. I noticed numerous health issues people were facing in those countries. Although, there were some differences in health problems; pain, fear, and despondency could be seen in the eyes of every sick person I met. I realized that working in the hospitality environment, in which I was majoring in college at that time, was not enough for me. I wanted to do something useful in my life, something that I could do to help those sick people. The motto of the young generation today is often to take everything from this life that one can get. That simply doesn't work for me. I like to give and help. When I came back to the US in 2009 I decided that I wanted to obtain my education here – where medical education is the best in the World, where I would have the opportunity to grow and develop, and where nursing education is highly organized and respected. I was lucky to get accepted in Nursing School here at ODU. As of right now I'm about three years from graduation. For me nursing is not a profession – it is a way of life.

I realize that this profession is very active. Nurses, especially at the beginning of their career sacrifice a lot due to high responsibilities in very stressful environment. In spite of that, nurses are known for their compassionate, support, and courage they proved to their patients. Employers look for professionally prepared nurses who give highest priority to patients.

Upon analyzing of three RN Job ads the following conclusions were made. Firstly, RN jobs are highly specialized just as a whole sphere is. There are different departments that do not require separate official certification in addition to the main Nursing License in the state of employment.

Some hospitals tend to train RNs for specific duties themselves. However, somehow those ads (2 out of 3) prefer similar experience of one year or more. In spite that, education remains to be the main requirement because no matter which job ad you look at they may omit experience (1 out of 3) but they never omit Nurse Licensure (3 out of 3) which can only be obtained through education.

Education, in turn, can be one of three options: Diploma – less popular (1), Associate Degree – most popular (2), and Bachelor Degree – preferred but not required (2). By the way, one ad that didn't require experience could accept applicant with diploma. Other two ads had Associate Degree as minimal requirement. As nursing news show the trend that in the nearest future hospitals will require all RNs have BSN rather than Diploma or Associate due to the fact that BSN is concentrated on research and gives RNs more autonomy – expected and required nursing outcome. Moreover, 3 out of 3 ads required valid CPR or BLS certification. In addition, there some preferred skills like coordination and collaboration with multidisciplinary team members to facilitate integrated and comprehensive care, clinical knowledge and skills to meet standards as required by specific clinical areas, and, finally, knowledge on development, implementation and evaluation plans of care for specific patient populations

Upon analyzing LinkedIn profiles a few main features all three member had. Firstly, it is education and license. One cannot hold RN position without this two components. 2 of 3 people had Associate Degree in nursing while only one BSN. Although, today it is very important, none of the profiles had graduate degree in nursing. Secondly, all people had CVPR certifications. Lastly, there of those people had community services or volunteer experiences.

Based on analyzed job ads and LinkedIn profiles on nursing profession the following criteria were identified. To begin with all nurses should be *educated*. Nurses could be graduates of an accredited school of professional nursing, diploma graduates, or BSN which is preferred. Then nurses must hold and maintain a current, unrestricted *Registered Nurse license* in the state of employment. The next criterion is *experience*, mostly minimum of one year of clinical experience in

a healthcare setting with correctional healthcare experience preferred. Then nurses must have valid *CPR card/ BLS Certification*. Finally yet importantly, some valuable skills that are especially preferred in the job of nurse such as *collaboration and communication (oral and written) skills*.

## **The Current Me**

To begin with the both my last names, maiden and married, were searched. Both of them are rare; therefore, my name was definitely not lost. I was able to find only a few pages on myself on Google which gave me most of the results. Then I searched Yahoo which gave me only one result. Bing, in turn, found a few more; however it still was pretty straight forward: I got 3 results with exactly my name while Google gave me a few more results slightly related to my first or last names, or combination. The results did not shock me because I have only been in the United States for three years. Moreover, I do not really share a lot of information about myself online. The one result that surprised me was that Google was able to find my Russian Network Profile. It can be explained that my name was typed in English on that profile so Google was able to find it; however, other search engines were not.

In addition, I also searched my name in Russian language and I was able to find a few old articles from my school about my participation in conferences. I have personally forgotten about their existence.

So far, I think what you share – that is what you get. I have just started my nursing school; therefore, I am only at the beginning of my nursing journey. In relation to my professional identity, thanks to this class I have a LinkedIn profile that provides information about my education, experience, and skills. In addition, thanks to this class, I have such profiles as Diigo and WordPress which show me as a person who uses up-to-date digital writing technologies. Facebook profile gives me an identity of social person I don't think it can harm my reputation because I don't post too personal information there. I am also an active member in my Church which is reflected by the search engines. This presents me as a spiritual person which is valued in nursing profession. In addition, I am a member of honor society which shows me as an intelligent person.

## **Conclusions: Bridging the Gap**

According to the five identified criteria, my online (and real) identity definitely misses a half. Thanks to Linked In, which provides the most important information about me, I am presented online as a nursing student who is in the process of obtaining education. That would be neither strength nor weakness because I technically do not have a degree yet but because I am a student I am on my way of getting it. Being a nursing student immediately makes me an unlicensed person. That is my weakness. I am also missing relevant experience. I have some experience in hospitality business where I obtained my collaboration and communication skills. However, missing on real nursing experience gives me another weakness. My strength would be having CPR certification.

I am planning on keeping obtaining my education. After I get my degree I will take NCLEX test to obtain my RN license which will finally allow me to work as RN. As soon as I gain experience in nursing field I will update my LinkedIn profile. I am planning on getting more contacts on LinkedIn to develop my own network which is really important nowadays.



**Appendix A**  
**Three Job Ads**

1. [RN1](#)
2. [RN2](#)
3. [RN3](#)

**Appendix B**  
**Three LinkedIn Profiles**

1. [Amy Mayol](#)
2. [Christopher Scorsolini](#)
3. [Amber Limbach](#)

**Appendix C**  
**Current Digital Identities and URL's**

1. [Facebook](#)
2. [LinkedIn](#)
3. [Google +](#)
4. [Mixcloud](#)
5. [YouTube](#)
6. [Russian Orthodox Church Abroad](#)
7. [Russian Network Site](#)
8. [Diigo](#)
9. [WordPress](#)
10. [Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society](#)

## **Appendix D**

### **Reflection on Formatting Style**

The paper reflects standards of traditional formal report. Therefore, the Title page is included to provide the information about the author. In addition, executive summary is included to summarize and condense the report's information. Table of content is also provided to visualize the main subjects covered in the paper including easy navigation throughout the paper. The report is formatted in APA style which includes font size 12 with double line spacing to allow for readability. The font chosen is classic – Times New Roman, attractive and readable. It is also official and professional font. Headlines are bolded to make a contrast for legibility (weight). The report is formal so no bullets are used throughout the report.

The formal style of the paper reflects its audience which would be the professor of the English class. The information is organized in such a way so it easy to read and understand; therefore, the reader doesn't have to spend a lot of time making sense of the organization but rather concentrating on the content.