VCU Art of Nursing: Tensions between ambiguity and certainty

Sara Wilson McKay

Virginia Commonwealth University, United States of America; swilsonmckay@vcu.edu

This paper explores the research data of a 6-year ongoing project between art education and beginning nursing students at the Virginia Commonwealth University. Specifically, the researcher considers participant responses on a metacognitive awareness instrument in addition to student qualitative responses that convey attitudes toward ambiguity and uncertainty, exploring the ways in which art dialogue in a museum opens up space for students who typically seek singular answers for scientific questions.

This paper acknowledges the tensions that may exist for students who feel more comfortable with singular answers that typically shape the delivery of healthcare.