What is Professionalism?

Who is a Professional?

Characteristics - Flexner -
- Essentially intellectual or “learned”
- Based on knowledge not routine
- Practical application
- Techniques that can be taught

Characteristics - Flexner -
- Working for the good of society
- Self-organization and self-regulation
- Ethical & moral motivations

Who are they...
- Social Workers
- Lawyers
- Physicians
- Teachers
- Judges
- Pilots

Nurses
Professional Status is **Not** an Inherent Right

*GRANTED BY SOCIETY*

...earned by **YOU!!**

**Characteristics of a professional...**

- Trustworthy
- Competent
- Respectful
- Act with Integrity
- Knowledgeable
- Empathetic

**Characteristics....**

- Courteous
- Dependable
- Cooperative
- Committed
- Accountable

**How is it judged?**

- Against expectations or standards
- Strongly influenced by culture
- Personal value set
- May be situational
Judged by others?
- Your Communication
  - Language
  - Facebook
  - Twitter
  - Email
  - Ring tones
  - Body Language

Judged by others?
- Your Image
- Your Competence
- Your Demeanor

Judged by colleagues?
- Quality of work
- Interpersonal skills
- Attitude
- Integrity

Judged by yourself...
- Pride
- Purpose
- Passion
- Poise

Work Ethic

Unprofessional!
- violating the rules or ethical code of a given profession
- not of, characteristic of, belonging to, or connected with a profession; nonprofessional

http://www.yourdictionary.com/unprofessional
Your thoughts about...

- Dress
- Body Piercing
- Tattoos
- Language

Professionalism is in the eye of the beholder...

Confidentiality

- EMR
- Social media
- Elevators
- Hallways
- Portable workstations

Where do you start...

- Respect Yourself
- Respect for Others
- Respect for Nursing
- Accept Personal Responsibility

What are your boundaries...

- Relationships
- Communications
- Self-disclosure
- Exploitation
What about balance...

Work
School
Colleagues
Family & Friends

Home Stretch...

Start with yourself
Leave baggage in parking lot
Determine your values
Pay attention how you communicate

Plan of Care...

Schedule your time & activities
Pamper yourself PRN
Embrace interruptions
Laugh often

Final Thought

When you are dealing with people at their lowest, your professionalism should be at its highest.

It’s a matter of choice

I wish you every success and hope you enjoy your journey to becoming a Professional Registered Nurse!