# UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF NURSING

COURSE SYLLABUS

SUMMER 2016

COURSE NUMBER NGR 6538 – Section 72EA

COURSE TITLE Psychopharmacology for Psychiatric Nursing

CREDITS 3

PLACEMENT Variable

# PRE/COREQUISITES NGR 6172: Pharmacotherapeutics for Advanced Practice Nursing

# FACULTY Maureen Curley, PhD, ARNP, PMHNP-BC

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# Office hours by appointment

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By Appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION This course provides knowledge of psychoactive medications related to nursing care with psychiatric‑mental health clients, including children, adolescents, and adults. Emphasis is on the selection and use of psychoactive medications in the treatment of clients experiencing psychiatric disorders and in the restoration of wellness. An additional focus is the impact of psychoactive medications on the client, family, and community. Content is presented in relation to the role of psychiatric‑mental health nurse who functions in an advanced role in a variety of settings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze the pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic effects of the major categories of psychoactive medications in psychiatric‑mental health clients.

2. Analyze the effects of clients' psychological, physiological, and behavioral responses to psychoactive medications on clients and families in a variety of cultural and socioeconomic settings.

1. Evaluate the effect of drugs of abuse on psychiatric- mental health clients, including the potential combined effect with psychoactive medications.
2. Analyze economic, legal, ethical, cultural, economic, and political issues related to advanced nursing care with psychiatric‑mental health clients using psychoactive medications across the lifespan.

5. Analyze the role of advanced practitioner providing care to clients using psychoactive medications in relation to the client, family and the community.

COURSE SCHEDULE

E-Learning in Canvas is the course management system that you will use for this course. E-Learning in Canvas is accessed by using your Gatorlink account name and password at <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>. There are several tutorials and student help links on the E-Learning login site. If you have technical questions, call the UF Computer Help Desk at 352-392-HELP or send an email to [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

It is important that you regularly check your Gatorlink account email for College and University wide information and the course E-Learning site for announcements and notifications.

Course websites are generally made available on the Friday before the first day of classes.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

1. Special populations including different age groups, diagnostic categories and general implications for prescribing psychoactive medications

2. Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles of medications

3. Therapeutic indications and contraindications, therapeutic effects on behavior, affect and cognition, individualized/therapeutic dosage, medication half‑life, drug interactions and long and short term side effects of the major categories of psychoactive medications

4. Drugs of abuse

5. Compliance issues in medication treatment

6. Decision‑making related to choice of medication, medication judgment, and writing prescriptions

7. Impact on and role of the family in medication treatment

8. Cultural and economic issues in treatment

9. Legal, ethical, and political issues, including generic vs. trademark medication

10. Roles of advanced practitioner in psychiatric‑mental nursing

11. Community resources and client services

# TEACHING METHODS

# Online lectures, audiovisual materials, written materials, case studies, selected readings, and electronic sources.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Reading assignments, lectures, case study analysis, research article critique and study questions.

# EVALUATION METHODS/COURSE GRADE CALCULATION

# Examinations and written assignments. All assignments and exams are to be submitted electronically. No hard copy submissions are accepted.

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# 3 exams 50 points each 60% of grade

# 3 case studies 30 points each 30% of grade

1 article review 10 points 10% of grade

MAKE UP POLICY

There will be no make-up exams scheduled for missed exams. If a student misses an exam, the average of the remaining exam scores will be recorded as the score for the missed exam.

GRADING SCALE/QUALITY POINTS

A 95-100 C 74-79\*

A- 93-94 C- 72-73

B+ 91- 92 D+ 70-71

B 84-90 D 64-69

B- 82-83 D- 62-63

C+ 80-81 E 61 or below

\* 74 is the minimal passing grade

For more information on grades and grading policies, please refer to University’s grading policies: http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=907#grades

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

The College of Nursing expects all Nursing students to be professional in their interactions with patients, colleagues, faculty, and staff and to exhibit caring and compassionate attitudes. These and other qualities will be evaluated during patient contacts and in other relevant settings by both faculty and peers. Behavior of a Nursing student reflects on the student's individual’s ability to become a competent professional Nurse. Attitudes or behaviors inconsistent with compassionate care; refusal by, or inability of, the student to participate constructively in learning or patient care; derogatory attitudes or inappropriate behaviors directed at patients, peers, faculty or staff; misuse of written or electronic patient records (e.g., accession of patient information without valid reason); substance abuse; failure to disclose pertinent information on a criminal background check; or other unprofessional conduct can be grounds for disciplinary measures including dismissal.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the UF Student Honor Code at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/students.php>. Students are required to provide their own privacy screen for all examination’s administered to student laptops. No wireless keyboards or wireless mouse/tracking device will be permitted during examinations.

University and College of Nursing Policies:

Please see the College of Nursing website for a full explanation of each of the following policies - <http://nursing.ufl.edu/students/student-policies-and-handbooks/course-policies/>.

Attendance

UF Grading Policy

Accommodations due to Disability

Religious Holidays

Counseling and Mental Health Services

Student Handbook

Faculty Evaluations

Student Use of Social Media

REQUIRED TEXTS

Stahl, S. M. (2013). Stahls’s e*ssential psychopharmacology: Neuroscientific basis and practical applications* (4th ed.). New York: Cambridge University Press.

Stahl, S. M. (2014). *Prescriber’s guide: Stahl’s essential psychopharmacology*. (5th ed.). New York: Cambridge University Press.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCE

*Clinical Pharmacology.* Retrieved from UF Health Science library database

Kaplan, H. I., & Sadock, B. J. (2014). *Synopsis of psychiatry, behavioral sciences/clinical psychiatry* (11th ed.). Baltimore: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Weekly class schedule

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| **DATE** | **TOPIC** | **READINGS** |
| Week 1  May 9, 2016 | Introduction to psychopharmacology | Chapters 1 and 2 |
| Week 2  May 16, 2016 | Introduction to neurotransmitters | Continue Chapter 2 |
| Week 3  May 23, 2016 | Use of antidepressants  Medication profiles | Chapter 6 (pages 250 to 278)  Chapter 7  Stahl’s Prescriber’s guide |
| Week 4  May 31, 2016 | Use of anxiolytics and hypnotics  **Case study analysis #1 due**  Medication profiles | Chapter 9  Chapter 11 (pages 444 to 464)  Stahl’s Prescriber’s guide |
| Week 5  June 6, 2016 | Mood stabilizers  **Exam I**  Medication profiles | Chapter 6 (pages 237 to 250)  (pages 278 to 283)  Chapter 8  Stahl’s Prescriber’s guide |
| Week 6  June 13, 2016 | Use of typical antipsychotics  Medication profiles | Chapter 4 (page 79 to 96)  Chapter 5 (pages 129 to 173)  Stahl’s Prescriber’s guide |
| 6/20-6/24 | SUMMER BREAK |  |
| Week 7  June 27, 2016 | Use of atypical antipsychotics  **Research article critique due**  Medication profiles | Chapter 5 (pages 180-213)  Stahl’s Prescriber’s guide |
| Week 8  July 5, 2016 | Adverse effects of treatments and cross-titration of antipsychotic medications  **Case study analysis #2 due** | Chapter 5 (pages 129-141)  (pages 173-180)  (pages 214-227) |
| Week 9  July 11, 2016 | Substance use disorder  **Exam 2** | Chapter 14  Stahl’s Prescriber’s guide |
| Week 10  July 18 2016 | Psychopharmacology for children and adolescents | Chapter 12-ADHD  Additional materials |
| Week 11  July 25, 2016 | Neurocognitive disorders and geriatric psychopharmacology  **Case study analysis #3 due**  Medication profiles | Chapter 13  Stahl’s Prescriber’s guide |
| Week 12  August 1, 2016 | Use of supplements in psychiatry  **Exam 3** | Power point slides to be posted on Canvas |

\*You may arrange an individual appointment with Professor Curley via email, telephone, Big Blue Button, or in person. Campus hours vary, so please use email [maureencurley@ufl.edu](mailto:maureencurley@ufl.edu)

or phone (352-273-6417) to schedule an appointment. Office hours are flexible to meet the needs of the student.