# UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF NURSING

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING 2014

COURSE NUMBER NGR 6538

COURSE TITLE Psychopharmacology for Psychiatric Nursing

CREDITS 3

PLACEMENT Variable

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

# FACULTY Anna B. Schwait, MSN, ARNP-BC

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Office hours: Friday 1pm to 3pm or by appointment\*

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Office hours: By appointment only

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

Section Day Time Room

72EA Web-based

E-Learning in Sakai is the course management system that you will use for this course. E-Learning in Sakai 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.

We will also meet on Monday mornings for one hour. This will be time for reviews, questions, and examinations.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to be present for all scheduled classes, other learning experiences, and examinations. Students are expected to participate in the activities and discissuions as listed in the course syllabus and on the course website. Timeframes for the posting and receiving of materials are listed in the course materials on the course website.

Weekly lectures are provided using powerpoint with voice-over (audio). These lectures are pre-recorded and posted on Sakai so that you may access them at your convenience. In addition, this course will use “live (real-time) in classroom and via Adobe Connect sessions for exam reviews to allow students to participate and ask questions in a live format. Attendance at scheduled Adobe Connect review sessions is optional. Adobe Connect review sessions are recorded and posted on the Sakai site to be viewed again, or by students unable to attend the live review sessions. They are accessed through web links provided by your faculty member and should not be shared with anyone not enrolled in the course. The recordings are only available to the class during the semester.

Students who have extraordinary circumstances preventing attendance should explain these circumstances to the course instructor priorto the scheduled class or as soon as possible thereafter. Instructors will then make an effort to accommodate reasonable requests. A grade penalty may be assigned for late assignments.. Students are responsible for responding to online assignments as part of their attendance. Make-up exams may not be available in all courses.

ACCOMMODATIONS DUE TO DISABILITY

Each semester, students are responsible for requesting a memorandum from the Disability Resource Center (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/index.php/drc/>) to notify faculty of their requested individual accommodations. This should be done at the start of the semester.

COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Students may occasionally have personal issues that arise on the course of pursuing higher education or that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing problems affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and to seek confidential assistance at the University of Florida Counseling and Wellness Center, 352-392-1575, visit their web site for more information: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Students are to refer to the College of Nursing Student Handbook for information about College of Nursing policies, honor code, and professional behavior. <http://nursing.ufl.edu/students/student-policies-and-handbooks/>

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The University of Florida Student Conduct and Honor Code may be found at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/index.php/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

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, periodic Adobe Connect sessions in “live” and recoded format, weekly discussion sessions (live), written materials, case studies, selected reading, and electronic sources.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Group activities, lectures, review of current literature, written assignments.

# EVALUATION METHODS/COURSE GRADE CALCULATION

Written assignment, quizzes, case studies, and examinations.

Exams (three at 20% each) 60%

Quizzes (three at 5% each) 15%

Case Studies (three at 5% each) 15%

Assignment (two at 5%) 10%

*Feedback will be provided within 2-weeks.*

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.

Requirements for class attendance and make up assignments, and other work are consistent with University policies. These policies can be found at: <http://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

GRADING SCALE

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

FACULTY EVALUATION

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on ten criteria. These evaluations are conducted online at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

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. (2007). *Synopsis of psychiatry, behavioral sciences/clinical psychiatry* (10th ed.). Baltimore: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Weekly class schedule

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| **DATE** | **TOPIC** | **READINGS** |
| Week 1  May 12, 2014 | Introduction to pharmacology  Pharmacokinetcis & Pharmacodynamics | Chapter 1 and 2 |
| Week 2  May 19 | Continue - Introduction to pharmacology  Antidepressants | Continue Chapter 2  Chapter 6 (pages 253 to 278)  Chapter 7 |
| Week 3  May 26 | **Holiday**  Continue - Antidepressants  Medication profiles | Chapter 7  Stahl’s Prescribers guide |
| Week 4  June 2 | Anxiolytics and hypnotics | Chapter 9  Chapter 11 (pages 444 to 464) |
| Week 5  June 9 | Mood stabilizers  Medication profiles | Chapter 6 (237 to 253;  (278 to 283)  Chapter 8  Stahl’s Prescribers guide |
| Week 6  June 16 | Schizophrenia  **Exam I** | Chapter 4 (page 79 to 96)  Chapter 5 (page 129 to 173) |
| Week 7  June 23 | **Spring Break** |  |
| Week 8  June 30 | Continue – Schizophrenia  Adverse effects of treatment  Medication profiles | Chapter 5 (page 173 to 180)  Stahl’s Prescribers guide |
| Week 9  July 7 | Substance use disorder  **Exam 2** | Chapter 14 (page 537 to 563) |
| Week 10  July 14 | Children and Adolescents  Treatment of ADHD | Chapter 12 (page 471 to 500) |
| Week 11  July 21 | Geriatric psychopharmacology  Dementia | Chapter 13 |
| Week 12  July 28 | Psychiatric management of special  populations | Chapter 14 (page t563 to 575)  Assigned readings to be posted on Sakai |
| August 4 | Use of supplements in psychiatry  **Exam 3** | Assigned readings to be posted on Sakai |

Approved: Academic Affairs Committee: 6/92; 6/99

Faculty: 7/92; 7/99

UF Curriculum: 6/99

\*You may arrange an individual appointment with Professor Schwait via email, telephone, Adobe Connect, or in person. Campus hours vary, so please use email ([aschwait@ufl.edu](mailto:aschwait@ufl.edu)) or cell phone (352-538-7161) to schedule an appointment. Hours are flexible to meet the needs of the student.