UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF NURSING

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING 2016

COURSE NUMBER NGR 6560C – Section 1C56

COURSE TITLE Advanced Psychiatric Assessment and Diagnostics

CREDITS 3 [2 credits didactic, 1 credit laboratory or 48 laboratory hours]

PLACEMENT DNP Program: Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Track

PREREQUISITES NGR 6002C Advanced Health Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning

COREQUISITES None

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COURSE DESCRIPTION This course provides students with a knowledge base in mental health assessment of clients across the life span within the context of the advanced psychiatric mental health nursing role. Emphasis is on the acquisition and analysis of relevant data for the development of a comprehensive and holistic mental health assessment and subsequent diagnoses.Focus is on history taking, analysis, data categories, and specific techniques used to identify mental health problems and differential diagnoses in clients across the life span.

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

1. Describe steps for collecting, analyzing, and documenting data for a comprehensive mental health assessment for clients across the life span.
2. Specify age and developmental variations in mental health examinations and assessments.
3. Identify potential risk factors for mental illness based upon assessment data.

COURSE OBJECTIVES (continued):

1. Organize mental health assessment data as bases for ascribing differential diagnoses.
2. Differentiate normal mental health alterations from psychopathological findings.
3. Analyze mental health screening tools to support differential diagnoses.
4. Discuss diagnostic reasoning process in ascribing differential diagnoses with mental health clients across the lifespan.

COURSE OR CLINICAL/LABORATORY SCHEDULE

Section Day

1C56 Web

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 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. Overview of professional practice guidelines based on evidence.
2. Introduction to mental health assessment; definitions, background, and techniques
3. Variations in techniques for interview and data collection with mental health clients across the life span
4. Organization and communication of comprehensive mental health assessment data
5. Assessment of strengths and vulnerabilities according to behavior, life circumstances, family variations, developmental variations, cultural and other faculty
6. Differentiation of normal, emergent, and variant findings with mental health clients across the life span
7. Screening tools to use in supporting mental health diagnoses in selected situations
8. Overview of the diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders; history, usage, characteristics, differential diagnoses, co-occurring diagnoses

TEACHING METHODS

Lecture, audiovisual materials, written materials, and presentation of case studies.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Readings, participation in discussion, case study analysis, and study questions.

EVALUATION METHODS/COURSE GRADE CALCULATION

1. Written assignments including mental health assessments for children, adolescents, adults and older adults from cases, case studies, and audiovisual examples
2. Participation in weekly simulated exercises or unfolding case vignettes
3. Quizzes (3) and written examinations (1)

Comprehensive mental health assessments (2) 30%

Quizzes (2 @ 10%) and Final Exam (20%) 40%

Assignments, case studies, and discussion board 30%

*Assignments/Papers will be returned within 2 weeks.*

MAKE UP POLICY

A grade penalty may be assigned for late assignments, including exams.

GRADING SCALE/QUALITY POINTS

A 95-100 (4.0) C 74-79\* (2.0)

A- 93-94 (3.67) C- 72-73 (1.67)

B+ 91- 92 (3.33) D+ 70-71 (1.33)

B 84-90 (3.0) D 64-69 (1.0)

B- 82-83 (2.67) D- 62-63 (0.67)

C+ 80-81 (2.33) E 61 or below (0.0)

\* 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.

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

Academic Honesty

UF Grading Policy

Accommodations due to Disability

Religious Holidays

Counseling and Mental Health Services

Student Handbook

Faculty Evaluations

Student Use of Social Media

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). *Desk reference to the diagnostic criteria from DSM-5.*  Arlington, VA: APA

Sadock, B. J., Sadock, V.A., & Ruiz, P. (2014). *Kaplan & Sadock* *Synopsis of psychiatry: behavioral sciences/clinical psychiatry.* (11th ed.). Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins.

Wheeler, K. (2014). *Psychotherapy for the advanced practice psychiatric nurse: a how-to*

*guide for evidence-based practice.* (2nd ed.) New York: Springer Publishing Company.

Yearwood, E., Pearson, G. & Newland, J.(2012). *Child and adolescent behavioral health.* Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK

Carlat, D. J. (2011). *The psychiatric interview (practical guides in psychiatry).* (3rd ed.).

Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins.