



Course Syllabus: Mental Health Nursing
College of Gunn Health Sciences and Human Services NURS 3413/3412
Spring 2021

Contact Information

All correspondence with the faculty concerning the class should be sent through D2L unless otherwise specified by your instructor. Please allow the professors 48 hours to respond to you e-mails. Private issues can and should be sent to the faculty specific e-mail at the msutexas.edu addresses listed.

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Course Description

Concepts and principles emphasized in this course pertain to communication, interpersonal relationships, and utilization of the nursing process in providing nursing care for clients manifesting psychosocial and/or psychiatric needs. Clinical and classroom discussions provide students with opportunities to develop a greater understanding of self, and to increase their ability in relating to

individuals, families, groups, and communities (IFGC) in structured and nonstructured settings.

Credit hours: Five (5) credit hours – three (3) hours lecture and an average of six (6 hours) of clinical per week

Pre-requisites: Basic Nursing Care and Clinical; Pharmacology

Course Objectives

AACN Essentials: For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to <http://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/BaccEssentials08.pdf>

DEC Competencies: In the DEC Competencies below, the following designations apply: I: Provider of Patient-centered Care, II: Coordinator of Care, III: Patient Safety Advocate, and IV: Member of the Health Care Team. For further information regarding the competencies identified for each course objective, refer to http://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/publication_pdfs/delc-2010.pdf

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:	AACN	DEC
1. Discuss the evolution of major social, cultural, and historical factors and their influence on psychiatric nursing practice.	I, V, VII, VIII	I-A
2. Utilize the nursing process to provide nursing care to individuals and families with psychosocial and/or mental health needs within the context of IFGC.	II, III, VI, VII, VIII, IX	I-B II-A, C, D
3. Differentiate between therapeutic and nontherapeutic communication techniques, identify components of nonverbal expression, and describe boundary issues associated with touch and proxemics while taking into account the cultural differences that exist among patients and their families from various ethno-cultural backgrounds.	II, VI, VII, VIII	II-B, D, E, H III-C
4. Demonstrate accountability for legal/ethical aspects in providing nursing care to individuals and their families with psychosocial and/or mental health needs with the context of their IFGC.	I, II, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII	I-A, B II-E, H III-A, B, C IV-D
5. Utilize knowledge of growth and development in providing nursing care to individuals and their families with psychosocial needs and/or mental health needs.	VII	II-A, B, D, E, F
6. Identify relevant research findings related to mental health nursing.	III, V, VII, VIII	I-B II-A, C, D, E, F, H III-A, B, C

7. Discuss the theoretical knowledge regarding the etiology and symptomatology of current psychiatric/mental health diagnostic categories.	III, VI, XI	I-B II-B, C, E, F III-C IV-A
Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:	AACN	DEC
8. Evaluate major concepts and theories related to adaptive/maladaptive behaviors individuals with psychosocial and/or mental health needs.	I, III, V, VI, VII, VIII, XI	I-B II-A, B, C, D, E, F III-C IV-A
9. Relate services available to individuals and their families with psychosocial and/or mental health needs, with consideration for cultural background within the scope of their aggregates, community and society.	II, III, IV, V, VI, VII	II-B, C, D, E, F, H III-B IV-A

Course Content

1. Role relationships among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.
2. Coping and stress tolerance among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.
3. Life principles among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.
4. Safety and protection among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.
5. Comfort among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.
6. Growth and development among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.
7. Health promotion among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.
8. Nutrition among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.
9. Elimination and exchange among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.

10. Activity and rest among and with persons with mental health or psychosocial needs.

Required Textbook and Resources

Townsend, M.C. & Morgan, K.I. (2021). *Psychiatric mental health nursing (10th ed.)*. Philadelphia, PA: F.A. Davis

Wolters Kluwer vSim for Mental Health Nursing (Course Code TBA) Purchase website is TBA

ExamSoft with Exemplify application testing software

Laptop computer that meets Technology Requirements

Nursing Central (Unbound Medicine) application

Learning Experiences

Classroom and clinical activities

Readings

Desire 2 Learn (D2L) supplement: Students are expected to check their D2L course for course announcements each 24 hours

Midwestern State University BSN Handbook: Is available from the MSU homepage. Refer to: [BSN Student Handbook](#)

MSUTexas Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook 2017-18](#)

Grading

Table 1: Course Grade

Assignments	Percentage
**Exams (four exams at 15% each)	60
**Final Exam (Cumulative)	15
***Clinical Assignments (Clinical assignments 15%, vSims 5%, Journal assignment 5%)	25

Total	100
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Table 2: Course Grade Calculation

*The final course grade will be calculated in the following manner:
*There will be no rounding of grades except as necessary to accommodate the electronic testing and grade book limitations. No final grade will exceed a 100.
**Students must score at least a 74% average, using the percentages posted in table 1, on the five objective exams in the course to successfully complete the course. If a student scores less than a 74% average on the five objective exams, the average of the five objective exams will be the grade recorded for both the classroom and clinical sections of the course.
***Students who score at least a 74% average on the five objective exams, the averages of the clinical assignments will be added to the student's grade.

Table 3: Grading Scale

Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	89-80
C	74-79
D	65-73
F	Less than 65

Exams

1. No student will be admitted 30 minutes after exam has started. No exceptions.
2. Exam Soft requires loading Exemplify application for taking course exams. Exam Soft is purchased online each semester.
3. There may not be electrical outlets at each desk; therefore, students are encouraged to arrive for exams with a fully charged computer or tablet and a portable power source.
4. Students are responsible for having a compatible computer or tablet on which to take the exams.

5. Presence of a device capable of texting or making calls during examination administration will result in an automatic zero on the exam.
6. Exam Soft will provide students with user identity codes, initial passwords, and instructions on how to load Exemplify. Students must maintain ready access to user identity codes and passwords on exam days. If these access codes are not available for use, the student runs the risk of not taking an exam and earning a grade of zero.

Missed Exams

Should the student be absent from an exam, it is the student's responsibility to notify the course coordinator at least two hours prior to the exam or as soon as possible if an emergency is the cause of missing the exam. Students may makeup exams on the two make-up exam sessions as documented on the course calendar.

Failure to comply with this policy will result in a zero for the exam(s) missed.

Any make-up exam may be different from the original exam and may include multiple choice, essay, short answer, true and false, and/or matching questions.

Attendance

1. Classroom or online attendance and participation are expected. Students are responsible for lecture/discussion content, announcements, and other information presented in class and on D2L.
2. Students must receive permission from individual lecturers to tape any content.
3. Students are expected to read and complete other required assignments in advance of class.

Success Strategies

1. What your professors will do to help you achieve an optimal outcome in this class:
 - Start and end classes on time
 - Offer substantial and well-organized material in all class sessions
 - Ensure that opportunities to participate are enjoyed equally by all students
 - Return graded assignments as quickly as possible
 - Treat all students with courtesy and respect
2. What the student can do to achieve the optimal outcome in this class:
 - Attend class regularly and on time

- Take notes attentively and keep distractions to a minimum
- Respond productively in discussions, raise your hand to be recognized
- Come to class, online lecture and clinical prepared and with assignments on time
- Treat yourself, your classmates, our guest speakers, your professors and the clinical staff and patients with respect

Midterm Progress

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this course will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's WebWorld account. Midterm grades will not be reported on the student's transcript; nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should schedule a meeting with the professor and seek out tutoring through the Tutoring & Academic Support Programs (link to the website <https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/>).

Nursing Program Failure Policy

1. Students must meet all course requirements or a grade of F will be assigned.
2. Students are expected to pass both clinical and classroom components of the course. Failure in either clinical or classroom will result in failure in both. Clinical failure results in a course and clinical grade of F. Classroom failure results in the grade earned in the classroom for both course and clinical.
3. A student who withdraws/drops or receives a D or an F in two nursing courses must seek reentry to the nursing program to be eligible to continue in the program.
4. The faculty reserves the right to recommend to the School of Nursing Chair and College of Human Services and Health Sciences withdrawal of a student from the nursing program for health, legal, or academic reasons, particularly if client care is jeopardized. In addition, the student must perform within the ANA Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics.

University Policies

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational

programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Clark Student Center, Room 168, (940) 3974140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to <http://www.mwsu.edu/student-life/disability>.

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

Wilson School of Nursing adheres to the MSU Code of Conduct. In particular, academic dishonesty, however small, creates a breach in academic integrity. A student's participation in this course comes with the expectation that his or her work will be completed in full observance of the MSU Code of Student Conduct. A student should consult the current Student Handbook for answers to any questions about the code.

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available including online Desire 2 Learn course resources, Internet sites, other textbooks and journals, faculty, and peers when accomplishing objectives. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive for life-long learning.

However, all components of the course are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually and are not to be shared, copied, or plagiarized from other sources. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they abided by this rule.

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, collusion, plagiarism or the acquisition of tests or test questions and other academic materials such as test banks without the permission of the faculty. Cheating, collusion, or plagiarism is defined as: (1) cheating - intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, equipment, or study aids in any academic exercise; (2) collusion - the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit; (3) plagiarism - intentionally representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

Academic dishonesty (cheating, collusion, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. Whenever a student is unsure of whether a particular situation will be interpreted as academic dishonesty, he or she should ask the instructor for clarification.

Any student found to be academically dishonest as defined above and under each assignment will automatically receive a grade of "0" on the assignment.

Instructor Drop

An instructor may drop a student at any time during the semester for excessive absences, for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. The instructor must give the students a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through the 8th week of a long 45 hours semester, the 6th week of a 10 week summer term, or the 11th class day of a 4 or 5 week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these periods, the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar is the official drop date. Refer to page 47 at <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/assets/files/handbook.pdf>

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Senate Bill 11 passed by the 84th Texas Legislature allows licensed handgun holders to carry concealed handguns on campus, effective August 1, 2016. areas excluded from concealed carry are appropriately marked, in accordance with state law. For more information regarding campus carry, please refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place, which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as a part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Grade Appeal Process

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

Notice

Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Clinical Requirements

Clinical Hours Breakdown

83 hours

Patient care hours/Mental Health First Aid – Four 8-hour shifts – 32 hours

Reflective journal - five 1 hour entries – 5 hours

Clinical assignment – 9 hours

Mental health scenario – 2 hour

Movie Assignment – 9 hours

vSims – 20 hours

10 cases – pre-test, vSim, and post-test (vSim grade only one recorded) –
2 hours per case – you must score 74% as a minimum grade on the vSim

Sims – 6 hours

Mental Health simulation – 2 hours and 1 hour prep

Disturbing voices – 2 hours and 1 hour prep

Clinical Compliance Requirements

Students are required to be compliant with immunizations, health insurance, liability insurance, and CPR via Castlebranch for the entire semester. Failure to maintain compliance will result in academic withdrawal from the course.

Infractions Constituting Clinical Failure

Failure of the clinical component of the course occurs when the student receives an unsatisfactory rating in any area of the evaluation tool or does not complete all the hours of clinical. Absences will be rescheduled at the discretion of the course coordinator.

Clinical is defined as any activity that earns the student clinical hours and includes but is not limited to patient care experiences, simulation experiences, skill practice and testing sessions, orientations, and clinical meetings.

Certain behaviors result in an unsatisfactory rating in the professional behavior section of the evaluation rubric or some form of remediation as deemed appropriate by the course faculty.

Students who receive five or more infractions within the program are no longer eligible to progress in the program. Students may repeal the decision to be removed from the program by submitting to the Student Affairs Committee a paper that explains why they should be allowed to remain in the program. The decision of the committee is final.

Three incidents of infractions to the standard of professional behavior to include but not limited to:

- Arriving to a clinical experience without bringing a completed pre-clinical assignment or the pre-simulation assignment even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Not conforming to the dress code even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Not bringing appropriate supplies to the clinical experience even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Unprofessional/inappropriate language or gestures
- Unprofessional/inappropriate behavior such as disrespectful behavior, chewing gum, using tobacco products in non-smoking areas, disruptive behavior, or failure to comply with a written or verbal instruction
- Arriving late to any clinical site even if allowed to stay in the clinical
- Non-compliance with the policy to notify the instructor and the agency of a clinical absence prior to the absence or as soon as possible if immediate notification is not possible
- Non-compliance with the policy to receive written prior approval before attending the clinical and/or the policy to notify the clinical instructor of absences prior to missing the clinical or as soon as the student realizes he/she must leave the clinical experience
- Leaving the premises without permission from the clinical instructor
- Failure to complete assignments by the due dates
- Failure to return from meals or breaks at the assigned time
- Use of a cell phone for calling, texting, e-mailing, or receiving calls, texts, or e-mails in the clinical area unless given permission by the clinical instructor

Two incidents of infractions to the standard of professional behavior to include but not limited to:

- Disregarding patient confidentiality without malice or intent to disclose
- Patient negligence that does not result in patient injury
- An error in care that does not result in patient injury
- Cheating, collusion, plagiarism, or stealing. Cheating/collusion/plagiarism - cheating means intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise; collusion means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit; plagiarism means intentionally representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise
- Committing two infractions from the list above as well as one in this list

Infractions to the standard of professional behavior that results in immediate failure of the clinical component of the course to include but not limited to:

- Administering medications or implementing sterile or invasive procedures without the direct supervision of a faculty member or preceptor

- Failing to check two patient identifiers prior to administering medications or implementing sterile or invasive procedures
- Failing to maintain compliance with clinical requirements
- An error in care or patient negligence that harms a patient
- Falsification, omissions or lying
- Intentionally revealing confidential information
- Placing self, staff, or patient at risk of harm due to abandonment of duties and/or sleeping during clinical experiences
- Failure to report a patient care error or incident
- Physical or verbal abuse of patients, patient's family members, faculty or staff
- Testing positive for illicit drugs or alcohol results in immediate ineligibility to continue in the program

Dress Code

The goal of the dress code is to present a professional appearance that does not compromise communication, safety, or infection control. Appearance that presents less than a professional appearance will not be allowed.

Clinical Uniform

- School uniform of matching maroon pants or skirt and maroon tunic top is the required uniform.
- Undershirts, if worn should be plain (solid, no adornments or logos, no patterns) and white, black, gray, or maroon that matches the uniform.
- Pants cannot touch the floor and must be hemmed properly. Pants cannot have a cuffed hem.
- When sitting down, bending over or squatting down, or raising arms there can be no gap at the waist between the uniform pant and the top showing skin or underwear.
- No cleavage can be showing.
- Uniform must be well-laundered, without wrinkles, beyond what occurs during typical wear, and fit appropriately.
- Skirts must be knee length or longer, but may not touch the floor, must be properly hemmed and allow for ease of movement.
- Clean and closed toe and heel shoes that are black, gray, white, or maroon that matches the uniform are to be worn.
- Socks and hosiery must match either skin color, uniform or shoes.
- Proper MSU identification (MSU or approved clinical agency name tag and MSU patch). The MSU patch is obtainable at the bookstore and is to be sewn on left sleeve, centered and 1" from shoulder seam.
- MSU nametag must contain the name of the university, name of the student, designation of student, and a photograph of the student. The nametag is obtained through Card Services at the Clark Student Center.

- If a student desires a cover, he/she may wear a matching maroon scrub jacket with the appropriate name tag and MSU patch sewn on left sleeve, centered and 1" from shoulder seam.
- Hair must be self-contained and unadorned and must be a natural hair color. Any containing articles such as head wraps, barrettes, bands, or clips must be plain (solid, no jewels, adornments, patterns, or logos) and same color as hair, or white, black, gray, silver, gold, or maroon that matches the uniform.
- Hair may not fall forward past shoulder/neck area or fall over eyes when leaning over at the waist.
- Sideburns, beards, and mustaches must be clean and neatly trimmed.
- Hats or caps are not allowed.
- Short natural and clean fingernails are required. Nail enhancements are not allowed to include polish, dips, tips, overlays, acrylics, or gels. Tips of nails may not be seen when looking at the hands from the palm side up.
- Hygiene must include being clean without fragrances or strong odors.
- No jewelry other than a plain wedding ring (band) and a watch with an analog second hand are allowed.
- Visible body piercings may not contain any jewelry, gauges or spacers.
- If a clinical requires "professional dress" other than the Nursing Uniform, the student will be asked to wear a MSU Nursing t-shirt or maroon polo shirt with MSU nursing patch as directed and pants or a skirt that is black, gray, khaki, or maroon that matches the maroon polo shirt with the appropriate name tag.
- Clinical agencies retain the right to refuse access to any student whose appearance is deemed inappropriate. For this reason, visible tattoos should not contain symbols, drawings or wording likely to be deemed offensive. The nursing uniform may not be worn when working outside of clinical experiences.
- You will be required to wear a face covering during your clinical rotation at Red River Hospital, you will meet your instructor at the front door of the hospital prior to the start of clinical and participate in a health screening and complete a questionnaire and have a temperature check completed prior to entrance into hospital. You will complete self-assessment through MSU Safety app, if you do not get the green check mark, notify your clinical instructor prior to coming to clinical.

COVID – 19

All students must download the MSU Safety app and complete the self-assessment daily. If you do not get the green check mark at the end of the self-

assessment you must contact your instructor and complete the COVID - 19 Reporting Form for Students.