

Midwestern State University
College of Health Sciences
Family PMH-NP Program

NURS 6911 X30Special Topics (Fall 2023)

Note: This syllabus is for information purposes only and is subject to change without prior notice.

Faculty

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All faculty office hours are by appointment only.

Other WSON Contacts

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Additional Campus Details

MSU Police (Emergency Only): (940) 397-4239

Course Description

The focus of this course is on diagnosis, pharmacological and non-pharmacological management and outcomes of serious and persistent psychiatric disorders and mental health problems (including complex mental illness and addictions) experienced in individuals, families, and groups in a variety of settings.

Prerequisites:

- NURS 5043 Advanced Pathology
- NURS 5133 Advanced Pharmacology
- NURS 5112/11 Advanced Health Assessment
- NURS 5103 Nursing Theory
- NURS 5303 PMH Roles
- NURS 5322 PMH Diagnostics

- NURS 5463/5473 PMH Advanced Practicum I
- NURS 5483/5493 PMH Advanced Practicum II

Addendums to the syllabus

Faculty reserve the right to post addendums to the syllabus throughout the semester as needed. If and when this occurs, they will be posted under “Content” of Brightspace/D2L. It is the student’s responsibility to check Brightspace/D2L daily for any updates or additional information that has been posted.

As this is an online course and you will need access to a computer and be able to scan paperwork electronically.

Check syllabus course calendar for assignment due dates. For ease of remembering, discussions will be due by 3 PM on the designated due dates.

Learning Modalities

Didactic Learning

- Bright Space/D2L
- Discussions (4)

Course Objectives

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

- Demonstrate planning, implementing and evaluating care of one’s own mental health.
- Develop beginning expertise in the assessment, evaluation and medication treatment plans for the clients with serious and persistent mental health problems.
- Develop beginning expertise in the application of selected evidence-based psycho-medications of groups and communities experiencing mental health problems.
- Recognize the impact of psycho-pharmacological interventions in family, group and community dynamics.

Note: The field of Family PMHNP is evolving. When new information is available we try to keep you informed. Faculty may provide you with additional materials that will be included in course content, activities, and exams.

Grading Scale

- A grade of A signifies 90-100
- A grade of B signifies 80-89
- A grade of C signifies 74-79
- A grade of D signifies 65-73
- A grade of F signifies 64 and below

Evaluation

The grade for the NURS 6911 will be based upon the following criteria:

Assignments – 4 Discussions

For each discussion topic, students are responsible for engaging in thoughtful and substantive discussions facilitated on the Brightspace/D2L discussion board, replacing in-person classroom discourse. In this context, every student is required to lead a discussion on a given topic, posing thought-provoking inquiries that either enhance, challenge, or propose solutions to the subject matter. These interactions mirror collegial peer reviews, showcasing the breadth and depth of comprehension regarding the matter at hand.

The evaluation process encompasses both the discussion led by the student and their active involvement in a minimum of two (2) other students' discussions. All communication is expected to uphold a standard of professionalism and respect.

Of utmost importance is the timely presentation of your original assignment for the discussion. This must be shared on the discussion board at least 7 days prior to the stipulated due date. This provision ensures ample time for meaningful exchange among peers. It is imperative to note that adhering to this timeline is crucial, as instances have arisen where last-minute postings hindered peers' ability to provide comprehensive responses, thereby undermining the fundamental essence of a fruitful discussion.

It should be noted that failing to post your unique discussion within 7 days of the due date automatically results in a deduction of 30 points. This time frame is intended to facilitate constructive conversations among peers.

Furthermore, discussions should be fortified with appropriately cited references, acknowledging the sources that contribute to the depth of the discourse. The due date for each discussion is readily available in the course calendar.

Discussion Grading Rubric

Criteria	Criteria Description	% of Grade
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion postings include thought-provoking input and feedback designed to enhance communication from/with other participants. • Displays a researched understanding of the specific topic or comment being discussed. • Your posting develops ideas and stimulates discussions. • Shows application of content. Responses to peers' postings reflect research, readings, and further stimulate thought. 	25%
Quality of Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written responses are free of grammatical, spelling, and punctuation errors. Follows APA format. • The style of writing contributes to open and honest communication and is professionally presented. • Critical thinking and content analysis demonstrated in your original posting and in your analysis of peers' posting. • Discussion arguments are well supported. • Shows integration of current literature. 	25%
Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complies with established class best practices for learning (referenced, respectful, timing etc). • Proactively participates in the class. • All postings are respectful of others' ideas, opinions; assist peers in clarification of perspectives; and offer critical assessment of peers' postings. • Student consistently responds and follows the guidelines or expectations of the assignment. • Posts OWN assignment 7 DAYS PRIOR to discussion due date to allow peers adequate time to research and respond. Consistently responded to at minimum 2 peers. • Consistently posted responses by due date. 	25%
Connection to professional practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of strong reflective thought pertaining to personal perspectives and professional development. • Reflective statements include a theoretical and researched rationale, insightful analysis, and present and stimulate creative thought. • Does not recite facts, but rather addresses and develops concepts of issues. • Postings directly advance concepts of current professional NP practice. 	25%

Student Responsibilities and Class Requirements

Students are accountable for policies regarding graduate nursing programs and completion of requirements for all graduate students as stated in the Graduate Catalog and Graduate Student Handbook. Students are responsible for making appointments with faculty concerning class assignments and clinical responsibilities as necessary and as requested by faculty.

This is an online class and students are expected to have adequate access to a computer and check the course via Bright Space/D2L daily for updates and information. Work will be submitted electronically by due date. All course requirements must be met in order to pass the course. Discussions should have any necessary citations and references in APA, 7th edition, format. All written work submitted for evaluation is to be the work of the student who submits it.

Course Orientation – Bright Space/Desire to Learn (D2L)

The best way to get oriented to the course is to read the syllabus. By now, each student should be familiar with the Bright Space/D2L layout.

Contacting Faculty

All assignment questions, questions about grades, or anything pertaining to the course should be addressed via the Bright Space/D2L email within the course. The preferred method of communication is Brightspace (D2L) email. Please contact the course faculty through Brightspace (D2L). Please note if the email is received Monday-Thursday, it will be returned within 24 hours. If an email is received after 3PM on Friday, or over the weekend, it will be returned within 48 hours. Contacting faculty by cell phone should be reserved for times between 8 am and 8 pm M-F. If it is urgent and you feel you cannot wait for an email response, you may call/text faculty between times of 8 AM and 8 PM. Understand that professors will not be checking emails throughout the night, therefore should you have a question about anything including a test or assignment due the next day...you must contact your respective professor before 8PM the night before the assignment is due.

Assignment due dates/times

Assignment due dates and times are listed on the course calendar of this syllabus.

There are no opportunities for extra credit given for any assignment. All assignments will be due on Central Standard Time (CST).

Assignment/Exam Collaboration Policy

The faculty considers collaboration during assignments and examinations as cheating and cheating is in violation of MSU Policy. A score of zero (0) will be given for students participating in collaboration of assignments. Providing a student with written assignments, or examination information from a course previously taken at MSU, is cheating. Cheating is ground for dismissal from the program.

Progression Policy

As with all graduate courses in the Nursing Programs at MSU, a B (80 or above) must be earned in order to pass the course and progress in the Family PMHNP-NP program. If a grade of C or less is earned in any graduate nursing course, the course must be repeated at the next regular academic semester during which the course is offered. A nursing course may be repeated only once. Refer to the MSU Graduate Catalog for additional information on progression.

Adding and Dropping Courses

A student who wishes to change his/her schedule by either dropping or adding a course must first consult with the PMHNP Program Coordinator (Dr. Mercer). Refer to the graduate catalog for additional information on adding or dropping courses. Failure to notify the PMHNP coordinator may result in being removed from the program. You must follow the degree provided to you.

Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to pursue their scholastic careers with honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test or other course work, plagiarism (offering the work of another as one's own), and the unauthorized collaboration with another person. Students found guilty of dishonesty in their scholastic pursuits are subject to penalties that may include suspension or expulsion from the University. As a licensed registered nurse, graduate students are expected to demonstrate professional conduct as set forth in the Texas Board of Nursing rule 215.8. **In the event that a graduate student holding a RN license is found to have engaged in academic dishonesty, the college may report the nurse to the Texas BON using rule 215.8 as a guide.**

By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a "limited right" in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The "limited right" shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the student's work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

NURS 6911 adheres to the *MSU Code of Student Conduct*. 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*. Many components of NURS 6911 are designed to be highly interactive with students helping each other learn by providing a different point of view, much as would occur in a face-to-face classroom. Students are encouraged to take full advantage of the many resources available including online

Desire2Learn course resources, internet sites, other textbooks and journals, faculty, and peers. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive for life-long learning.

All components of NURS 6911 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.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, (1) the use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or completing other assignments; or (3) the acquisition of tests or other academic materials belonging to the university faculty, staff, or students without permission (4) submission of your own work previously submitted in a prior course or prior assignment for a grade.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of published or unpublished works of another person – by paraphrase or direct quotation – without correct citation in the text and on the reference list. The use of materials generated by agencies engaged in "selling" written papers is also plagiarism. For this course, students found to plagiarize on any assignment or discussion will receive a zero for that assignment or discussion. A second incident of plagiarism by the same student will result in a grade of "F" for this course.

American Disability Act (ADA)

Midwestern State University (MSU) does not discriminate based on an individual's disability and complies with Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act in its admission, accessibility and employment of individuals in programs and activities. MSU provides academic accommodations and auxiliary aids to individuals with disabilities, as defined by law, who are otherwise qualified to meet academic and employment requirements. For assistance call (940) 397-4618 or 397-4515. Please see the instructor outside of class to make any arrangements involving special accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to declare any disabilities. After declaration, preferably at the beginning of each semester, the student needs to contact individual instructors to determine any reasonable accommodations that may be required.

Campus Carry Policy

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 the [University's Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#). If you have questions or concerns, please contact MSU Chief of Police Patrick Coggins at patrick.coggins@msutexas.edu.

Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to act respectful to all peers, faculty, and guests during face-to-face lectures, in clinical settings, and in the online environment. Cell phones and pagers must be turned off or placed in silent mode before class begins. Should emergency communication need to be made, the student must step outside of the classroom.

Network Etiquette (Netiquette)

In all textual online communication, it is important to follow proper rules of netiquette. What is netiquette? Simply stated, netiquette is network etiquette – that is, the etiquette of cyberspace. And “etiquette” means the social and cultural norms of communicating with others in a proper and respectful way. In other words, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving and interacting properly online. The Netiquette “Core Rules” linked below are a set of general guidelines for cyberspace behavior. They probably won’t cover all situations, but they should give you some basic principles to use in communicating online. For Netiquette Core Rules visit [The Core Rules of Netiquette web page](#)

Required Texts

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association

American Psychiatric Association. (2020). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Seventh Edition.

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders DSM- 5 - TR

American Psychiatric Association. (2022). Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders DSM- 5. Fifth Edition Text Revision released March 2022.

Kaplan and Sadock's Synopsis of Psychiatry

Boland, R., Verduin, M. and Ruiz, P. (2022). Twelfth Edition.**Same book as last semester although focus is different this semester.

Stahl's Essential Psychopharmacology. Prescriber's Guide (7th Edition).

Stahl, S. (2021) Stahl's Essential Psychopharmacology. Prescriber's Guide

A Manual of Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests (11th Edition).

Any lab Manual or Fishbach, F. (2022). A Manual of Laboratory and Diagnostic Tests 11th edition

NURS 6911 Special Topics Course Calendar Spring 2021

Course Calendar

28 August 2023

Semester begins:

Get preceptors approved then begin clinicals as soon as possible after approved **and when totally compliant** (no deficiencies). Immediately begin working on any needed facility agreements.

29 August 2023

Start Discussion # 1

4 September 2023

Labor Day

19 September 2023

Discussion assignment due by 3PM Thursday 9/14/2023

03 October 2023

Start Discussion # 2

17 October 2023

Discussion assignment # 2 due by 3PM

02 November 2023

Start Discussion # 3

11 November 2023

Thanksgiving Holiday Begins

22 November 2023

Discussion assignment # 3 due by 3PM

30 November 2023

Start Discussion # 4

11 December 2023

Discussion 4 # due by 3 PM – submit to drop box in Bright Space/D2L