

estern State University
College of Health Sciences - Wilson School of Nursing
Family PMH-NP Program

NURS 6911 X11 Special Topics (Spring 2026)

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.

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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 or Psychopharmacology
- 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.

Credit Hours: 1 credit hour. There are 64 total clinical hours required.

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, both assignments 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:

- **Mood Stabilizers:** Understand the indications, mechanisms of action, side effects, and contraindications of mood stabilizers, with a focus on Lithium and Divalproex sodium, and manage related complications like lithium toxicity.
- **Antipsychotic Medications:** Explore the evolution of antipsychotics, comparing first- and second-generation agents, and assess their impact on treating

disorders like schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, while staying updated on recent advancements.

- **ECT and TMS:** Compare the efficacy, safety, mechanisms of action, and patient experiences of ECT and TMS, including their accessibility, long-term effects, and ethical considerations in treating mental health conditions.
- **PMHNP Professional Pathways:** Outline the educational, certification, and licensure requirements for PMHNPs, understand the impact of scope of practice laws, and emphasize the importance of continuing education and staying informed on regulatory changes.

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