Course Description:

This course is a health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply Mental Health theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professional. Clinical education is an unpaid learning experience.

Course Focus: This course focuses on the care of adult patients with mental health alterations and their nursing care and rehabilitation needs. Course will include direct patient care, observational experiences in the community, case studies and critical thinking activities.

Text, References, and Supplies:


- RNSG 2213 references available online through Canvas


- RN Mental Health Nursing Content Mastery Series Review Model 10.0 ATI Nursing Education, 2016.

- Handbook of laboratory diagnosis tests and nursing medications (drug handbook), currently used in the nursing program.

Student Learning Outcomes:

The following objectives are based on the Differential Essential Competencies (DEC) identified by the Texas Board of Nursing for professional nursing roles of Member of the Profession (MOP), Provider of patient-Centered Care (PCC), Patient Safety Advocate (PSA), and Member of the Health Care Team (MHCT). Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Serve as an advocate to provide safe, compassionate patient-centered care for culturally diverse patients and their families. MHCT-B; PPCC-B, D,E,G
2. Promote safety and quality of care to achieve positive patient outcomes. MOP-B; PPCC-F; PSA-B, C, F
3. Collaborate with members of the health care team to promote and maintain health of patients and families. MHCT-A,D; PPC-C, D, E,G
4. Utilize patient care technologies, information systems, and communications skills that support safe nursing practice. MHCT-E; PPCC-F, H
5. Utilize nursing judgment based on best current evidence that integrates nursing science in the provision of safe, quality care. MHHT-G; MOP-C; PPCC-A, C, F.
6. Adhere to standards of practice with legal, ethical, and regulatory framework of the professional nurse. MOP-A; PSA-A,D,E; PPCC-E
7. Identify therapeutic professional boundaries with patient, family and the therapeutic team. (PI)

Student Contributions, Responsibilities and Class Policies:

1. Students must achieve the competence level in clinical performance for RNSG 1163, Clinical Mental Health/Illness as follows: Patient Process Recording/Care Plan Grade must pass at 70% or above.

2. Process Recording grade must be 70% or above. The Process Recording is dependent on student/patient interactions. The forms and directions for completing the Process Recording will be provided. Please read instructions thoroughly and ask instructor for any assistance as needed. Student’s name must be printed on the outside and submitted on the date specified by the instructor. If the student does not score at least a 70% and does not pass the Processes Recording during hospital clinical experience, a make-up clinical day with client interaction is required. Another process recording will then become necessary to be completed at the end of this make-up clinical. This will be scheduled at the convenience of the instructor.

3. Clinical Attendance: In order to meet the goals of RNSG 1163, the student must attend all clinical activities. Attendance at clinical orientation at Big Spring State Hospital and any other clinical sites requiring student orientation is mandatory. If you do not attend the full orientation, student will not be allowed to continue in course. This requirement is non-negotiable.

4. On-time attendance at all clinical assignments is mandatory for successful completion of this course. On-time attendance is also required at all scheduled pre-clinical and post-clinical conferences as well as any seminars or agency events scheduled as a part of clinical. All absences must be made up in order for the student to receive a pass in the course. Community-based clinical experiences will be coordinated and scheduled by the student. A clinical log of these and all clinical experiences will be maintained by the student and submitted to instructor for approval prior to final grades.

5. Absences: If necessary for the student to be absent from a clinical assignment, it is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor before the start of the clinical assignment. This applies to any tardiness also. Refer to clinical attendance policy in student handbook as to tardiness/absence.

6. Professional Clinical Attire/Image: Attire while attending clinical is Midland College approved scrubs. Cover body Tattoos; hair must be worn above the collar and no dangling earrings or other custom jewelry are worn during clinical assignments; Excessively revealing attire is not
appropriate and student will not be allowed to remain in clinical. If you are not in compliance with this policy, you will receive a verbal/written reprimand on your file. After a third reprimand, you will receive a “Fail” for Clinical grade. MC nametag is required. Students are not permitted to attend clinical without this.

7. Professional Behavior includes: Students do not give money, food, gift, or personal information to patients. Participate in non-biased, professional communication in all aspects of this course.

8. Practice client interactions and professional decision making during roll play, simulation situations and care planning whether in the classroom or clinical environment.

9. Never give your address or phone number to a client.

10. Electronic Devices: Cell phones, cameras or other recording devices are NOT allowed on person during clinical rotation, including orientation. If you violate this policy, you will receive “no grade” for the day and will receive a verbal/written reprimand on your file. After at third reprimand, you will receive a “Fail” for Clinical grade. You may not record any conversation with others students or professionals without informing other persons that they are being recorded. Patients may not be recorded or photographed at any time. Violation of patient privacy or confidentiality is grounds for immediate disciplinary action up to and including program dismissal.

11. Maintain confidentiality. Do not talk about any type of patient interaction or communication outside of the hospital. Do not use patient’s names or other identifying information in written work.

12. Patient care/rehabilitation plan and Patient Process Recording —must be submitted on time as specified by the instructor and have a grade of 70% or above for a passing clinical grade.

13. Pass or Fail using a clinical evaluation tool with formative and summative evaluation.

14. Completion of daily objectives for clinical site. Written daily objectives will be turned in as soon as the clinical experience is completed. Students should have done all reading/other preparation required by the clinical instructor, prior to the clinical experience. This may include additional reading, writing, research assignments; i.e. reading ahead in textbook regarding specific clinical issues, mental health disorders, and so forth. Any demonstrated lack of preparation for clinical, as judged by either the clinical instructor or agency staff, is grounds for immediate dismissal from the clinical experience.

Each student is responsible for:
1. Creation and direction of own clinical learning experiences in collaboration with staff and clinical instructor; i.e. each student is responsible for "creating his or her own day"
2. High involvement in activities within the clinical setting; i.e. it is an expectation that students will work together with staff in a meaningful way in the work to be done within the setting
3. Active collaboration with staff and instructor to carry out work in the setting; i.e. students should not be waiting to be directed at what to do by agency staff, clinical instructor.
4. Active evaluation of own experience together with staff and instructor.

5. Students receive annual training in the following: blood and airborne pathogens, electrical safety, back safety, hazardous chemicals, allergies, fire and disaster procedure, security and personal safety procedure and safety requirements of clinical facilities. Students must maintain CPR, immunizations and health insurance during all clinical courses.

Evaluation of Students:

1. This course is graded as Pass (P) or Fail (F).
2. Use the Clinical Evaluation tool as a guide for clinical practice when caring for clients. The Clinical Evaluation Tool is used to determine if the student has reached the expected clinical competencies. The evaluation tool will be provided and explained to the students at the start of the clinical course.
3. Clinical outcomes and defining criteria are a guide to the application of information studied in theory and skills lab.
4. **In order to pass this course, the student must meet all clinical course outcomes.** Clinical performance is evaluated as being “Met” or “Unmet”. An evaluation of “Pass” indicates the student met all of the clinical course outcomes according to the defined criteria under each outcome. An evaluation of “Fail” indicates the student did not meet all of the stated clinical outcomes according to the defined criteria under each outcome. Failure to meet any clinical outcome will result in a clinical course failure.
5. While in the clinical setting and caring for clients, the student may perform only those skills which have been learned in previous courses and this course to date. Students will not perform any skills without the supervision of the clinical instructor. Students performing any skill without the knowledge or permission of the clinical instructor will be in jeopardy of failing the clinical course. The student must seek out learning experiences that will meet course objectives.
6. All clinical written work will be turned in on time. Failure to do so will result in an additional clinical make-up day or an additional assignment. All assignments must be completed in order to receive a grade in this course. They are not optional.
7. When assigned to a hospital or community agency, the student will maintain professionalism at all times. The student will dress in full uniform and name badge will be worn. Failure to wear name badge may result in being sent home and assigned an additional clinical day.
8. Clinical outcomes are a guide to the application of information studied in theory and skills lab. A copy of the clinical evaluation form with clinical outcomes is attached.
9. In order to meet the clinical requirements strict clinical attendance and punctuality is mandatory for this course. The A.D.N. Attendance policy will be followed.
10. Cell phone use (in any form) during clinical is not acceptable. All electronic communication equipment must be on silent and kept out of sight. Unless a potential emergency exists, students must not leave the clinical setting to respond to a page, text, or to make or receive cell phone calls. The student must inform the instructor of this potential emergency prior to clinical starting. Repeated violations of this policy are considered unprofessional conduct. (See
Professional Behavior policy in A.D.N. Handbook) and will be dealt with by the program chair or designee.
Course Schedule:

A detailed course schedule will be provided to students at the start of the class. Students are required to accomplish 48 clock hours in this course. Clinical days at Big Spring State Hospital will be scheduled and students self-schedule community agency rotations, thus hours per week vary depending on each individual student’s schedule.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):

Any student who, because of a disabling condition, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact Shep Grinnan as soon as possible. Mr. Grinnan’s office is located in the Scharbauer Student Center Building. These conditions may include documented physical or educational disabilities. Please be aware that services or accommodations are not automatic. Each student must request them and secure the proper authorizations/documentation.

Health Sciences Division Information:

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