Course Prefix and Number: NURS 225
Credit Hours: 2

Course Title: Mental Health Practicum

Prerequisites: NURS 200, NURS 201, NURS 202, NURS 203, NURS 210, NURS 211, NURS 212, NURS 213

Co-Requisites: NURS 220, NURS, 224, NURS 221, NURS 222, NURS 223

Textbooks
Gulanick, Meg & Myers, Judith (2011). Nursing Care Plans Diagnosis, Interventions, Outcomes. (7th ed.)

Course Description
This practicum builds upon previously learned knowledge and provides the student with opportunities to integrate new knowledge with information, skills, and behaviors acquired in prerequisite and co-requisite courses. Clinical opportunities are provided for the application of clinical skills focusing on therapeutic communication and nurse-client relationships, evidence based nursing interventions, critical thinking, and utilization of the nursing process. Emphasis is placed on the development of therapeutic nurse-client relationships with a collaborative approach to the management of a diverse population of adults with mental illness.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)
1. Professional behaviors including commitment to continued quality improvement, ethical and legal standards of practice, efficient management of resources, patient advocacy and lifelong learning
2. Promote safety in the workplace to minimize risk of harm to self, patients, family members and coworkers.
3. Use of therapeutic communication techniques which result in optimal relationships with patients and families and teamwork and collaboration with interdisciplinary team members.
4. The ability to provide patient-centered care with regard to cultural and life-span diversity in a variety of healthcare settings
5. Evidence-based practice to inform the nursing process for clinical judgment and critical decisions making.
6. Use of informatics and technology to document, manage patient records and support decision making.
7. Competency with the nursing process to assess, plan, implement and modify patient care to promote positive outcomes.
Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLO)
At the end of this course the student will be able to:

A. Function as an advocate for patients and families to provide diverse culturally-sensitive, patient-centered and age appropriate care in a variety of mental health care settings. (SLO: 1, 4, 7)
B. Research and use current evidence as basis for nursing judgment in making clinical decisions to promote health wellness within the mental health care setting. (SLO: 5, 6, 7)
C. Collaborate with the nursing team and interdisciplinary team members to provide safe, competent care to promote optimal outcomes for clients with mental health care needs. (SLO: 2, 3, 7)
D. Demonstrate knowledge, skills, and attitudes as a beginning nurse generalist to improve the quality and safety of health care in various mental health care settings. (SLO: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7)
E. Utilize technology and informatics to ascertain current evidence for basis of nursing practice and to enhance patient safety. (SLO: 5, 6)
F. Demonstrate professional integrity, accountability and commitment to quality improvement within established legal standards and ethical standards of care in the provision of mental health care. (SLO: 1)
G. Utilize positive communication skills to promote optimal therapeutic relationships with clients, families and interdisciplinary team members. (SLO: 2, 3)
H. Employ the nursing process in the delivery of optimal care for mental health clients. (SLO: 7)

Objectives
To achieve the Course Student Learning Outcomes, the student will meet the following objectives:

1. Develop a written plan of care specific for a mental health patient utilizing the following: (CSLO: A, B, C, D, E, H)
   a) Collects, organizes, and synthesizes pertinent client data.
   b) Identifies and prioritizes client needs and formulates a nursing diagnosis.
   c) Develops a personalized plan of care based on evidence based information
   d) Constructs outcomes as realistic, measurable, and time-limited goals.
   e) Implements individualized plan of care.
   f) Performs an ongoing evaluation and revision of the nursing care plan.
2. Apply the principles of therapeutic communication in the establishment of therapeutic nurse-client relationships within ethical and legal standards of care. (CSLO: F, G)
3. Research, organize and present a report to peers in the promotion of mental health education. (CSLO: B, E, F, G)
4. Develop evidence-based psychiatric nursing drug cards with an emphasis on nursing interventions. (CSLO: E, H)
5. Research, organize and lead a patient education group within the mental health setting. (CSLO: B, D, E, G)
6. Utilize the Electronic Health Record to document in the simulation lab. (CSLO: E)
Course Requirements
In order to receive a grade of “C” the student must not have an “unsatisfactory” scores in more than 3 objectives during the entire rotation and must meet all of the course requirements listed below.

- Participate in all written and clinical assignments as assigned by instructor including but not limited to concept maps, daily journals and peer presentations.
- Complete all drug cards correctly and submit by the due date assigned in class, using the template provided.
- Actively participate in all post clinical conferences.
- Complete 45 hours of clinical and simulation experience.

Grading Scale:

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\begin{align*}
\leq 1 \text{ U} &= A \\
2 \text{ U} &= B \\
3 \text{ U} &= C \\
4 \text{ U} &= D \\
> 4 \text{ U} &= F
\end{align*}
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Attendance Policy: The college attendance policy, which is available at [http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html](http://www.bpcc.edu/catalog/current/academicpolicies.html), allows that “more restrictive attendance requirements may apply to some specialized classes such as laboratory, activity, and clinical courses because of the nature of those courses.” The attendance policy of the Nursing program is described in the Nursing Program Clinical Handbook.

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Reviewed: 6/2017- S. Turley