

Southeast Missouri State University

Department of: Nursing
Title of Course: Advanced Health Assessment

Course No: NS628
Revision: Spring 2011

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course: This course builds on basic physical assessment skills, health history, and family dynamics. A systematic approach to health assessment is utilized. (3.5)

II. Prerequisite (s): BSN or instructor consent.

III. Purposes or Objectives of the Course:

At the end of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Perform a health history and physical assessment incorporating appropriate evaluative data
- B. Conduct a risk assessment related to lifestyle, familial history, and knowledge base
- C. Perform assessment of mental health competencies
- D. Using appropriate laboratory and diagnostic tests, make specific value interpretations
- E. Demonstrate critical thinking and clinical decision making by relating assessment findings to pathologic or physiologic changes
- F. Identify differential diagnoses based on assessment data
- G. Plan effective and appropriate interventions for clients incorporating physical health status, mental health status, nutritional status, and cultural, ethnic, and developmental differences

IV. Expectations of Students:

Students are expected to:

- A. Attend class regularly
- B. Actively participate in class
- C. Complete all assignments
- D. Provide a class presentation

V. Course Content or Outline

- A. Principles of interviewing, obtaining health history, and interpretation of findings will be discussed and expanded
- B. Physical, psychological, socioeconomic, age, and cultural factors will be explored in relation to the individual health deviations

- C. Advanced techniques of physical assessment will be presented with focus on health deviations
- D. Basic diagnostic tools and tests, including but not limited to laboratory diagnostics and basic radiology diagnostics
- E. Nutritional assessment, including designing and implementing diets for health promotion will be presented
- F. Assessment of familial and environmental risk factors on health
- G. Basics of clinical decision making, synthesizing the collected subjective and objective data obtained
- H. Four in-class exams

Total Hours = 52.5 (3.5 X 15 wks)

VI. Textbook(s) and/or Other Required Materials or Equipment:

Bickley, L.S., & Hoekelman, R.A. (2008). *Bates' guide to physical examination and history taking* (10th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins.

Habif, T., Campbell, J.L., Quitadamo, M.J., & Zug, K.A. (2005). *Skin disease: Diagnosis and treatment* (2nd ed.). St. Louis: Mosby.

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation: Students will be evaluated based on satisfactory performance on the following assignments:

Class participation
 In-class and online assignments
 Successful demonstration of a physical assessment according to published guidelines
 Exams and quizzes
 Presentation
 Final Examination

Specific assignments and the percentage of the course grade will be explained in class.

VII. Grading Scale

90% - 100% = A; 80% - 89% = B; 70% - 79% = C; 0% - 69% = F

The weight of the evaluation criteria may vary according to each instructor and will be communicated at the beginning of the course.

IX. Academic Honesty Policy Statement:

Students will be expected to abide by the University Policy for Academic Honesty regarding plagiarism and academic honesty. Refer to:
<http://www6.semo.edu/judaffairs/code.html>

X. Student with Disabilities Statement:

If a student has a special need addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requires materials in an alternative format, please notify the instructor at the beginning of the course. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate special needs.

XI. Incomplete MSN Coursework Time Limit Policy:

Should a student receive an incomplete grade in this course, the course instructor will be responsible for determining the time period allotted for completion of course requirements. A written contract between the course instructor and student will indicate the reason for the incomplete, the work that must be completed, the deadline for completing the work, and signatures of both parties. A copy of the contract will be maintained by the instructor and the student and placed in the student's file.