CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
VNSG 1238
MENTAL ILLNESS

Semester Hours Credit: 2
16 week course

INSTRUCTOR: _______________________

OFFICE HOURS: ____________________

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Course Description: Study of human behavior with emphasis on emotional and mental abnormalities and modes of treatment incorporating the nursing process.

B. VNSG 1238 is a required course for completion of the Vocational Nursing Certificate Program.

C. This course is occupationally related and serves as preparation for careers in Vocational Nursing.

D. Prerequisites:
   1. Satisfactory completion of VNSG 1116, VNSG 1126, VNSG 1136, VNSG 1160, VNSG 1222, VNSG 1227, VNSG 1304, VNSG 1323, VNSG 1405, VNSG 2331.

E. Policy: Dependent on Spring or Fall admission, the student will refer to the specific curriculum chart and follow that progression pattern.

F. Secretary’s Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) and Differentiated Essential Competencies (DEC)

   Alphanumeric coding used throughout the syllabus denotes the integration of SCANS occupational competencies (C) and foundation skills (F). The Differentiated Essential Competencies (DEC’s) that are implemented in VNSG 1238 are coded as Member of Profession, Provider of Patient-Centered Care, Patient Safety Advocate, and Member of the Health Care Team. The complete delineation of Texas Board of Nursing Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs) may be downloaded at https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/differentiated_essential_competencies-2010.pdf

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, Mental Illness, the student will:

A. Identify common mental illness and maladaptive behavior. Discuss trends in treatment of people with mental illness. (C5, C6, C7)

B. Utilize the nursing process to assist in planning care for the individual with mental illness or maladaptive behavior. Demonstrate effective therapeutic
communication techniques in classroom and clinical setting for patients from culturally, ethnically and socially diverse backgrounds. (C7, C9, F5)

C. Discuss trends in the management of the individual requiring psychotherapeutic treatment. Works collaboratively with interdisciplinary team members to achieve patient centered care. (C6, C14, F5, F6, F9)

D. Evaluates personal beliefs regarding mental illness, accepts differences in belief systems and provides care in a non-judgmental manner. (F8, F9, F15).

E. Demonstrate Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs):
   1. Provider of Care:
      1. Knowledge A (1-4)
      2. Knowledge B (1-3, 6-8)
      3. Knowledge C (1,4)
      4. Knowledge D (2)

   2. Provider of Patient-Centered Care:
      1. Knowledge A (1-4)
      2. Knowledge B (1-12)
      3. Knowledge C (1-8)
      4. Knowledge D (1-5)
      5. Knowledge E (1-7, 10-13)
      6. Knowledge F (1-3)
      7. Knowledge G (1-3)

   3. Patient Safety Advocate
      1. Knowledge A (2)
      2. Knowledge B (1-3)
      3. Knowledge C (1)

   4. Member of a Health Care Team:
      1. Knowledge A (1,2,4)
      2. Knowledge B (1,2)
      3. Knowledge C (1-8)
      4. Knowledge D (1-3)

F. Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) project core competencies will be taught and evaluated in relation to the course objectives and content. Those core competencies are Patient Centered Care, Teamwork and Collaboration, Best Practices, Quality Improvement, Safety and Informatics.

G. Utilize therapeutic communication techniques with patients who have common mental health problems.

III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. Instructional Materials
   1. The instructional materials for this course are viewable through http://www.ctcd.edu/books
   2. Course materials can be found at https://ctc.blackboard.com/webapps/login/
3. Non-scientific calculator
4. Mechanical Pencil
5. Scantrons (4) provided to instructor at beginning of semester

B. Computer Accessibility
Accessibility to computer hardware and software that will support the completion of assignments on the internet, DVD, CD, or other electronic delivery is also required.

C. Supplementary Materials: Various electronic media systems, computer software, web sites, experiential group exercises, and simulated situations as suggested by the faculty to enhance clinical practice in nursing are used.

D. References: Current professional nursing journal article readings are used to supplement dated textbook information.

E. Library Resources: It is expected that all students will have a working knowledge of the Oveta Culp Hobby Memorial Library, and off-site access to library resources.

F. Current practice guidelines set forth by Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) related to safe patient handling and ergonomics will be implemented.

G. Six areas of core competencies safety and informatics.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Preparation for Class:
In preparation for all classes, students are required to obtain the Course Guidelines and Syllabus from the C.T.C. Black Board site. An orientation to class will be provided on the first class day. Students are expected to read the objectives, text, and ATI materials related to that unit of study prior to lecture. Students are expected to participate in discussions and activities related to these resources.

B. Written Assignments/Projects:
1. Students are expected to participate verbally in a variety of classroom activities/discussions.
2. Submitting written assignments: all written assignments are to be completed independently unless instructed otherwise. All assigned written work must be submitted at the designated time as instructed by the faculty. No assignments will be accepted after the due date unless prior approval and arrangements have been made with the faculty. Late papers will receive a grade of “0” points.
3. ATI Testing and Remediation: It is mandatory for VN student’s at all three levels of the program to participate in the Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) comprehensive assessment and review program. Detailed diagnostic reports at the end of the semester provide student immediate results and opportunity for remediation. Failure to achieve satisfactory results on the proctored ATI exams requires the student to remediate. Failure to remediate could result in the student not being permitted to
register for subsequent classes. Failure to take an exam results in course failure. With prior notification to instructor, accommodation for an alternate examination date will be considered on an individual basis.

C. **Class Performance:**

   **Attendance Policy:** In accordance with Central Texas College Student Handbook and Catalog: students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. There may be a 10% letter grade deduction of your final course average for three tardies and or two absences for an 8 week course and three tardies and five absences for a 16 week course.

   VNSG 1238 adheres to the departmental attendance policy published in the Department of Nursing student hand book and the Central Texas College Student Handbook and catalog. Classroom absences may negatively impact the student’s performance, on examinations and will negatively impact the class participation grade. No seats in the classroom are reserved. **Should a student fail to attend mandatory clinical orientation they will immediately be administratively withdrawn from clinical and all co-requisite courses.**

   All students are required to attend the semester General Assembly on the designated day and time each semester as posted.

   Following an illness or other medical or mental health related event, during the duration of clinical/classroom enrollment, the student will be required to obtain a release form the healthcare provider prior to returning to the clinical/classroom area. Please see Blackboard or the Department of Nursing Office for the official form.

   1. Faculty reserves the right to adjust the student’s classroom grade based upon classroom performance/behavior/civility
   2. You may not audiotape a lecture without the faculty’s/speaker’s permission.

D. **Class Participation: per individual course**

E. **Progression:**

   This course has pre-requisites and co-requisites that apply. Students must obtain a 70% average grade to successfully complete this course. If unsuccessful, this course must be repeated. Students must show proof of successful completion of the Jurisprudence examination.

F. **Academic Integrity/Scholastic Honesty:**

   The following statement is published in the Central Texas College Catalog:

   *All students are required and expected to maintain the highest standards of scholastic honesty in the preparation of all course work and during examinations. The following will be considered examples of scholastic dishonesty:*

   1. **Plagiarism -** the taking of passages from the writing of others without giving proper credit to the sources.
   2. **Collusion -** (a) using another’s work as one’s own, or (b) working together with another person in the preparation of work, unless such joint preparation is specifically approved in advance by the instructor.
3. **Cheating - giving or receiving information on examinations.** Students guilty of scholastic dishonesty will be administratively dropped from the course with a grade of “F” and subject to disciplinary action.

Students guilty of scholastic dishonesty will be administratively dropped from the course with a grade of “F” and subject to disciplinary action.

All Vocational Nursing students are expected to abide by this policy. Falsification of attendance records is considered a violation of academic integrity.

Obtaining or utilizing “Test Bank Materials” from any current or obsolete textbook, is considered scholastic dishonesty.

**G. Values and Ethics in Nursing:**

Students are expected to demonstrate commitment to the following values and ethical principles believed to be inherent to the nursing profession:

1. **Altruism** - Concern for the welfare of others seen through caring, commitment, and compassion.
2. **Human Dignity** - Belief in the inherent worth and uniqueness of the individual seen through respect, empathy, humanness, and trust.
3. **Truth** - Faithfulness to fact seen through honesty, accountability, and authenticity.
4. **Justice** - Upholding moral and legal principles seen through courage, advocacy, and objectivity.
5. **Freedom** - Capacity to exercise choice seen through openness, self-direction, and self-discipline.
6. **Equality** - Having the same rights and privileges seen through acceptance, tolerance, and fairness.
7. **Esthetics** - Identifying the qualities of objects, events, and persons that provide satisfaction as seen through creativity, sensitivity and appreciation.

**H. Office Hours:**

Each instructor keeps office hours for the purpose of conferring with students. *Students are encouraged to make appointments with instructors to discuss their needs and/or problems related to their studies. Appointments for review of examination results must be completed prior to the next scheduled exam.* Please do not leave your class to meet with an instructor; make an appointment so that you do not miss class.

**V. EXAMINATIONS**

1. Dates of the examinations are listed in the VNSG 1238 Daily Plan which is posted on the CTC Black Board website for the course. Attendance on examination dates is expected.

2. In the event a student is unable to attend class on a scheduled exam/quiz or written assignment due date, **prior notification directly to VN faculty member is required;** calls/voicemails to anyone else will not be accepted. If the student fails to provide prior notice, it will be considered a “No Call/No Show”, and they will receive a grade of “0” for that exam, quiz, or assignment.
3. Make-up examinations will be administered on Friday at 1200 in the week that the exam was missed. The student is required to arrive in the Department of Nursing and Allied Health prior to 1130. The examination may include up to 15% alternative type questions (Ex: matching, fill in the blank or short answer). Make up examinations may be in an alternate format such as essay or fill in the blank. Students are responsible for making arrangements with the instructor to make up the examination within the week. Failure to do so will result in a grade of a zero (0%) for that examination. If the rescheduled opportunity is missed there will be no other opportunities afforded.

4. ScanTrons® are the only source utilized in calculating examination scores and students will not have access to the forms once they have been turned into the instructor.

5. On examination day, the following rules will apply. All backpacks or book bags of any kind will be placed at the back of the classroom. Cell phones are to remain in your bag and turned off. No drinks, food, hats or jackets allowed on exam days.

6. There are no extra credit assignments in VNSG 1238 and grades are not rounded.

7. A. A student scoring 70% or less on any exam must make an appointment with the course faculty to exam review and counseling. Appointments are optional for scores higher than 70%. The appointment must be made with the faculty within one week of examination date.

B. Examination grade alone will not ensure successful completion of the course.

VI. SEMESTER GRADE COMPUTATIONS

1) 2 exams (50 questions @ 2 points each) 200 points
2) Final exam (100 questions @ 1 point each) 100 points
3) Independent Writing Assignment 30 points
4) Group Presentations (1 @ 30 points) 30 points
5) Participation Points 40 points

Total points possible: 400 points

Students must obtain a 70% (280/400 available points) average to successfully complete VNSG 1238. There are no extra credit assignments and grades are not rounded.

VII. NOTES AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

A. Course Withdrawal: It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw from a course if circumstances prevent attendance. Any student who desires to, or must, officially withdraw from a course after the first scheduled class meeting must file a Central Texas College Application for Withdrawal (CTC Form 59). The withdrawal form must be signed by the student.

CTC Form 59 will be accepted at any time prior to Friday of the 12th week of classes during the 16-week fall and spring semesters. The deadline for sessions of other lengths is:

- 10-week session    Friday of the 8th week
- 8-week session     Friday of the 6th week
- 5-week session     Friday of the 4th week

The equivalent date (75% of the semester) will be used for sessions of other lengths.
The specific last day to withdraw is published each semester in the Schedule Bulletin.

A student who officially withdraws will be awarded the grade of “W” provided the student’s attendance and academic performance are satisfactory at the time of official withdrawal. Students must file a withdrawal application with the College before they may be considered for withdrawal.

A student may not withdraw from a class for which the instructor has previously issued the student a grade of “F” or “FN” for nonattendance.

B. **Administrative Withdrawal**: An administrative withdrawal may be initiated when the student fails to meet College attendance requirements. The instructor will assign the appropriate grade on CTC Form 59 for submission to the registrar.

C. **Incomplete Grade**: The College catalog states, “An incomplete grade may be given in those cases where the student has completed the majority of the coursework but, because of personal illness, death in the immediate family, or military orders, the student is unable to complete the requirements for a course.” Prior approval from the instructor is required before the grade of “I” for Incomplete is recorded. A student who merely fails to show for the final examination will receive a zero for the final and an “F” for the course.

D. **Cellular Phones and Beepers**: Cellular phones and beepers will be silenced or placed on vibrate during regular class periods. Cell phones will not be allowed on desks during examinations or during post-exam reviews. Repeated warnings about cell phone disruptions may lead to negative student academic consequences such as point deductions from final grade. This will be left at the instructor’s discretion.

E. **American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA)**: Disability Support Services provide services to students who have appropriate documentation of a disability. Students requiring accommodations for class are responsible for contacting the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) located on the central campus. This service is available to all students, regardless of location. Explore the website at [www.ctcd.edu/disability-support](http://www.ctcd.edu/disability-support) for further information. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws through the DSS office.

F. **Instructor Discretion**: The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements.

G. ** Civility**: Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive educational experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and is at the instructor’s discretion.

H. **Support Services**: The College offers a variety of support services to students. Refer to the CTC website: [http://www.ctcd.edu/students/current-ctc-students/academic-support/](http://www.ctcd.edu/students/current-ctc-students/academic-support/)
I. **Statement on Harassment and Discrimination:** (Consistent with CTC Policy)

J. **Inclement Weather:** Information about class cancellation or delay because of inclement weather can be obtained by listening to KNCT-FM (91.3 on the FM dial) or by calling (254) 501-3100 (Central Texas College Inclement Weather Information Line).

VIII. **COURSE OUTLINE**

The learning outcomes for VNSG 1238 are stated under Roman Numeral II of this syllabus. Unit objectives are stated at the beginning of each chapter of the required text.

A. **Lesson Outline**

1. Chapter 13 Problems in Childhood
2. Chapter 14 Problems in Adolescence
3. Chapter 15 Problems in Adulthood
4. Chapter 16 Problems in Late Adulthood
5. Chapter 17 Cognitive Impairment, Alzheimer’s disease, Dementia
6. Chapter 18 Managing Anxiety
7. Chapter 19 Illness and Hospitalization
8. Chapter 20 Loss and Grief
9. Chapter 21 Depression and Other Mood Disorders
10. Chapter 22 Physical Problems, Psychological Sources
11. Chapter 23 Eating and Sleeping
12. Chapter 24 Dissociative Disorders
13. Chapter 25 Anger and Aggression
14. Chapter 26 Outward-focused Emotions: Violence
15. Chapter 27 Inward-focused Emotions: Suicide
16. Chapter 28 Substance-Related Disorders
17. Chapter 29 Sexual Disorders
18. Chapter 30 Personality Disorders
19. Chapter 31 Schizophrenia and Other Psychoses
20. Chapter 32 Chronic Mental Health Disorders
21. Chapter 33 Challenges for the Future

IX. **TEACHING LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

Students will be assigned learning activities to accomplish course outcomes.

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CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
VNSG 1238
Mental Illness

My signature acknowledges that I have read and understand the syllabus, course format and testing policy for VNSG 1238, Mental Illness, and I agree to abide by the terms set forth in this document.

Printed Name

Signature

Date