UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

COLLEGE OF NURSING

COURSE SYLLABUS

SPRING 2012

COURSE NUMBER NGR 6538

COURSE TITLE Psychopharmacology for Psychiatric Nursing

CREDITS 3

PLACEMENT Variable

# PRE/COREQUISITES NGR 6172: Pharmacotherapeutics for Advanced Practice Nursing

# FACULTY Anna B. Schwait, MSN, ARNP-BC

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COURSE DESCRIPTION This course provides knowledge of psychoactive medications related to nursing care with psychiatric‑mental health clients, including children, adolescents, and adults. Emphasis is on the selection and use of psychoactive medications in the treatment of clients experiencing psychiatric disorders and in the restoration of wellness. An additional focus is the impact of psychoactive medications on the client, family, and community. Content is presented in relation to the role of psychiatric‑mental health nurse who functions in an advanced role in a variety of settings.

COURSE OBJECTIVES Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze the pharmacodynamic and pharmacokinetic effects of the major categories of psychoactive medications in psychiatric‑mental health clients.

2. Analyze the effects of clients' psychological, physiological, and behavioral responses to psychoactive medications on clients and families in a variety of cultural and socioeconomic settings.

1. Evaluate the effect of drugs of abuse on psychiatric- mental health clients, including the potential combined effect with psychoactive medications.
2. Analyze economic, legal, ethical, cultural, economic, and political issues related to advanced nursing care with psychiatric‑mental health clients using psychoactive medications across the lifespan.

5. Analyze the role of advanced practitioner providing care to clients using psychoactive medications in relation to the client, family and the community.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Section Day Time Room

2038 Monday 8:30-11:30am G112 (GVL)

2985 Classroom B (JAX)

E-Learning in Sakai is the course management system that you will use for this course. E-Learning in Sakai is accessed by using your Gatorlink account name and password at <http://lss.at.ufl.edu>. There are several tutorials and student help links on the E-Learning login site. If you have technical questions call the UF Computer Help Desk at 352-392-HELP or send email to [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

It is important that you regularly check your Gatorlink account email for College and University wide information and the course E-Learning site for announcements and notifications.

Course websites are generally made available on the Friday before the first day of classes.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to be present for all scheduled classes, other learning experiences, and examinations. Students who have extraordinary circumstances preventing attendance should explain these circumstances to the course instructor **prior** to the scheduled class or as soon as possible thereafter. Instructors will then make an effort to accommodate **reasonable** requests. A grade penalty may be assigned for late assignments, including tests. Students are responsible for responding to online assignments as part of their attendance. Make-up exams may not be available in all courses.

ACCOMMODATIONS DUE TO DISABILITY

Each semester, students are responsible for requesting a memorandum from the Disability Resource Center to notify faculty of their requested individual accommodations. This should be done at the start of the semester.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Students are to refer to the College of Nursing Student Handbook for information about College of Nursing policies, honor code, and professional behavior.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

1. Special populations including different age groups, diagnostic categories and general implications for prescribing psychoactive medications

2. Pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic principles

3. Therapeutic indications and contraindications, therapeutic effects on behavior, affect and cognition, individualized/therapeutic dosage, medication half‑life, drug interactions and long and short term side effects of the major categories of psychoactive medications

4. Drugs of abuse

5. Compliance issues

6. Decision‑making related to choice of medication and medication judgment

7. Impact on and role of the family in medication treatment

8. Cultural and economic issues

9. Legal, ethical, and political issues including generic vs. trademark medication, ARNP protocol development and evaluation, and writing prescriptions

10. Roles of advanced practitioner in psychiatric‑mental nursing

11. Community resources and client services

# TEACHING METHODS

Lecture, seminar, written assignments, patient drug profiles, audiovisual materials, and selected reading.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Case study analysis for specific drug categories, seminar presentations by students on specific drugs, and written drug profiles to be used for patient education.

# EVALUATION METHODS/COURSE GRADE CALCULATION

Class and seminar participation, patient drug profiles and medication teaching

materials, case study presentations, research critique and examinations.

Attendance and seminar participation 10%

Seminar presentations, case studies, teaching materials 15%

Exam 1 25%

Exam 2 25%

Exam 3 25%

Total Grade 100%

Assignments/Papers will be returned within 10 working days.

GRADING SCALE

A 95-100 C 74-79\*

A- 93-94 C- 72-73

B+ 91- 92 D+ 70-71

B 84-90 D 64-69

B- 82-83 D- 62-63

C+ 80-81 E 61 or below

\* 74 is the minimal passing grade

REQUIRED TEXTS

Stahl, S. M. (2008) . *Essential psychopharmacology. Neuroscientific basis and practical applications* (3rd ed.). New York: Cambridge University Press.

Stahl, S. M. (2009) The Prescriber’s Guide (Essential Psychopharmacology Series). New York: Cambridge University Press

Kaplan, H. I., & Sadock, B. J. (2007). *Synopsis of psychiatry, behavioral sciences/clinical psychiatry* (10th ed.). Baltimore: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCE

*Clinical Pharmacology.* Retrieved from UF Health Science library database

Weekly class schedule:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| DATE | TOPIC/EVALUATION | ASSIGNMENTS/READING |
| Jan 9, 2012 | Introduction/Orientation | Chap 1: 1-20 |
| Jan 16 | HOLIDAY |  |
| Jan 23 | Neuro A/P | Chap 7: 195-222; 8- 239-245 |
| Jan 30 | Anxiolytics | Chap 14: 721-754; 765-772 |
| Feb 6 | Mood Disorders (SSRI/SNRI presentations) | Chap11: 453-510; 12-511-532 |
| Feb 13 | Antidepressants (NDRI/NRI) | Chap12: 552-574 |
| Feb 20 | Mood stabilizers | Chap 13: 667-694; 700-719 |
| Feb 27 | **Exam 1** |  |
| March 5 | Spring Break |  |
| March 12 | Antipsychotics (class presentations) | Chap 9: 264-283; 327-342 |
| March 19 | EPS & Metabollic Syndrome; Somatic Disorders & Insomnia | Chap 10: 383-395; 424-437  Chap 15: 773-814; 828-840 |
| March 26 | Substance abuse and reward | Chap 19: 943-993 |
| April 2 | Exam 2 |  |
| April 9 | Life span psychopharmacology | Chap 17: 863-885; 899-922  Chap 12: 614-630; |
| April 16 | Psychiatric Clinical Pearls | Handouts |
| April 23 | Exam 3 |  |

Approved: Academic Affairs Committee: 6/92; 6/99

Faculty: 7/92; 7/99

UF Curriculum: 6/99