

**BOSSIER PARISH COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
**Master Syllabus**

**Course Prefix and Number:** PRNU 230

**Credit Hours:** 2.5

**Course Title:** PN Mental Health Nursing

**Clock Hours Lecture/Lab/Clinical:** 30/0/30

Enrollment in the program courses (PRNU) is limited to those students who have been selected and admitted to the Practical Nursing program. Program courses are sequenced by semester and must be taken as a group each semester per program requirements and policies.

**Textbook(s):** Introductory Mental Health Nursing, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Donna M. Womble, Cynthia A. Kincheloe  
ATI PN Mental Health Nursing

**Course Description:** This is an introduction to basic concepts of psychiatric-mental health nursing, focusing on nursing care of patients experiencing mental health problems. The nursing process applied to caring for patient experiencing alterations in emotional, behavioral, mental, and social functioning. Integration of pharmacology, diet therapy, and therapeutic communication are emphasized, and principles of pathophysiology, lifespan and socio-cultural influences are addressed. Theories of wellness promotion are discussed. This course includes a 30-hour clinical component for students to integrate into practice principles learned in theory under the supervision of a nursing faculty member to the mental health client. (30 hours lecture, 30 hours clinical)

**Learning Outcomes:**

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

- A. demonstrate knowledge of the needs and nursing care of the mental health client;
- B. discuss the various mental health disorders and the pharmacologic therapy used to treat each;
- C. demonstrate therapeutic communication and professional, patient-centered care skills for the mental health client;
- D. deliver safe and appropriate nursing care to meet the physiological, psychosocial, socio-cultural, and spiritual needs of the mental health client; and
- E. demonstrate personal behavior consistent with professional employee expectations for entry level LPN.

**Course Objectives:**

**Theory:** Upon successful completion of this course with a minimum of 80% accuracy, the student will:

1. Identify risk factors and the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect as well as the client's response to care while providing a safe environment, physical care, emotional care, client teaching and support to them and their families. (A, B)
2. Identify stressors, inappropriate/abnormal behavior, various responses to behavioral management interventions, and types of therapies related to mental health disorders. (A, B)
3. Describe various coping mechanisms, emotional responses to illnesses, and resources/support systems that relate to mental health disorders. (A, B)
4. Identify signs and symptoms that indicate that a client is in crisis, therapeutic approaches, and elements of teaching and resources available. (A, B)
5. Identify abnormal interactions of clients, barriers to compliance, symptoms of relapse, and signs of dependence or independence. (A, B)
6. State nursing measures that promote independence, sense of hope, trusting environment, positive self-esteem, and positive decision-making process. (A, B)
7. Identify factors that indicate impaired cognition, changes in mental status, ability to follow a treatment plan, and reactions to mental illness diagnosis. (A, B)
8. Identify signs and symptoms of alterations in mood, judgment, cognition, reasoning, and various acute or chronic diagnoses. (A, B)
9. Identify situations, signs and symptoms, and reactions to situational role changes that may challenge the client's ability to cope. (A, B)
10. Identify actual/potential stressors and various signs and symptoms, reactions, management techniques, and responses to therapeutic intervention. (A, B)
11. Identify factors, signs and symptoms, reactions, and behaviors related to substance abuse, intoxication, dependency, toxicity and withdrawal. (A, B)

12. Describe therapeutic methods related to substance and non-substance abuse (gambling, pedophilia, pornography) such as support groups, counseling and medications. (A, B)
13. Identify risk factors, warning signs, nursing care and intervention, and teaching relating to suicide and violence. (A, B)
14. Discuss assessment, describe deviations from the norm and select appropriate nursing diagnoses and develop a plan of care for the mental health client. (A, B)
15. Identify and discuss commonly prescribed pharmacological agents used in the treatment of the various illnesses addressed. (A, B)
16. Identify and discuss therapeutic and modified diets related to the diseases identified. (A, B)
17. Reinforce the purpose of client's laboratory tests and related teaching requirements, and the significance of lab values as they relate to pharmacological interventions for each disorder discussed. (A, B)
18. Discuss and evaluate implications of the mental health disorders disease processes on geriatric clients. (A, B)

**Clinical:** Upon successful completion of this course with a minimum of Satisfactory "S" accuracy on the course Clinical Skills Evaluation Tool (CSET), the student will:

1. Implement a plan of care for the client experiencing mental, emotional and behavioral alterations. (A, B, C, D, E)
2. Provide pharmacological therapies for the client experiencing alterations in mental status, including medication administration as prescribed. (A, B, C, D, E)
3. Seek supervision from clinical instructor for performing tasks in which the specific skill has not been verified by a clinical instructor. (A, B, C, D, E)
4. Provide competent and safe practical nursing care appropriate to the level of training and education. (A, B, C, D, E)
5. Observe and identify abnormal reactions and changes in clients' conditions, report these changes to the clinical instructor and appropriate staff, and accurately record these observations on the appropriate documents. (A, B, C, D, E)
6. Demonstrate appropriate communication techniques in interacting with assigned clients, their support person, and the health care team, maintaining compliance with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) regulations. (A, B, C, D, E)
7. Assess biological, psychosocial, socio-cultural, spiritual needs, and/or developmental factors that influence health attainment. (A, B, C, D, E)
8. Plan and incorporate therapeutic interventions, collaboration as a member of the health team, rehabilitative/restorative care concepts, concepts of death with dignity, and the nursing process in nursing care. (A, B, C, D, E)
9. Evaluate the effectiveness of nursing care rendered specific to the applied nursing interventions. (A, B, C, D, E)
10. Document and validate nursing activities in an appropriate manner as noted in the agency Policy and Procedure Manual. (A, B, C, D, E)
11. Reinforce the purpose of client's laboratory tests and related teaching needs to include pharmacological implications. (A, B, C, D, E)
12. Demonstrate and exhibit responsibility, professionalism, and accountability with assigned clients by functioning within the Practical Nurse scope of practice as defined by the LA State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners. (A, B, C, D, E)

**Course Requirements:** To earn a grade of "C" or higher the student must earn 80% of the total points for the course and obtain a Satisfactory "S" (Passing) on course CSET. Satisfactory in lab and clinical is interpreted as 80 or above out of 100.

**Course Grading Scale:** The final grade will not be rounded up EX. 79.5 =79=D.

100-94 = A

93-87 = B

86-80 = C

79-73 = D

72-0 = F

**Attendance Policy:** The attendance policy for the BPCCC Practical Nursing Program is included in the program student handbook, which is also posted to the program page of the BPCCC website.

**Nondiscrimination Statement:**

Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, qualified disability, marital status, veteran's status, or sexual orientation in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of its operations. Bossier Parish Community College does not discriminate in its hiring or employment practices.

**Coordinator for Section 504 and ADA:**

Angie Cao, Student and Disability Services Specialist  
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318-678-6511

[acao@bpcc.edu](mailto:acao@bpcc.edu)

Hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday, excluding holidays and weekends.

**Equity/Compliance Coordinator:**

Teri Bashara, Director of Human Resources

Human Resources Office, A-105, 6220 East Texas Street, Bossier City, LA 71111

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Reviewed by MPietsch 9/2021