

Montgomery College Nursing Program

NURS 126: Nursing Care of Special Populations I: Geriatric and Psychiatric Nursing (4 Credits)

Course Description

NURS 126: Introduces concepts related to mental health and illness across the lifespan as well as the unique physiologic and psychosocial needs of the older adult. Healthy aging of the older adult patient is emphasized.

NURS 126 consists of 4 semester credit hours: 2 hours of lecture; 12 hours clinical/lab per week. Pre-Requisites: A grade of C or better in BIOL 150, NURS 113, NURS 114, NURS 121, ENG 102 or 103. PRE or Co-Requisites: BIOL 212 and mathematics foundation, or MA 110 or consent of program coordinator or Co-Requisites NURS 125.

COURSE OVERVIEW

Nursing Care of Special Populations I is placed in the second semester of the first year and uses knowledge, attitudes and skills acquired through previous experiences. The therapeutic use of self and application of theories in establishing interpersonal relationships which aid in adjustment, maturity, and environment is stressed. Emphasis is placed upon health promotion and illness prevention, intervention and rehabilitation across the life span.

Course Objectives

Upon course completion, a student will be able to:

1. Access and use current research evidence to promote clinical reasoning for the special care needs of adult and geriatric populations with alterations in biopsychosocial functioning.
2. Adhere to the legal/ethical responsibilities of the student nurse when providing care to the geriatric/psychiatric populations.
3. Identify legal issues involved in providing care to patients with alterations in mental health in the adult and geriatric populations.
4. Correlate performance of nursing techniques with desired physiologic and psychological outcomes.
5. Recognize Geriatric syndromes and chronic conditions, including atypical presentations.
6. Advocate during acute exacerbations of chronic conditions to prevent further complications
7. Maintain maximum function and independence in the psychiatric, adult and geriatric populations.
8. Analyze risk and benefits of care decisions in collaboration with the interdisciplinary team, patient, family and caregiver.
9. Interpret findings and evaluate clinical situations in order to provide high quality nursing care based on current knowledge and best practices to psychiatric and geriatric populations.
10. Assess, respond to, and respect the functional status, strengths, wishes, culture and expectations of adult and geriatric populations.
11. Apply the principles of therapeutic communication across the life cycle.

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12. Facilitate interdisciplinary communication for transitioning adult and geriatric populations
13. Use technology to enhance the functioning, independence and safety of psychiatric, adult and geriatric populations.
14. Specify the unique nursing responsibilities in administration of medications to psychiatric, adult and geriatric populations.
15. Assess and provide nursing care to promote safety based on the biopsychosocial vulnerabilities and care needs of psychiatric, adult and geriatric populations.

Program Outcomes (EOPSLO's: End of Program Student Learning Outcomes)

1. Maintain legal, ethical, evidence-based and professional standards in nursing.
2. Utilize clinical reasoning in practice.
3. Practice patient centered care.
4. Demonstrate teamwork and collaboration.
5. Effectively use current technology and informatics.
6. Ensure a safe environment for patient, self, and others.

Evaluation Methodology

The total possible points will be determined after verifying a minimum of 75% has been achieved separately on both the Exams and on the Assignments.

Exams	Points
Exam 1	40
Exam 2	60
Final Exam	100
Total points possible	200
Total points needed for 75%	150

Assignments	Points
ATI Gero Final	1
ATI Practice Mental Health Assessment	2
ATI Proctored Mental Health Assessment	6
Auditory Hallucinations Report	1
Interaction Note	5
Older Adult Interview	5
Total points possible	20
Total points needed for 75%	15