I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:
Application of knowledgeable caring for clients experiencing emotional/spiritual problems. Promoting
management of psychiatric symptoms, physical, emotional, and spiritual health.
(4 credit hours; 3 theory, 1 clinical)

II. Prerequisite (s): Second semester junior standing within the BSN program
NS371, NS372, NS373, NS374
Co-Requisites: NS381, NS387, NS388

III. Course Objectives:
A. Recognize and respond therapeutically to persons experiencing mental health problems.
B. Use a variety of communication methods to respond in a culturally competent manner to the
unique needs of clients who are experiencing emotional problems.
C. Function in the nursing roles of therapeutic communicator, educator, client advocate, and
multidisciplinary team collaborator according to established standards of practice and ethical and
legal guidelines.
D. Base therapeutic interactions on a growing sense of self-awareness.
E. Provide safe and effective care by implementing nursing process to assist psychiatric clients to
attain an optimal level of wellness.
F. Demonstrate knowledgeable caring by implementing nursing care based on evidence-based
criteria in a sensitive and caring manner.

IV. Expectations of Students:
A. Participate in an open Alcoholics Anonymous or Al-anon meeting to explore a readily available
resource that addresses the mental health needs of alcoholics and their family members and provide
a written analysis of the experience.
B. Complete an acceptable written nursing process document which incorporates published research
findings to support nursing interventions.
C. Complete weekly assignments that reflect critical thinking and research-based practice by
documenting rationales that support answers to clinical-application questions that are related to
class content.
D. In collaboration with your clinical group prepare and present a series of select case studies to the
class that reflect knowledgeable caring, evidence-based practice, critical thinking, as well as
professional ethics and standards.
E. Complete 45 hours of supervised clinical practice that includes working with individual
psychiatric clients in a hospital setting and observing a variety of community settings that are
responsive to the needs of mental health clients.
F. Any missed clinical time will have to be made up. Failure to notify your clinical instructor of
pending absence on days you are scheduled to participate in clinical experiences may be grounds
for clinical failure.
G. Complete a series of tests (these tests will be a combination of computerized tests and written tests; these tests will include an additional HESI exam) with a combined score of 75% (no rounding up from 74.5 and up) in order to pass the course. In addition, you will be required to pass a pharmacology exam with a score of 80% or above in order to pass the course.

H. Maintain a weekly written journal of your clinical experiences that documents your experiences, your observations, and your responses to them. Include identification and analysis of your own feelings.

I. Write a brief autobiography due on the second class of the semester that tells your clinical instructor the goals you would like to achieve during your clinical rotation as well as any personal information that you think might influence your clinical performance in a psychiatric setting. All autobiographical materials will be kept confidential by course/clinical instructors.

J. Civility: "Every student at Southeast is obligated at all times to assume responsibility for his/her actions, to respect constituted authority, to be truthful, and to respect the rights of others, as well as to respect private and public property. In their academic activities, students are expected to maintain high standards of honesty and integrity and abide by the University's Policy on Academic Honesty. Alleged violations of the Code of Student Conduct are adjudicated in accordance with the established procedures of the judicial system."

K. ADA: "Any student who believes that they may need an academic accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor to arrange an appointment to discuss their individual needs. Instructors rely on Disability Support Services for assistance in verifying the need for academic accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. Students who have not already registered with Disability Support Services as a student with a disability will be encouraged to do so." In other words, accommodations do not have to be given unless the disability is verified by Disability Support Services (Contact office at ext. 2273)

L. Fulfill all requirements as outlined in the BSN Student Handbook.

IV. Course Content:

A. Professional Nurse Relationship (1 hr)
B. Therapeutic Communication (3 hrs)
C. General Psychiatric Nursing Interventions (2 hrs)
D. Anxiety & Crisis Interventions (2 hrs)
E. Suicide (3 hrs)
F. Overview of Psychotropic Medications (1 hr)
G. Mood Disorders (6 hrs)
H. Schizophrenia & Schizoaffective Disorder (6 hrs)
I. Addictions (3 hrs)
J. Anxiety Related Disorders (Panic attacks, generalized anxiety disorder, PTSD, Eating Disorders, Somatoform & Related Disorders (6 hrs)
K. Anger, Aggression, & Abuse (3 hrs)
L. Special Populations: Homeless & Dual Diagnosis (2 hrs)
M. Children & Adolescents (2 hrs)
N. Elderly & Select Cognitive Disorders (2 hrs)
O. Social Change, Ethics, & Patients’ Rights (3 hrs)

Total 45 theory hours

V. Texts and Other Required Materials:
A. Text:
   Required:

   *Psych Notes* (Purchase)

VII. Basis for Student Evaluation:

A. Exams (4 plus HESI @ 50 points each)  250 points*
B. Final                          100 points*
C. Weekly Assignments (15 @ 10 points each)  150 points
   Total:                     500 points possible

D. Clinical Assignments :
   (Total of 45 hours)
   1. One care plan
   2. AA Experience Analysis
   5. Clinical Journaling

*Note: A cumulative score of 375 points (75% of 500 points) must be made on course tests and final to pass the course (The psychotropic medication exam is an exception—it is not part of the grade, but students must pass the test to pass the course; it will be given twice per semester). Once this expectation is met, up to 150 additional points from weekly assignments will be added into the student’s grade.

The grading scale for the Department of Nursing is:

92% - 100% ................................................................. A
83% - 91% ................................................................. B
*75% - 82% ................................................................. C
66% - 74.9% ............................................................... D
0% - 65% ................................................................. F

*75% is the absolute minimum “C”; grades of 74.5-74.9 will not be rounded up to 75.
75% refers to 75% of total points possible in the course, which includes tests, quizzes, and additional graded assignments.