



**Department:** Nursing- Vocational  
**Course Title:** Mental Health Nursing  
**Section Name:** A9  
**Semester:** Summer 1 and 2, 2013  
**Time:** 8:00-10:00  
**Classroom:** 103

**Instructor:** Christina Chavez  
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**Office:** Andrews Business and Technology Center  
**Phone:** 432-524-4022  
**Office Hours:** 1:00-5:00 PM

**Course Description:**

VNSG 1238 Mental Illness

(51.3901) (2-0) 2 hours

Study of human behavior with emphasis on emotional and mental abnormalities and modes of treatment incorporating a systematic problem-solving process. The student will identify common mental illnesses and maladaptive behavior; utilize the nursing process to assist in planning care for the individual with mental illness or maladaptive behavior; and discuss trends in the management of the individual requiring psychotherapeutic treatment and pharmacologic agents. Therapeutic communication is emphasized. Continue to focus on the role of a vocational nurse as a Member of a Profession, Provider of Patient-Centered Care, Patient Safety Advocate, and Member of the Health Care Team as related to caring for the individual with mental illness or maladaptive behavior.

**Required Texts:**

You must purchase the following required reading/materials:

1. Foundations of Mental Health Care, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition; Morrison-Valfre, Michelle, Mosby Elsevier, Missouri, 2009
2. Introduction to Clinical Pharmacology, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition; Edmunds, Marilyn Winterton; Evolve, Elsevier, Inc.; 2013

**Description of Institutional Core Objectives (ICO's)**

Given the rapid evolution of necessary knowledge and skills and the need to take into account global, national, state, and local cultures, the core curriculum must ensure that students will develop the essential knowledge and skills they need to be successful in college, in a career, in

their communities, and in life. Therefore, with the assistance of the Undergraduate Education Advisory Committee, the Coordinating Board has approved guidelines for a core curriculum for all undergraduate students in Texas.

Through the application and assessment of objectives within the institution’s core curriculum, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world; develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world; and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning. Appropriate Odessa College faculty periodically evaluates all of the courses listed in the descriptions on the following pages of this catalog and keys them to Odessa College’s Institutional Core Objectives (ICOs), as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). (Source: *Odessa College Catalog of Courses 2012-2013, page 73*)

**Odessa College’s Institutional Core Objectives (ICOs):**

- 1) *Critical Thinking Skills* - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- 2) *Communication Skills* - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication
- 3) *Empirical and Quantitative Skills* - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- 4) *Teamwork* - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- 5) *Personal Responsibility* - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
- 6) *Social Responsibility* - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

**Learning Outcomes for VNSG1238 Mental Health Nursing**

Outcome	ICO
<p><b>1. The student will identify common mental illnesses and maladaptive behavior; utilize the nursing process to assist in planning care for the individual with mental illness or maladaptive behavior</b></p>	<p>1) <i>Critical Thinking Skills</i> - to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information</p>
<p><b>2. The student will implement therapeutic communication techniques for communicating with clients who have mental-emotional problems.</b></p>	<p>2) <i>Communication Skills</i> - to include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication</p>

3.	3) <i>Empirical and Quantitative Skills</i> - to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
4. <b>The Student will identify trends in the management of the individual requiring psychotherapeutic treatment.</b>	4) <i>Teamwork</i> - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
5.	5) <i>Personal Responsibility</i> - to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making
6.	6) <i>Social Responsibility</i> - to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

## **Odessa College Policies**

### **Academic Policies**

Note that the OC Student Handbook states (page 32) that “[i]n cases of academic dishonesty, the instructor has the authority to impose appropriate scholastic penalties. Complaints or appeals of disciplinary sanctions may be filed in accordance with the college due process procedure. Copies of the college due process procedure are available in the office of The Director of Student Life (CC104).”

For more information on your rights and responsibilities as a student at Odessa College, please refer to the following: *The 411 of OC: Student Handbook 2012-2013; Student Rights & Responsibilities* <http://www.odessa.edu/dept/studenthandbook/handbook.pdf>

### **Scholastic Dishonesty**

Scholastic dishonesty shall constitute a violation of these rules and regulations and is punishable as prescribed by board policies. Scholastic dishonesty shall include, but not be limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism and collusion.

#### **"Cheating on a test" shall include:**

- Copying from another student's test paper
- Using test materials not authorized by the person administering the test.
- Collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test without permission from the test administrator.
- Knowingly using, buying, selling, stealing or soliciting, in whole or in part,

the contents of an unadministered test.

- The unauthorized transporting or removal, in whole or in part, of the contents of the unadministered test.
- Substituting for another student, or permitting another student to substitute for one's self, to take a test.
- Bribing another person to obtain an unadministered test or information about an unadministered test.
- "Plagiarism" shall be defined as the appropriating, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own written work.
- "Collusion" shall be defined as the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work for fulfillment of course requirements. (Source: *Odessa College Student Handbook 2012-2013, page 29-30*)

### **Special Populations/Disability Services/Learning Assistance**

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Odessa College affirms that it will provide access to programs, services and activities to qualified individuals with known disabilities as required by **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)**, unless doing so poses an undue hardship or fundamentally alters the nature of the program or activity. Disabilities may include hearing, mobility or visual impairments as well as hidden disabilities such as chronic medical conditions (arthritis, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, kidney disorders, lupus, seizure disorders, etc.), learning disabilities or psychiatric or emotional disabilities. A student who comes to Odessa College with diagnosed disabilities which may interfere with learning may receive accommodations when the student requests them and submits proper documentation of the diagnosis. A Request for Accommodations form and guidelines for beginning the request process are available in the OC Help Center or on the Odessa College web site at [www.odessa.edu/dept/counseling/disabilities.htm](http://www.odessa.edu/dept/counseling/disabilities.htm). The college strives to provide a complete and appropriate range of services for students with disabilities such as assistance with testing, registration, information on adaptive and assistive equipment, tutoring, assistance with access and accommodations for the classroom where appropriate. For information regarding services, students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Services in the OC Help Center located in Room 204 of the Student Union Building or call 432-335-6433. (Source: *Odessa College Catalog of Courses 2012-2013, page 52*)

### **Dropping a Course or Withdrawing from College**

Students wishing to drop a non-developmental course may do so online using WebAdvisor, at the Wrangler Express, or Registrar's Office. A student wishing to drop a developmental course or withdraw from college should obtain a drop or withdrawal form from the Wrangler Express or the Registrar's Office. Students are encouraged to consult with instructors prior to dropping a

class. Students may not completely withdraw from the college by use of the Web. Students must drop a class or withdraw from college before the official withdrawal date stated in the class schedule. Students who are part of the Armed Forces Reserves may withdraw with a full refund if the withdrawal is due to their being ordered into active duty. A copy of the student's orders must be presented to the Registrar's Office at the time of the withdrawal. For details, please contact the Office of the Registrar. **No longer attending class, does not automatically constitute withdrawal from that class, nor does a student's notification to an instructor that the student wishes to be dropped. Failure of a student to complete the drop/withdrawal process will result in a grade of "F."** (Source: *Odessa College Catalog of Courses 2012-2013, page 36*)

### **Learning Resource Center (LRC; Library)**

The Library, known as the Learning Resources Center, provides research assistance via the LRC's catalog (print books, videos, e-books) and databases (journal and magazine articles). Research guides covering specific subject areas, tutorials, and the "Ask a Librarian" service provide additional help.

### **Student Success Center (SSC)**

Located in the LRC, the Student Success Center (SSC) provides assistance to students in meeting their academic and career goals. We strive to provide new and updated resources and services at no charge to OC students. Academic support services include tutoring, study skills training, workshops, and the mentoring program. Tutoring is available for a variety of subjects including college mathematics, English, government, history, speech, chemistry, biology, and all developmental coursework. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins will be served as soon as possible. Smarthinking online tutoring is also available. All computers in the center have Internet access, Microsoft Office, and software resources to assist OC students in improving their reading, writing and mathematical skills. The center also offers special assistance to students preparing for the THEA/COMPASS test. Computer lab assistants are available to assist students with student email, Blackboard, OC portal, Course Compass and more. For more information or to make an appointment, please call 432-335-6673 or visit [www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/](http://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/) (Source: *Odessa College Catalog of Courses 2012-2013, page 54*)

### **Student E-mail**

Please access your Odessa College Student E-mail, by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>. **Correspondence will be submitted using your Odessa College email as an alternative method to contact you with information regarding this course.**

### **Technical Support**

For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at [https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk\\_form.htm](https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm).

## **Expectations for Engagement – Face to Face Learning**

To help make the learning experience fulfilling and rewarding, the following Expectations for Engagement provide the parameters for reasonable engagement between students and instructors for the learning environment. Students and instructors are welcome to exceed these requirements.

### *Reasonable Expectations of Engagement for Instructors*

1. As an instructor, I understand the importance of clear, timely communication with my students. In order to maintain sufficient communication, I will
  - provided my contact information at the beginning of the syllabus;
  - respond to all messages in a timely manner through telephone, email, or next classroom contact; and,
  - notify students of any extended times that I will be unavailable and provide them with alternative contact information (for me or for my supervisor) in case of emergencies during the time I'm unavailable.
2. As an instructor, I understand that my students will work to the best of their abilities to fulfill the course requirements. In order to help them in this area, I will
  - provide clear information about grading policies and assignment requirements in the course syllabus, and
  - communicate any changes to assignments and/or to the course calendar to students as quickly as possible.
3. As an instructor, I understand that I need to provide regular, timely feedback to students about their performance in the course. To keep students informed about their progress, I will
  - return classroom activities and homework within one week of the due date and
  - provide grades for major assignments within 2 weeks of the due date or at least 3 days before the next major assignment is due, whichever comes first.

### *Reasonable Expectations of Engagement for Students*

1. As a student, I understand that I am responsible for keeping up with the course. To help with this, I will
  - attend the course regularly and line up alternative transportation in case my primary means of transportation is unavailable;
  - recognize that the college provides free wi-fi, computer labs, and library resources during regular campus hours to help me with completing my assignments; and,
  - understand that my instructor does not have to accept my technical issues as a legitimate reason for late or missing work if my personal computer equipment or internet service is unreliable.

2. As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to communicate quickly with the instructor any issue or emergency that will impact my involvement with or performance in the class. This includes, but is not limited to,
  - missing class when a major test is planned or a major assignment is due;
  - having trouble submitting assignments;
  - dealing with a traumatic personal event; and,
  - having my work or childcare schedule changed so that my classroom attendance is affected.
  
3. As a student, I understand that it is my responsibility to understand course material and requirements and to keep up with the course calendar. While my instructor is available for help and clarification, I will
  - seek out help from my instructor and/or from tutors;
  - ask questions if I don't understand; and,
  - attend class regularly to keep up with assignments and announcements.

## Institutional Calendar

## Summer 2013

### Summer I – First Term (6/10-7/11)

#### Registration:

On the Web (5am to midnight, 7 days a week).....Mar 1-  
Jun 9

In Person (See business hours above).....Mar 1-  
Jun 7

#### \*\*\* Registration Payment Deadline

\*For students who register prior to May 23 .....Payment is DUE May 23 (Thurs)

\*For students who register on or after May 23..... Due on Day of Registration

Late Registration & Schedule Changes (Add/Drop)..... Jun 10  
(Mon)

Classes Begin..... Jun 10

(Mon)

\* Classes are scheduled to meet one Friday during the Summer I session – Friday, June 14 only

Census Day..... Jun 13

(Thurs)

Last Day to Drop or Withdraw with a "W"..... July 2

(Tues)

Holiday (Independence Day – Offices Closed – No Classes)..... July 4

(Thurs)

Last Class Day, Final Exams, End of Term.....July 11

(Thurs)

### Summer II – Second Term (7/15-8/15)

#### Registration:

On the Web (5am to midnight, 7 days a week)..... Mar 1-July  
14

In Person (See business hours above)..... Mar 1-  
July 11

#### \*\*\* Registration Payment Deadline

\*For students who register prior to June 27 Payment is DUE..... June 27 (Thurs)

\*For students who register on or after June 27..... Due on Day of Registration

Late Registration & Schedule Changes (Add/Drop)..... July 15  
(Mon)

Classes Begin..... July 15

(Mon)

Census Day..... July 18

(Thurs)

Last Day to Drop or Withdraw with a "W"..... Aug 7

(Wed)

Last Class Day, Final Exams, End of Term.....Aug 15

(Thurs)

<http://www.odessa.edu/college-calendar12-13.pdf>

## Course Policies

1. A minimum grade of C is required in all nursing and allied health courses. Each component within a course must be completed with a C or above or the student will receive a failing grade. A student who fails to attain 75% on a unit examination must provide documentation of remediation by an approved tutor or student mentor. Arrangements must be made in conjunction with an instructor in the program.
2. A minimum grade of C must be maintained in the clinical area. This grade will be derived from the averages on nursing care plans, case studies, and all other written clinical assignments. Written work will be factored into the clinical nursing grade which is either 'Pass' or 'Fail.'
3. Any grade below 75% will be considered failing.
4. A report of grades will be distributed to each student at the completion of each semester.

5. A minimum grade of 90% is required on the math competency examination which is administered each semester. The student will have 3 opportunities to pass this examination. A student who does not successfully pass the examination on the first and second attempts will be required to show evidence of remediation with either an instructor or a student who has attained 95% or above on the examination. A student who is unable to pass the competency examination on the third opportunity will be dismissed from the program.

A = 90 to 100 B = 80 to 89 C = 75 to 79 D= 60 to 74 F = Below 60

Grading criteria are consistent throughout the nursing program at the Andrews campus. The following method of evaluation will be used in assigning course grades:

Exams.....	60%
Daily Work ATI content exams.....	15%
ATI Proctored Exam .....	10%
Maternal Newborn Project .....	15%

The Odessa College Student Success Coaches will help you stay focused and on track to complete your educational goals. If an instructor sees that you might need additional help or success coaching, he or she may submit a Retention Alert or a Starfish Alert. A Student Success Coach will contact you to work toward a solution.

**Disclaimer**

This syllabus is tentative and subject to change in any part at the discretion of the instructor. Any changes will be in accordance with Odessa College policies. Students will be notified of changes, if any, in timely manner.

**Original Effort**

The work submitted for this course must be original work prepared by the student enrolled in this course. Efforts will be recognized and graded in terms of individual participation and in terms of ability to collaborate with other students in this course.

**Description of students**

Students enrolled in this course will study the importance of professional growth. Topics include the role of the licensed vocational nurse in the multi-disciplinary health care team, professional organizations, and continuing education. The student will describe the role of the licensed vocational nurse in multi-disciplinary settings.

### **Course prerequisites**

Prerequisites: VNSG 1330, VNSG 1334, VNSG 1361, and VNSG 1509. Corequisite: VNSG 1219, VNSG 1363, and VNSG 1510.

### **Course Alignment with Industry Standards**

The Odessa College vocational nursing programs approved by the Texas Board of Nursing. The BON is located at 333 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, 78701; phone 512-305-7400. The nursing curriculum plan is approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).

### **Digital Protocol**

Cell phones must be placed on either *vibrate* or *silent* mode and are to be accessed in emergency cases only. The use of laptops or any other digital device is permitted in order to facilitate note-taking relative to instruction. Any written assignments will be submitted electronically on Blackboard. **The electronic recording of the time on Blackboard will be considered the time of assignment submission. Take necessary steps to ensure that your assignments are submitted on "Blackboard" time.** Back-up and/or additional copies of all assignments submitted is encouraged. **Computers/printers are available to OC students in the LRC (301-303); therefore, not having access to a computer due to technical issues (crash; corrupted files) will not be considered as an acceptable reason for not completing assignments.** If there is a loss of server connection with Odessa College due to maintenance, then an email will be sent to student with pertinent information and status reports. Assignments submitted electronically need to be **WORD document (doc or docx).**

### **Attendance Policy**

Students are expected to attend class regularly. Attendance will be recorded using a "sign-in" sheet. Excessive absences will be grounds for disciplinary action, and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. If you are more than 15 minutes late to class or leave class early without notifying the instructor, this will count as an absence. Make-up work is available and the student is responsible for contacting the instructor to obtain the assignment. A daily grade will be given for attendance. If the make-up work is not turned in on the due date implemented by the instructor the student will receive a zero for the missed time.

### **AVID**

This course has been identified as a course by Career, Technical, and Workforce Education as one in which teaching and learning strategies adopted by AVID will be implemented. As a student in the legal program, you will be expected to develop an understanding of the strategies, to model the strategies, to maintain fidelity of implementation, and to examine how these strategies may impact your effectiveness as a professional in your chosen area of occupation, either through coursework or practicum experience as outlined by the course instructor.

### **Grading Policy**

Please understand that this is a required course for the Vocational Nursing program in order to prepare you for success on the NCLEX State Licensure Exam. Quality work and active participation is expected and not to be negotiated. As a general policy, grades will be taken in class. Any written assignments or tests will be graded outside of class. You can expect feedback on assignments within a week's time.

### **Grade Inquiry Policy**

It is the responsibility of the individual taking this course to maintain accurate track of assignment submissions and grades. There will be opportunities during the semester to meet with the instructor to discuss your academic progress. Contact the instructor to schedule an appointment. Class time will not be used for grade inquiries. All grades are final.

### **Communication Plan**

The best way to communicate with the course instructor is via email through Blackboard. Also, check in Blackboard regularly for announcements, including any changes in the course schedule due to instructor illness or conference attendance. Appointments with the instructor may also be scheduled.

### **General Course Requirements**

1. Attend class and participate.
2. Contribute and cooperate with civility.
3. **Submit assignments on time. Late work will not be accepted. Medical and/or family circumstances that warrant an extension on assignments need to be presented to the instructor. Extensions will be allowed at the instructor's discretion.**
4. **Missing an Exam:** Exams are defined as formally scheduled examinations covering a major portion of the course content and make up a 70 percent of the overall grade for a course. Every effort should be made by the student to be present for all exams. It is necessary for a student to miss an exam, the instructor must be notified and the exam must be taken on the next class day the student is present. 10 points will make up another examination over the same content. If the exam is not made up within the first class day an additional 10 points will be taken off for each day the exam is not take (including Saturday and Sunday)
5. **Quizzes:** Daily work will include quizzes. If the student misses a quiz due to being absent, the student will not have the option to make-up the quiz. Zeros will be recorded and averaged in the final grade.

### **Grading Scale:**

"A" = 90-100

"B" = 80-89

“C” = 75-79  
 “D” = 74-69  
 “F” = 0-59

**Incomplete Policy**

An ‘Incomplete’ grade may be given only if:

1. The student has passed all completed work
2. If he/she has completed a minimum of 75% of the required coursework.

A grade of an “T” will only be assigned when the conditions for completions have been discussed and agreed upon by the instructor and the student.

Summer 1 and 2, 2013

Schedule is tentative and subject to change.

June 2013				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Welcome Back!</li> <li>◆ Relay for Life</li> <li>◆ Mental Health</li> </ul>				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
Welcome Back! Summer Semester <b>Begins.....10</b> weeks to go!		Clinical Day 12°	Clinical Day 8°	
17	18	19	20	21
Mental Health Unit 1	Mental Health Unit 1	Clinical Day	Clinical Day	OFF

		12°	8°	
24	25	26	27	28
Mental Health Unit 1 Exam	Mental Health Unit 2	Clinical Day 12°	Clinical Day 8°	OFF

# July 2013

- ◆ Mental Health Orientation/Clinical
- ◆ Proctored Exams
- ◆ NCLEX Live Review

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
Mental Health Unit 2	Mental Health Unit 2 Exam	Mental Health Orientation BSSH 9-12 Allegiance 1:30-2:30	Happy 4 <sup>th</sup> of July! 	OFF
8	9	10	11	12
Mental Health Unit 3	Mental Health Unit 3/online exam	Mental Health Clinical Day 8°	Mental Health Clinical Day 8°	OFF
15	16	17	18	19
Mental Health Unit 4 Mental Health Practice A	Mental Health Unit 4/online exam	Mental Health Clinical Day 8°	Mental Health Clinical Day 8°	OFF
22	23	24	25	26
Jurisprudence Exam Comp Prac A	<b>ati</b> <b>NCLEX LIVE</b> <b>REVIEW</b>			OFF
29	30	31	1	2
Proctored Leadership Mental Health	Mental Health Prac B /Rem. A due	Mental Health Unit 5/online exam	Clinical Day 8°	Clinical Day 8°

# August 2013

- ◆ Proctored Exams
- ◆ Finals Week!
- ◆ Comprehensive Predictor!
- ◆ GRADUATION DAY!!

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat & Sun
			1	2	3
			Clinical Day 8°	Clinical Day 8°	4
5	6	7	8	9	10
Med Surg Proctored Exam	Mental Health Proctored Exam/Rem B due	Comprehensive Prac B/Rem A due		Pharmacolog y Proctored Exam	11
Comprehensive Review	Comp. Review				
12	13	14	15	16	17
Comprehensive Predictor/Rem B due Mental Health Rev.	Leadership Final Exam  Mental Health Review	Mental Health Final Exam Proctored Rem. Due	Med Surg Final Exam  Graduation Rehearsal	Comprehensi ve Remediation Due	 <p>Graduation Day! 2:00 pm</p>