N527 Family Mental Health Nursing III
Credits: 6 (3 lecture; 3 clinical lab)
Semester Offered: Fall
Prerequisite: N526

Course Description: In this course, students will explore the conceptual and theoretical foundations for providing psychotherapy with families and promoting health. Students will work with persons with mental health problems or psychiatric disorders who have acute and/or chronic mental health needs. Emphasis will be placed on working with families across the lifespan within culturally diverse environments.

Course Objectives:
1. Analyze the advanced nursing practice role in providing care and treatment for families with acute and/or chronic mental health needs.
2. Assess and interpret the acute and/or chronic mental health treatment needs of families based on an understanding of psychosocial and developmental theories.
3. Formulate advanced nursing strategies for the treatment of families with acute and/or chronic mental health needs.
4. Implement advanced nursing strategies for the promotion of mental health and intervention in response to the acute and/or chronic mental health needs of families.
5. Evaluate the effectiveness of nursing strategies used to provide acute and/or chronic mental health care for families.
6. Incorporate knowledge about culture and ethnicity into the development, implementation, and evaluation of advanced nursing strategies.
7. Apply legal and ethical principles to the development, implementation, and evaluation of advanced nursing strategies.
8. Use research evidence in the development, implementation, and evaluation of nursing strategies.

Recommended Content and Concepts:
1. Theoretical foundations for family therapy, including
   a. Family development and life cycle
   b. Bowen’s family systems theory
   c. Minuchin’s structural family theory
   d. Family nursing theories
   e. Role theory
   f. Couple’s therapy
   g. Satir process/communication/family reconstruction
   h. Behavioral approaches
i. Behavioral parent-skills training
j. Family stress
k. Others

2. Crises intervention/management theory
   a. Crisis management specific to:
      i. Suicide
      ii. Family violence
      iii. Substance abuse crises
      iv. Critical incident stress debriefing
      v. Traumatic exposure events

3. Illness management and recovery of chronic mental illnesses within the context of family
   a. Mood disorders, anxiety disorders, psychotic disorders, cognitive disorders, personality disorders, sexual disorders
   b. Maintenance (pharmacologic and psychotherapeutic)
   c. Health promotion/optimal level of health/resilience
   d. Recurrence and relapse

4. Research Utilization
   a. Standards of care
   b. Evidence-based practice
   c. Practice guidelines
   d. Current trends in research
   e. Future directions

5. Legal/ethical issues
   a. Competency
   b. Confidentiality
   c. Privacy
   d. Malpractice
   e. Forensic

6. Role and scope of advanced nursing practice

Examples of learning activities:
- Clinical work with preceptors
- Lecture
- Readings
- Discussion
- Written exams
- Written, self-reflective activities
- Clinical logs
- Case studies
- Case presentations and analysis
- Group seminars with clinical faculty
- Role playing

Approved by GAAC: April, 2008
Approved by Faculty: August, 2008