

**University of Arkansas – Fort Smith**  
**5210 Grand Avenue**  
**PO Box 3649**  
**Fort Smith, AR 72913**  
**479-788-7000**

## **General Syllabus**

### **NURS 3454 Psychiatric Nursing**

Credit Hours: 4                      Lecture Hours: 2                      Laboratory or other types of Hours: 6

Prerequisite(s): Admission to BSN program and either NURS 3336 Nursing Care of the Adult 1 or NURS 3339 Adult Medical Surgical Nursing

Effective Catalog: 2023-2024

#### **I. Course Information:**

##### **A. Catalog Description:**

Focuses on the theoretical basis of psychiatric nursing. Students explore the role of the nurse in the community and inpatient settings. Principles of family behaviors will facilitate the study of common psychiatric disorders and their treatment. The course includes 90 hours in the clinical setting.

##### **B. Available Course Formats:**

Lecture, class discussion, small group activities, simulated lab learning exercises, Web-enhanced via Blackboard Learning System activities, and outside clinical activities.

#### **II. Student Learning Outcomes**

##### **A. Subject Matter:**

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

1. Utilize critical thinking in addressing the care of the client with a psychiatric/mental health disorder.
2. Integrate the use of nursing research in the care of the client with a psychiatric/mental health disorder.
3. Engage in various forms of communication to address care of the client with a psychiatric/mental health disorder.
4. Analyze leadership and management theories while applying the nursing process to address care of the client with a psychiatric/mental health disorder.
5. Incorporate health promotion in the nursing care of the client with a psychiatric/mental health disorder.
6. Promote the role of professional nurse while caring for the client with a psychiatric/mental health disorder.

## **B. University Learning Outcomes:**

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

### **Analytical Skills**

#### **Critical Thinking**

Students will apply knowledge from sciences and evidence-based research to analyze and problem-solve care delivery with various populations.

#### **Communication Skills** (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently in a clear, concise manner using interpersonal, written, and technological strategies.

#### **Ethical Decision Making**

Students will identify ethical dilemmas and utilize ethical principles and resources for the decision-making process with various populations.

#### **Global and Cultural Perspectives**

Students will explore and demonstrate an understanding of morals, values, and healthcare among various cultures and vulnerable populations.

## **III. Major Course Topics**

- A. Foundations in Theory
- B. Foundations for Practice
- C. Psychosocial Nursing Tools
- D. Psychobiological Disorders
- E. Trauma Interventions (Child, Older Adult, Intimate Partner Violence)
- F. Interventions for Special Populations