Hazleton Area Career Center

**Practical Nursing Program**

**COURSE TITLE: GERIATRICS**

**PLACEMENT: LEVEL III**

**TOTAL HOURS: 20**

**Course Description:** This course is an overview of the common physiological and psychological conditions of the elderly and the pharmacotherapeutic effects of aging.

**Methods of Instruction:** To implement the program, the instructor will utilize the following methods of instruction:

1. Lecture and Discussion

2. Visual Aids

3. Use of Whiteboard

4. Assignment of related readings and discussion of readings

5. Student Computer Lab

**Methods of Evaluation:** 1. Class participation

2. Written assignments

3. Examinations - satisfactory achievement on all examinations (83%)

4. Achievement of course objectives

5. Student evaluation of course

**Texts:** Dahlkemper, T. R. Caring for Older Adults Holistically, 7th Edition, F.A. Davis, 2020

Saunders Nursing Drug Handbook 2022

**References:** Lutz, Nutrition & Diet Therapy, F.A. Davis, 7th Edition, 2019

Linton, Introduction to Medical Surgical Nursing, Elsevier, 7th Edition, 2020

Linton, Introduction to Medical Surgical Nursing Study Guide, Elsevier 7th Edition, 2020

Taber’s Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, F.A. Davis, 24th Edition, 2021

**Objectives:**

At the completion of this course, the student practical nurse will:

1. Describe common physiological disorders of the elderly.

2. Differentiate between normal changes of aging and disease processes.

3. Identify the most common diseases related to aging in each of the body systems

4. Identify age-related changes that affect nutrition, digestion, and hydration

5. Recognize behavior that may signal the presence of a psychological problem in an elderly person

6. Discuss how to manage difficult behaviors of elderly persons

7. Compare reality orientation, reminescence, remotivation, resocialization, and validation techniques.

8. Select important information about psychological medications to include in client teaching

9. Identify factors that increase the risk of medication-related problems in the elderly

10. Discuss the impact of age-related changes on self administration of medications

11. Discuss the various factors that relate to the aging process.

12. Utilize the nursing process effectively in caring for elderly patients with physical and psychological disorders in a

clinical setting.

**Total Hours**  **20 hours**

**100%**

| **Unit Chapter Objective** | **Chapter Content** | **Teacher Activity** | **Student Activity** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Chapter 14** | **Common Medical Diagnoses** | **Lecture** | **Student will** |
| Discuss Chronic Illnesses Commonly Found in Older Adults. | 1. Cardiovascular Conditions 2. Neurologic Conditions 3. Pulmonary Conditions 4. Musculoskeletal Conditions 5. Metabolic Conditions 6. Endocrine Conditions | Discussion  White board  Overhead transparencies  Unit test/examination | Read chapters  Take notes in class  Take unit test and achieve a passing grade of 83% or higher  Remediation with nurse tutor  Download instructor power point |
| **Chapter 15** | **Physiological Assessment** | **Lecture** | **Student will** |
| Describe Normal Aging Changes for each Body System | 1. Head, Neck, and Face 2. Nose and Sinuses 3. Eyes and Ears 4. Mouth and Throat 5. Neurologic 6. Peripheral Vascular 7. Cardiac 8. Respiratory 9. Gastrointestinal 10. Integumentary 11. Musculoskeletal 12. Reproductive 13. Urinary | Discussion  White board  Overhead transparencies  Unit test/examination | Read chapters  Take notes in class  Take unit test and achieve a passing grade of 83% or higher  Remediation with nurse tutor  Download instructor power point |
| **Chapter 16** | **Common Clinical Problems: Physiological** | **Lecture** | **Student will** |
| Identify Physiological Risk Factors of Aging | 1. Alteration in Mobility 2. Cardiovascular Disorders 3. Respiratory Disorders 4. Posture and Balance 5. Gait and Vision 6. Alteration in Elimination 7. Alteration in Skin Integrity 8. Altered Nutritional Status 9. Seep Pattern Disturbances | Discussion  White board  Overhead transparencies  Unit test/examination | Read chapters  Take notes in class  Take unit test and achieve a passing grade of 83% or higher  Remediation with nurse tutor  Download instructor power point |
| **Chapter 17** | **Psychological Assessment** | **Lecture** | **Student will** |
| Describe Psychological Needs of the Geriatric Patient | 1. Cognition 2. Perception 3. Orientation 4. Communication 5. Problem Solving 6. Memory 7. Mental Status 8. Assessment Techniques | Discussion  White board  Overhead transparencies  Unit test/examination | Read chapters  Take notes in class  Take unit test and achieve a passing grade of 83% or higher  Remediation with nurse tutor  Download instructor power point |
| **Chapter 18** | **Common Clinical Problems: Psychological** | **Lecture** | **Student will** |
| Identify the Guidelines for Communicating with Older Adults  Describe the Plan of Care for Individuals with Altered Thought Processes | 1. Develop/End a Relationship 2. Open Questions 3. Giving Instructions 4. Guided Choices 5. Empathy and Genuineness 6. Listening 7. Values and Culture 8. Nonverbal Communication 9. Problem Behaviors 10. Specialized Communicating Skills 11. Grieving and Depression 12. Delirium and Dementia 13. Alzheimer’s Disease 14. Paranoia 15. Developmental Disabilities 16. Substance Abuse 17. Group Therapy 18. Psychotropic Medications 19. Rights and Legal Responsibilities | Discussion  White board  Overhead transparencies  Unit test/examination | Read chapters  Take notes in class  Take unit test and achieve a passing grade of 83% or higher  Remediation with nurse tutor  Download instructor power point |
| **Chapter 20** | **Pharmacology and Its Significance for Older Adults** | **Lecture** | **Student will** |
| Discuss the Pharmacotherapeutics for the Older Adult | 1. Sensory Changes 2. Cognitive Changes 3. Pharmacokinetics 4. Pharmacology Related Problems | Discussion  White board  Overhead transparencies  Unit test/examination | Read chapters  Take notes in class  Take unit test and achieve a passing grade of 83% or higher  Remediation with nurse tutor  Download instructor power point |
| **Chapter 21** | **Laboratory Values and Older Adults** | **Lecture** | **Student Will** |
| Identify the Importance of Laboratory Tests and their indicators of Health and Disease in Elderly Patients. | 1. Common Screening Tests 2. Hematologic Testing 3. Comprehensive Metabolic Profile Indicators 4. End Products of Metabolism 5. Nutritional Indicators 6. Drug Monitoring and Toxicology | Discussion  White board  Overhead transparencies  Unit test/examination | Read chapters  Take notes in class  Take unit test and achieve a passing grade of 83% or higher  Remediation with nurse tutor  Download instructor power point |