HEALTH ASSESSMENT OF THE ADULT & AGED
NUR 835
Section 741 & 747
3 Credits
Hybrid Course
Fall 2013

Catalog Course Description: Advanced health assessment skills to provide comprehensive, culturally sensitive care to adults and aging individuals. Interviewing techniques, communication, interpersonal skills and psychomotor skills. Analysis of health status including the role of risk factors and health promotion strategies. Emphasis placed on functional implications. Interpretation of data for the purpose of differentiating typical from atypical presentations and recognizing actual and potential health problems. The problem-oriented system of organizing and recording data is utilized.

Additional Course Description: Advanced assessment involves the collection of comprehensive subjective and objective data for practice as an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) and eventually, after passing national certification, an Adult or Gerontological Nurse Practitioner (ANP or GNP). The student’s appropriate and professional utilization of interviewing techniques, therapeutic and effective communication, interpersonal skills, and psychomotor skills will be enhanced and refined.

Emphasis is placed on interpretation of data for the purpose of differentiating normal findings, including aging, from variations from normal and recognizing actual and potential health problems. The problem-oriented system of organizing and recording data is covered. Course content includes discussion of the impact of the ethnic and cultural diversity of patients and their families, and ethical issues related to the assessment and evaluation process.

Course Objectives: at the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Apply advanced therapeutic communication skills to data collection from individuals of culturally diverse backgrounds.
2. Conduct a comprehensive health history and physical examination that is age and gender appropriate.
3. Apply knowledge of age, gender, and culture variations when collecting health assessment data.
4. Differentiate normal, variations of normal and abnormal findings when collecting health assessment data that is age and gender appropriate.
5. Demonstrate advanced assessment skills in a simulation lab environment and community-based health care settings.

Prerequisites: None

Co-requisites: None
Professional Standards & Guidelines: The curriculum is guided by the following documents:


Faculty: Mary Smania, MSN, FNP-BC  
**Contact Information:** mailto:smaniama@msu.edu or Office Phone 517-355-3309  
For questions at any time regarding the online portion of this course or on-campus workshops, please contact the course coordinator, Mary Smania.  
For questions relating to clinical assignments, contact your assigned clinical faculty member  
**Office Hours:** arranged  
**Note:** Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.  
Email is the best way to reach me. I practice 16 hours a week and may not be in my office to answer the phone. I check my email frequently and respond in a timely way.

Faculty: Joanne Adrian, MSN, RN, FNP-BC  
**Contact Information:** joanne.adrian@hc.msu.edu  
Office Hours: arranged  
**Note:** Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.

Faculty: Kelly Isralson-Brown, MSN, RN, ANP-BC  
**Contact Information:** israelson@msu.edu  
Office Hours: arranged  
**Note:** Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.

Faculty: Kate Lein, MSN, RN, FNP-BC  
**Contact Information:** kate.lein@hotmail.com  
Office Hours: arranged  
**Note:** Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.

Faculty: Kara Schrader, MSN, RN, CFNP  
**Contact Information:** kara.schrader@hc.msu.edu  
Office Hours: arranged  
**Note:** Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.

Faculty: Amber Vermeesch, PhD, FNP-BC  
**Contact Information:** amber.vermeesch@hc.msu.edu  
Office Hours: arranged  
**Note:** Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.

Faculty: Daniel Wesolowski, MSN, RN, FNP-BC  
**Contact Information:** wesolow8@sbcglobal.net  
Office Hours: arranged  
**Note:** Times can be arranged to accommodate student schedules.
**Instruction**

1. Methodology: This hybrid course is built on modules, which includes:
   a. Agenda for guidance on the week’s content
   b. Objectives
   c. Assigned textbook readings
   d. Additional required readings from journal or web pages (as assigned)
   e. Discussion Boards
   f. Quizzes
   g. Clinical Documentation
2. On-campus clinical group workshops with mentoring and instruction by clinical faculty prior to performance on physical examination skills per criteria
3. Clinical Case recording and Clinical Skills Log via Typhon System
4. On-campus Learning Assessment Center (LAC) experience for History, Gender Sensitive Examinations and Final Evaluation
5. 40 hours of a precepted clinical experience (arranged though the College of Nursing Clinical Placement Office)

This hybrid course is taught utilizing online modules via the ANGEL, assigned readings, on-campus workshops, and 40 hours of a precepted clinical experience. As adult learners, it is expected that students will do relevant reading and practice prior to the on-campus workshops and clinical experiences. Faculty directed readings and web links will be provided for specific content areas.

**The on-campus workshops are mandatory.** If you are unable to attend a session due to an emergency situation, you must notify the course coordinator and your clinical faculty. Make-up for this time will be arranged at the discretion of your clinical faculty in collaboration with the course coordinator.

**Clinical days are also mandatory.** You will arrange the specific day and hours for your experience with your clinical preceptor. If you need to miss a day due to an illness or emergency situation, you need to notify your clinical preceptor and clinical faculty and arrange for a time to make up the hours with your clinical preceptor.

**Required Texts:**


**Recommended Textbooks:**

Resources, References, Supplies:

Help Desk
1-800-500-1554 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
517.355.2345 (24 hrs, 7 days/week)
Always check with the Help Desk first!

Required Equipment

- Stethoscope (Littman Class II or higher quality)
- Otoscope and ophthalmoscope (with disposable specula)
- Insufflator bulb for otoscope
- Clear plastic ruler (s), 5-6 inches long
- Reflex hammer
- Tuning fork (128 hz and 512 hz)
- Flexible nylon tape measure
- Monofilament instrument (neurological testing)
- Handheld visual acuity chart
- MSU College of Nursing lab coat
- MSU student name badge

Course Grading Scale: The course is graded as either Pass (P) or No Grade (N). In order to Pass the course, the student must achieve a grade of 80% or higher on assignments as described above in order to pass the course. Failure to meet 80% will constitute a failing grade and the student will not be allowed to continue on to the next clinical practicum. The MSN student handbook discusses the procedures in the event of a failure of a course.

1. Learning Assessments and Grading:
   - The overall grading system in this course is Pass/Fail
   - All components of the course are mandatory
   - All components of the course must be completed & passed at the indicated levels in order to pass the course and progress through the program.

2. Components of the course include:
   - Module check-offs & appropriate documentation
   - Health History and Documentation
   - Clinical hours (40) with appropriate documentation
   - Quizzes
   - Final Performance Evaluation (4 components explained below)
   - A minimum of 80% is passing for the majority of course components with the exception of the Final Performance Evaluation where passing is 90%
   - Final Performance Evaluation - four components, each requiring a minimum of 90% to pass
     - Healthy History (performance) = 90% pass
     - Health History (documentation) = 90% pass
     - Physical Examination (performance) = 90% pass
     - Physical Examination (documentation) = 90% pass

Inability to pass any component of the course will result in a No Grade designation for the course
Evaluation components:

1. **Module Check-Offs & Documentation: Pass/Fail**
   - At every on campus workshop, students are required to demonstrate (check off) on skills that have been learned from assigned readings & online modules.
   - Written documentation of the performed assessment will also be submitted. The student may be asked to resubmit unacceptable work.

2. **Initial Health History: Pass/Fail**
   - Each student will practice an initial health history on a student partner while on campus for the 1st workshop day.
   - Students will complete a simulated health history with a standardized patient at the Learning and Assessment Center during the second workshop day. Documentation will be submitted to their clinical faculty per the course schedule.

3. **Clinical Experience & Documentation: Pass/Fail**
   - Clinical practice experiences to start after the 2nd on-campus workshop.
   - 40 hours of clinical are required in order to pass this course.
   - Written documentation is required for each clinical experience (3 clinical documentations required).
   - A completed clinical time log with preceptor evaluation is required to be submitted at the end of the clinical experience.

4. **Quizzes: 80% required to pass**
   - Students will take 6 online quizzes worth 20 points each.
   - Quizzes are based on information from assigned readings (textbook), journal articles & online resources.

5. **Final Performance Evaluation: Pass/Fail**
   - A score of 90% or better is required for each individual component in order to pass the course.
   - The simulated patient or “hands on” assessment may not be repeated.
   - A complete health history and physical examination will be conducted, following completion of the course requirements, with a standardized patient at the Learning Assessment Center.
   - The final performance evaluation consists of four components:
     - Obtaining a complete health history
     - Performing a head to toe physical exam
     - Documentation of the history
     - Documentation of the physical
     - This is a timed exam
       - 30 minutes to complete the history portion
       - 45 minutes to complete the physical exam
       - 60 minutes total to complete the history and physical documentation
       - Components of each exam not completed during the allotted time will not be considered in grading.

**Writing Requirements:** Clinical and workshop documentation; short writing assignments as defined in the modules.
University & College Policies:

The College of Nursing expects that students will demonstrate professional behavior in all situations. Specific expectations for clinical and other professional venues can be found in the appropriate handbook. You are responsible for reviewing and acting in accordance with the policies and procedures found in the following sources, including the following topics: Professionalism, Academic Integrity, Accommodations for Students with Disabilities, Disruptive Behavior, Attendance, Compliance, and Progression.

- CON Student handbook  [http://nursing.msu.edu/BSN%20Programs/Handbooks/default.htm](http://nursing.msu.edu/BSN%20Programs/Handbooks/default.htm)
- Information for Current Students—including Rights, Responsibilities and Regulations for Students  [http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html](http://www.msu.edu/current/index.html)
- Academic Programs  [http://www.reg.msu.edu/UCC/AcademicPrograms.asp](http://www.reg.msu.edu/UCC/AcademicPrograms.asp)
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<th>Date</th>
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| August 28-Sept 8 | **Module 1**                                           | **On campus: Thursday, September 5, 2013**  
A131 Life Sciences Building 8:00am to 4pm  
- HEENT check off  
- History practice with student partner | **Workshop Documentation** of HEENT exam to the dropbox  
Sunday, September 8 before 11:30pm  
**Cultural competency** assignment due to the dropbox by Sunday, September 8 before 11:30pm | Quiz 1  
Completion deadline by Wednesday, September 4  
Before 11:30pm |                      |
| Sept 9-Sept 29 | **Module 2**                                           | **On campus: Thursday, September 26, 2013**  
Learning and Assessment Center, 6th floor of East Fee Hall, Arrival times will be assigned  
- History check off  
A131 Life Sciences Building 1 to 4 pm  
- Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Peripheral Vascular check off | **Workshop Documentation** of LAC History and Cardiovascular documentation due to dropbox by Sunday, September 29 before 11:30pm | Quiz 2  
Completion deadline by Wednesday, September 25  
Before 11:30pm |                      |
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<th>Module 3</th>
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<td>On campus: Thursday, October 10, 2013 at Learning Assessment Center, 6th floor of East Fee Hall, Arrival times will be assigned</td>
<td>Workshop Documentation of sexual histories, male and female physical examinations due to the dropbox by Sunday, October 13 before 11:30pm</td>
<td>Workgroup Documentation of neurological and musculoskeletal HPI and examination due to the dropbox by Sunday, November 10 before 11:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male Genitalia and Hernias</td>
<td>Quiz 3</td>
<td>Quiz 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Female Genitalia</td>
<td>Completion deadline by Wednesday, October 9 Before 11:30pm</td>
<td>Completion by Wednesday, November 6 before 11:30 pm</td>
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<td>The Breasts and Axillae</td>
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<td>Midterm clinical evaluations by phone or in person with clinical faculty—week of October 20-27</td>
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<td>Anus, Rectum and Prostate</td>
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<td>Abdomen</td>
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<td>Quiz 4</td>
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<td>Completion by Saturday, October 19 before 11:30 pm</td>
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<td>Workshop Documentation of neurological and musculoskeletal examination due to the dropbox</td>
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<td>November 10-November 24</td>
<td>Module 6: Putting It All Together</td>
<td>November 21, 2012 On Campus Event Complete History and Physical Examination Learning Assessment Center, 6th floor East Fee Hall, Arrival times assigned</td>
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| November 25-December 6 | Module 7  
Physical Examination for Providers  
- Annual Examination  
- Sports Physical  
- Department of Transportation Physical Examination  
- Surgical Clearance  
- Occupational Physical Examination  
Special Examinations  
- Functional  
- Developmental  
- Mental Status  
- Health Maintenance  
- Mood  
Special Populations  
- Infancy thru Adolescents  
- The Pregnant Woman  
- The Older Adult | Clinical documentation #3 due by Sunday December 1 before 11:30pm to the dropbox | Quiz 6  
Completion by Saturday, December 7, 2012 before 11:30 pm. | All patient information completed in Typhon database before final evaluation with clinical faculty. Student must complete clinical time logs and coordinate preceptor evaluation to faculty.  
**Final Clinical Evaluation** by phone or in-person with clinical faculty week of December 8-15 or as arranged |