WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS

FACULTY MEMBER: Term:

COURSE TITLE: ADVANCED GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT & HEALTH PROMOTION

COURSE NUMBER: MSN 7709

OFFICE HOURS/METHOD OF CONTACT:

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course focuses on developing advanced health assessment skills appropriate for delivery of primary care to the older adult (65+) client. It provides students with the necessary skills to advance beyond basic history and physical examination to using initial diagnostic reasoning skills. Assessment skills are refined for the determination of the health status of the geriatric client in the clinical laboratory setting. Core concepts are included regarding promotion of health and wellness for the geriatric client in the primary care setting. Emphasis is placed on the physical, developmental, psychosocial, and cultural dimensions of geriatric clients in primary care.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

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

1. Establish a climate and relationship that enhances client contribution to the data collection process.
2. Elicit complete and comprehensive health history.
3. Perform a comprehensive geriatric physical examination.
4. Identify risk factors to health and wellness specific to the geriatric population.
5. Relate knowledge of normal physiology to an increased understanding of abnormal conditions.
6. Initiate the diagnostic reasoning process for common presenting problems specific to the geriatric client.
7. Recognize the concerns for the geriatric clients when multiple medications are being used for concurrent management of disease processes.

SUPPLEMENTAL OBJECTIVES:

1. Establish a climate and relationship that enhances client contribution to the data collection process.
   Adaptation of the communication and listening skills necessary to employ with the geriatric patient and family.
Enhance interviewing skills as a primary care provider of the geriatric population.

2. **Elicit comprehensive health histories sensitive to individual, family, and cultural needs.**
   - Review the history taking process.
   - Define review of systems (ROS).
   - Develop appropriate questioning techniques.
   - Facilitate the gathering of client subjective data.

3. **Perform comprehensive physical examination.**
   - Review of assessment techniques specific to geriatrics.
   - Begin to recognize common presenting chief complaints.
   - Identify common different physical findings in the elderly.

4. **Identify risk factors to health and wellness specific to the geriatric population.**
   - Review psychosocial and physiological issues related to aging.
   - Identify safety issues specific for the aging population.
   - Utilize appropriate screening tools related to health promotion activities of the aging adult.
   - Incorporate epidemiologic trends related to the aging adult into nursing practice.

5. **Relate knowledge of normal physiology to an increased understanding of abnormal conditions.**
   - Identify normal physiological aging vs. pathology.
   - Utilize knowledge regarding pathologic changes to develop a beginning plan of care for the aging client.

6. **Initiate the diagnostic reasoning process for common presenting problems specific to the geriatric client.**
   - Define diagnostic reasoning.
   - Define critical thinking.
   - Analyze diagnostic reasoning in the context of primary care.
   - Begin to apply critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning in the context of primary care.

7. **Recognize the concerns for the geriatric clients when multiple medications are being used for concurrent management of disease processes.**
   - Define the goals for identifying potentially inappropriate medications used by the geriatric client.