NURS 5412 - Adv Practice Nursing Theory I: Adv Practice Nursing Theory I (SSIII - June 01 to Aug 06)

Summer 2026 Syllabus, Section 580, CRN 52971

Instructor Information

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Office Hours:
Virtual Office Hours: Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6-8pm.
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Times and Location

Does Not Meet Face-to-Face

Course Description

This course focuses on the theoretical and clinical foundation of advanced practice management of psychiatric mental health problems common to individuals and their families across the lifespan. Emphasis is on the application of assessment, diagnosis, and health promotion practices in the comprehensive management and implementation of evidence-based practice in the primary mental health care setting. This course is 4 semester credit. Corequisites: NURS 5513. Prerequisites: NURS 5411.
Nursing Department, College of Nursing&Health Sci

Additional Course Information

GenAI Policy

AI Statement for course syllabus

In this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools—including but not limited to ChatGPT, Grammarly (GO/PRO) AI, Quillbot, Bard, Copilot, Jasper, or any other text-generating, paraphrasing, or content-creation software—is strictly prohibited in all nursing coursework unless explicitly authorized in writing by the course faculty. Students must complete and submit all academic and clinical coursework using their own independent work, analysis, and writing.

Allowed: Students **may use AI** for:

- Brainstorming: Idea generation, questions to consider, themes or angles to explore.
- Outlining: Structuring your own paper, presentation, or project (e.g., headings, subheadings, sequence of points).
- Planning tasks: Milestones, timeliness, checklists for your workflow

Not Allowed: Students **may not use AI** for:

- Writing or generating any portion of an assignment
- Paraphrasing or rewording content
- Summarizing articles or research
- Producing discussion board posts or responses

- Writing care plans, SOAP notes, or clinical documentation
- Creating PowerPoint slides or poster content
- Submitting AI-produced text (even if "heavily edited") as your own
- Producing reference pages

Source Verification Requirement

The use of automated reference or citation generators (e.g., Zotero, MyBib, Citation Machine) is not recommended and highly discouraged/prohibited to be used due to producing incorrect citations. Citations are to be formatted according to the American Psychological Association manual, following the edition specified in the course syllabus.

Students are required to include direct and clearly accessible links to all sources referenced in their written assignments. This requirement encompasses a diverse range of materials, including but not limited to journal articles, peer-reviewed studies, credible websites, and professional reports. The links should be formatted in a way that directs faculty and instructors straight to the original source, allowing for convenient verification of citations. It is essential that students take the time to double-check their links to guarantee that they lead directly to the content cited, thereby enhancing the overall quality and trustworthiness of their work.

Failure to adhere to the above policy will result in the following consequences:

Point Deductions

- Any assignments with broken or non-functional links will receive point deductions, impacting the overall grade as dictated by the lead faculty.

Exclusion of References

- References that cannot be verified due to missing or incorrect links, screenshots, or lack of URLs/DOIs will not be counted toward the assignment's reference requirements.

Reduced Academic Integrity

- Failure to properly format citations and provide verifiable sources may negatively affect the assessment of the student's work and their ability to demonstrate academic rigor.
- Repeated or serious violations of the policy will be referred to the TAMIU Honor Code for formal review. This includes, but is not limited to, submission of unverifiable sources, falsified or fabricated references, persistent use of broken or misleading links, or failure to correct issues after written notice.
- Such referrals may result in institutional sanctions in accordance with university policy, which may include a formal warning, assignment failure, course failure, or additional disciplinary actions as determined by the committee. These measures are implemented to protect the integrity of academic work and uphold professional and ethical standards expected in nursing education.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the MSN post-master's PMHNP program, graduates will:

1. Critically analyze, interpret and utilize appropriate knowledge, research and theories to meet the health care needs of diverse populations across the life span.
2. Collaboratively plan the delivery of culturally sensitive health care with organizations and the community.
3. Contribute to the advancement of nursing profession through evidenced-based research and practice.
4. Synthesize the leadership management, negotiating, teaching/coaching and consulting roles to foster continual improvement in order to meet changing societal and environmental needs.
5. Operationalize ethical, legal, political, and economic principles in application to management of healthcare delivery across the lifespan.
6. Advocate for advanced nursing practice through a commitment to lifelong learning and community service.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Analyze health promotion and disease prevention for psychiatric disorders and mental health problems among individuals and their families across the lifespan.
2. Differentiate between normal and abnormal signs and symptoms related to psychiatric disorders and mental health problems for individuals and their families across the lifespan.
3. Analyze pharmacologic principles of the actions of psychiatric medications on the body and mind throughout the lifespan.

4. Describe the major classifications of psychiatric medications, as well as intended and unintended impacts on the individual with psychiatric disorders and mental health problems.
5. Analyze the impact of comorbid diagnoses on the treatment of psychiatric disorders and mental health problems among individuals and families across the lifespan.
6. Evaluate appropriate pharmacological and nonpharmacological approaches in the management of psychiatric disorders and mental health problems for individuals and their families across the lifespan.
7. Promote holistic care that recognizes ethno-cultural, spiritual, and demographic characteristics in individuals and families with psychiatric disorders and mental health problems, across the lifespan.
8. Synthesize bio-psychosocial and psychotherapy theories used in individuals and their families across the lifespan with psychiatric disorders and mental health problems.
9. Evaluate legal and ethical decision-making in individual and families across the lifespan with psychiatric disorders and mental health problems.
10. Examine theories of psychotherapies and psychopathology for psychiatric disorders and mental health problems among individuals and families.

Important Dates

Visit the Academic Calendar (tamiu.edu) (https://www.tamiu.edu/academiccalendar/) page to view the term's important dates.

Textbooks

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, Text revision Dsm-5-Tr. 5th Ed.	American Psychiatric Association	9780890425770
Required	Kaplan & Sadock's synopsis of psychiatry: Behavioral sciences/ Clinical psychiatry. 12th Ed.	Boland, R. & Verduin, M. et al.	9781975145576
Required	The Psychiatric Interview 5thEd.	Carlat, D.J.	978-197512988
Required	Psychiatric advanced practice nursing: A biopsychosocial foundation for practice	Perese, E.F	9780803629998
Required	Stahl's Prescribers Guide, 8thEd.	Stahl. S. M.	9781009464741
Required	Stahl's Essential Psychopharmacology: Neuroscientific Basis and Practical Applications 5th Edition.	Stahl. S.M.	9781108981217
Required	Advanced practice psychiatric nursing: Integrating psychotherapy, psychopharmacology, and complementary and alternative approaches across the life span, 3nd Ed.	Tusaie, K.R. & Fitzpatrick, J.J.	9780826185341
Required	Psychotherapy for the advanced practice psychiatric nurse: A how to guide for evidence-based practice. 3rd Edition	Wheeler, K.	9780826193896
Required	DSM 5 Handbook of Differential Diagnosis	First, M.B.	9781585624621
Optional	Psychiatric Interviewing: The Art of Understanding	Shea, S.C.	978-143771 6986
Required	Psychiatric Mental HEalth Guidelines for Advanced Practice Nurses	Marshall, B., Bliss, J., & Drake,S.	9780826180513
Required	Learning Supportive psychotherapy: An illustrated guide	Winston, A., Rosenthal, R. & Pinsker, H. (2012)	978-1615372348

Other Course Materials

To go to the bookstore, **click here (https://www.bkstr.com/texasaminternationalstore/home)**. **(https://www.bkstr.com/texasaminternationalstore/home/).**

Symptom Media's DSM-5-TR Guided Film Library *(in books included -pending assignment).*

Apea.com *(in books included - pending assignments.*

Other resources: Additional readings or website exploration will be listed in the online module. Instructor online presentations (Power points, prezi, video lectures, etc...). The purpose of instructor online presentations is to introduce, enhance & supplement the course content.

Borrowed videos: (symptom edia, Films on demand, Osmosis.org, You tube, NEI global, etc...) The purpose of the borrowed films is to augment & supplement course content.

Grading Criteria

In determining the final course grade, the following scale is used in percentage value.

- Graduate students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or above to progress and graduate from the MSN program in the CNHS.

GRADE	PERCENTAGE
A	89.5 -100
B	79.5-89.5
C	75-79.45
F	Below 74

Grade Breakdown

ASSIGNMENT	VALUE
Participation (Discussion Forums, training modules, Quizzes, genogram, case studies)	25%
APEA practice questions	5%
Exams (3) & Final -15% each	60%
Psychotherapy case presentation	10%
Total Percentage of Course	100%

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Agenda/Topic	Reading(s)	Due
6/1	Module 1	Theories and Concepts	6/7/2026
6/8	Module 2	Psychotherapy	6/14/2026
6/15	Module 3	Psychotherapy & Psychopharmacology EXAM I	6/21/2026
6/22	Module 4	Substance use Disorder	6/28/2026
6/29	Module 5	Genetics	7/5/2026
7/6	Module 6	Cardiovascular EXAM II	7/12/2026
7/13	Module 7	Endocrine	7/19/2026
7/20	Module 8	Trauma	7/26/2026
7/27	Module 9	Anxiety	8/2/2026
8/3		Psychotherapy case presentation Comprehensive Final Exam TBD	8/8/2026

University/College Policies

Please see the University Policies below.

COVID-19 Related Policies

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, please refer to the Student Handbook, Appendix A (Attendance Rule) for instructions.

Required Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend every class in person (or virtually, if the class is online) and to complete all assignments. If you cannot attend class, it is your responsibility to communicate absences with your professors. The faculty member will decide if your excuse is valid and thus may provide lecture materials of the class. According to University policy, acceptable reasons for an absence, which cannot affect a student's grade, include:

- Participation in an authorized University activity.
- Death or major illness in a student's immediate family.
- Illness of a dependent family member.
- Participation in legal proceedings or administrative procedures that require a student's presence.
- Religious holy day.
- Illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class.
- Required participation in military duties.
- Mandatory admission interviews for professional or graduate school which cannot be rescheduled.

Students are responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to faculty members within seven calendar days of their absence and return to class. They must substantiate the reason for the absence. If the absence is excused, faculty members must either provide students with the opportunity to make up the exam or other work missed, or provide a satisfactory alternative to complete the exam or other work missed within 30 calendar days from the date of absence. Students who miss class due to a University-sponsored activity are responsible for identifying their absences to their instructors with as much advance notice as possible.

Classroom Behavior (applies to online or Face-to-Face Classes)

In the classroom, students are expected to listen attentively, participate respectfully, and adhere to established rules. Behavior that interferes with the class lecture may result in disciplinary action, ensuring a productive and respectful learning environment for everyone. Any disputes over academic matters should be addressed calmly and constructively, ideally during designated times such as office hours or after class. If a student does not agree with a decision, they can request a meeting with the instructor to discuss their concerns in more detail. Should further resolution be needed, the student may escalate the matter to the department head or use formal grievance procedures as outlined in the sections below. (please refer to Student Handbook Article 4 (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/article-04.shtml)).

TAMIU Honor Code: Plagiarism and Cheating

As a TAMIU student, you are bound by the TAMIU Honor Code to conduct yourself ethically in all your activities as a TAMIU student and to report violations of the Honor Code. Please read carefully the Student Handbook Article 7 and Article 10 available at Student Handbook (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/index.shtml).

We are committed to strict enforcement of the Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code tend to involve claiming work that is not one's own, most commonly plagiarism in written assignments and any form of cheating on exams and other types of assignments.

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's work as your own. It occurs when you:

1. Borrow someone else's facts, ideas, or opinions and put them entirely in your own words. You must acknowledge that these thoughts are not your own by immediately citing the source in your paper. Failure to do this is plagiarism.
2. Borrow someone else's words (short phrases, clauses, or sentences), you must enclose the copied words in quotation marks as well as citing the source. Failure to do this is plagiarism.
3. Present someone else's paper or exam (stolen, borrowed, or bought) as your own. You have committed a clearly intentional form of intellectual theft and have put your academic future in jeopardy. This is the worst form of plagiarism.

Here is another explanation from the 2020, seventh edition of the Manual of The American Psychological Association (APA):

"Plagiarism is the act of presenting the words, idea, or images of another as your own; it denies authors or creators of content the credit they are due. Whether deliberate or unintentional, plagiarism violates ethical standards in scholarship" (p. 254). This same principle applies to the illicit use of AI.

Plagiarism: Researchers do not claim the words and ideas of another as their own; they give credit where credit is due. Quotations marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author (i.e., summarize a passage or rearrange the order of a sentence and change some of the words), you need to credit the source in the text. The key element of this principle is that authors do not present the work of another as if it were their own words. This can extend to ideas as well as written words. If authors model a study after one done by someone else, the originating author should be given credit. If the rationale for a study was suggested in the discussion section of someone else's article, the person should be given credit. Given the free exchange of ideas, which is very important for the health of intellectual discourse, authors may not know where an idea for a study originated. If authors do know, however, they should acknowledge the source; this includes personal communications (p. 11). For guidance on proper documentation, consult the Academic Success Center or a recommended guide to documentation and research such as the Manual of the APA or the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. If you still have doubts concerning proper documentation, seek advice from your instructor prior to submitting a final draft.

TAMIU has penalties for plagiarism and cheating.

- **Penalties for Plagiarism**: Should a faculty member discover that a student has committed plagiarism, the student should receive a grade of 'F' in that course and the matter will be referred to the Honor Council for possible disciplinary action. The faculty member, however, may elect to give freshmen and sophomore students a "zero" for the assignment and to allow them to revise the assignment up to a grade of "F" (50%) if they believe that the student plagiarized out of ignorance or carelessness and not out of an attempt to deceive in order to earn an unmerited grade; the instructor must still report the offense to the Honor Council. This option should not be available to juniors, seniors, or graduate students, who cannot reasonably claim ignorance of documentation rules as an excuse. For repeat offenders in undergraduate courses or for an offender in any graduate course, the penalty for plagiarism is likely to include suspension or expulsion from the university.
  - *Caution*: Be very careful what you upload to Turnitin or send to your professor for evaluation. Whatever you upload for evaluation will be considered your final, approved draft. If it is plagiarized, you will be held responsible. The excuse that "it was only a draft" will not be accepted.
  - *Caution*: Also, do not share your electronic files with others. If you do, you are responsible for the possible consequences. If another student takes your file of a paper and changes the name to his or her name and submits it and you also submit the paper, we will hold both of you responsible for plagiarism. It is impossible for us to know with certainty who wrote the paper and who stole it. And, of course, we cannot know if there was collusion between you and the other student in the matter.
- **Penalties for Cheating**: Should a faculty member discover a student cheating on an exam or quiz or other class project, the student should receive a "zero" for the assignment and not be allowed to make the assignment up. The incident should be reported to the chair of the department and to the Honor Council. If the cheating is extensive, however, or if the assignment constitutes a major grade for the course (e.g., a final exam), or if the student has cheated in the past, the student should receive an "F" in the course, and the matter should be referred to the Honor Council. Additional penalties, including suspension or expulsion from the university may be imposed. Under no circumstances should a student who deserves an "F" in the course be allowed to withdraw from the course with a "W."
  - *Caution*: Chat groups that start off as "study groups" can easily devolve into "cheating groups." Be very careful not to join or remain any chat group if it begins to discuss specific information about exams or assignments that are meant to require individual work. If you are a member of such a group and it begins to cheat, you will be held responsible along with all the other members of the group. The TAMIU Honor Code requires that you report any such instances of cheating.
- **Student Right of Appeal**: Faculty will notify students immediately via the student's TAMIU e- mail account that they have submitted plagiarized work. Students have the right to appeal a faculty member's charge of academic dishonesty by notifying the TAMIU Honor Council of their intent to appeal as long as the notification of appeal comes within 10 business days of the faculty member's e-mail message to the student and/or the Office of Student Conduct and Community Engagement. The Student Handbook provides more details.

Use of Work in Two or More Courses

You may not submit work completed in one course for a grade in a second course unless you receive explicit permission to do so by the instructor of the second course. In general, you should get credit for a work product only once.

AI Policies

Your instructor will provide you with their personal policy on the use of AI in the classroom setting and associated coursework.

TAMIU E-Mail and SafeZone

Personal Announcements sent to students through TAMIU E-mail (tamiu.edu or dusty email) are the official means of communicating course and university business with students and faculty –not the U.S. Mail and no other e-mail addresses. Students and faculty must check their TAMIU e-mail accounts regularly, if not daily. Not having seen an important TAMIU e-mail or message from a faculty member, chair, or dean is not accepted as an excuse for failure to take important action.

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to download the SafeZone app, which is a free mobile app for all University faculty, staff, and students. SafeZone allows you to: report safety concerns (24/7), get connected with mental health professionals, activate location sharing with authorities, and anonymously report incidents. Go to SafeZone (https://www.tamiu.edu/adminis/police/safezone/index.shtml) for more information.

Copyright Restrictions

The Copyright Act of 1976 grants to copyright owners the exclusive right to reproduce their works and distribute copies of their work. Works that receive copyright protection include published works such as a textbook. Copying a textbook without permission from the owner of the copyright may constitute copyright infringement. Civil and criminal penalties may be assessed for copyright infringement. Civil penalties include damages up to $100,000; criminal penalties include a fine up to $250,000 and imprisonment. Copyright laws do not allow students and professors to make photocopies of copyrighted materials, but you may copy a limited portion of a work, such as article from a journal or a chapter from a book for your own personal academic use or, in the case of a professor, for personal, limited classroom use. In general, the extent of your copying should not suggest that the purpose or the effect of your copying is to avoid paying for the materials. And, of course, you may not sell these copies for a profit. Thus, students who copy textbooks to avoid buying them or professors who provide photocopies of textbooks to enable students to save money are violating the law.

Students with Disabilities

Texas A&M International University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal education opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Office of Disability Services for Students located in Student Center 124. This office will contact the faculty member to recommend specific, reasonable accommodations. Faculty are prohibited from making accommodations based solely on communications from students. They may make accommodations only when provided documentation by the Office of Disability Services for Students.

For accommodations or assistance with disabilities, contact the Disability Coordinator, Karla Pedraza, at karla.pedraza@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2763, or visit Student Center 124.

Student Attendance and Leave of Absence (LOA) Policy

As part of our efforts to assist and encourage all students towards graduation, TAMIU provides
LOA's for students, including pregnant/parenting students, in accordance with the Attendance Rule (Section 3.07) and the Student LOA Rule (Section 3.08), which includes the "Leave of Absence Request" form. Both rules can be found in the TAMIU Student Handbook (URL: Student Handbook (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/index.shtml)).

Pregnant and Parenting Students

Under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, harassment based on sex, including harassment because of pregnancy or related conditions, is prohibited. A pregnant/parenting student must be granted an absence for as long as the student's physician deems the absence medically necessary. It is a violation of Title IX to ask for documentation relative to the pregnant/parenting student's status beyond what would be required for other medical conditions. Students who experience or observe alleged or suspected discrimination due to their pregnant/parenting status, should report to the TAMIU Title IX Coordinator (Lorissa M. Cortez, 5201 University Boulevard, KLM 159B, Laredo, TX 78041, TitleIX@tamiu.edu, 956.326.2857) and/or the Office of Civil Rights (Dallas Office, U.S. Department of Education, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620, Dallas, TX 75201-6810, 214.661.9600). You can also report it on TAMIU's anonymous electronic reporting site, *Report It*, at https://www.tamiu.edu/reportit (https://www.tamiu.edu/reportit/index.shtml).

TAMIU advises a pregnant/parenting student to notify their professor once the student is aware that accommodations for such will be necessary. It is recommended that the student and professor develop a reasonable plan for the student's completion of missed coursework or assignments. The Office of Compliance (Lorissa M. Cortez, lorissam.cortez@tamiu.edu) can assist the student and professor in working out the reasonable accommodation. For other questions or concerns regarding Title IX compliance related to pregnant/parenting students, contact the Title IX Coordinator. In the event that a student needs a leave of absence for a substantial period of time, TAMIU urges the student to consider a Leave of Absence (LOA) as outlined in the TAMIU *Student Handbook*.#As part of our efforts to assist and encourage all students towards graduation, TAMIU provides LOAs for students, including pregnant/parenting students, in accordance with the Attendance Rule and the Student LOA Rule.#Both rules can be found in the TAMIU *Student Handbook*.

For parenting-related rights, accommodations, and resources, contact the Parenting Liaison, Mayra Hernandez, at mghernandez@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2265, or visit Student Center 226.

For pregnancy-related rights, accommodations, and resources, contact the TIX Coordinator, Lorissa Cortez, at lorissaM.cortez@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2857, or visit Killam Library 159.

Anti-Discrimination/Title IX

TAMIU does not discriminate or permit harassment against any individual on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, educational programs, or employment. If you would like to file a complaint relative to Title IX or any civil rights violation, please contact the TAMIU Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity/Title IX Coordinator, Lorissa M. Cortez, 5201 University Boulevard, Killam Library 159B, Laredo, TX 78041, TitleIX@tamiu.edu, 956.326.2857, via the anonymous electronic reporting website, ReportIt (https://

www.tamiu.edu/reportit) and/or the Office of Civil Rights (Dallas Office), U.S. Department of Education, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620, Dallas, TX 75201-6810, 214.661.9600.

Incompletes

Students who are unable to complete a course should withdraw from the course before the final date for withdrawal and receive a "W." To qualify for an "incomplete" and thus have the opportunity to complete the course at a later date, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must have completed 90% of the course work assigned before the final date for withdrawing from a course with a "W", and the student must be passing the course;
2. The student cannot complete the course because an accident, an illness, or a traumatic personal or family event occurred after the final date for withdrawal from a course;
3. The student must sign an "Incomplete Grade Contract" and secure signatures of approval from the professor and the college dean.
4. The student must agree to complete the missing course work before the end of the next long semester; failure to meet this deadline will cause the "I" to automatically be converted to an "F"; extensions to this deadline may be granted by the dean of the college. This is the general policy regarding the circumstances under which an "incomplete" may be granted, but under exceptional circumstances, a student may receive an incomplete who does not meet all of the criteria above if the faculty member, department chair, and dean recommend it.

WIN Contracts

The Department of Biology and Chemistry does not permit WIN contracts. For other departments within the college, WIN Contracts are offered only under exceptional circumstances and are limited to graduating seniors. Only courses offered by full-time TAMIU faculty or TAMIU instructors are eligible to be contracted for the WIN requirement. However, a WIN contract for a course taught by an adjunct may be approved, with special permission from the department chair and dean. Students must seek approval before beginning any work for the WIN Contract. No student will contract more than one course per semester. Summer WIN Contracts must continue through both summer sessions.

Student Responsibility for Dropping a Course

It is the responsibility of the student to drop the course before the final date for withdrawal from a course. Faculty members, in fact, may not drop a student from a course without getting the approval of their department chair and dean.

Independent Study Course

Independent Study (IS) courses are offered only under exceptional circumstances. Required courses intended to build academic skills may not be taken as IS (e.g., clinical supervision and internships). No student will take more than one IS course per semester. Moreover, IS courses are limited to seniors and graduate students. Summer IS course must continue through both summer sessions.

Grade Changes & Appeals

Faculty are authorized to change final grades only when they have committed a computational error or an error in recording a grade, and they must receive the approval of their department chairs and the dean to change the grade. As part of that approval, they must attach a detailed explanation of the reason for the mistake. Only in rare cases would another reason be entertained as legitimate for a grade change. A student who is unhappy with his or her grade on an assignment must discuss the situation with the faculty member teaching the course. If students believe that they have been graded unfairly, they have the right to appeal the grade using a grade appeal process in the Student Handbook and in the Faculty Handbook.

Final Examination

All courses in all colleges must include a comprehensive exam or performance and be given on the date and time specified by the Academic Calendar and the Final Exam schedule published by the Registrar's Office. In the College of Arts & Sciences all final exams must contain a written component. The written component should comprise at least 20% of the final exam grade. Exceptions to this policy must receive the approval of the department chair and the dean at the beginning of the semester.

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it. The Telus app is available to download directly from TELUS (tamiu.edu) (https://www.tamiu.edu/counseling/telus/) or from the Apple App Store and Google Play.

Distance Education Courses

Online Courses and On-Campus Meetings

Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Title 19, Part 1, Chapter 2, Subchapter J, Section 2.202 (https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=19&pt=1&ch=2&rl=202), defines distance education as the formal educational

process that occurs when students and instructors are not in the same physical setting for the majority (more than 50%) of instruction. Distance education includes hybrid and 100% online courses and programs as defined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB):

- **Hybrid Course** - A distance education course in which more than 50 percent but less than 100 percent of instructional activity takes place when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations.
- **100-Percent Online Course** - A distance education course in which 100 percent of instructional activity takes place when the student(s) and instructor(s) are in separate physical locations. **Requirements for on-campus or in-person orientation, testing, academic support services, internships/fieldwork, or other non-instructional activities do not exclude a course from this category.**

In this online course, there will be two synchronous meetings required: one at midterm & one at end of the semester. Dates to be announced.

Course Structure

The course is divided into 14 module areas by weeks. Begin by reviewing the objectives for each module. Then, the student may approach the readings &/or video for each topic lesson in the module for each week. Complete the readings, activities & assignments for each week. Students will be accountable to participate weekly in discussions in a scholarly ongoing manner with other students in the course. The Power Point lectures and videos will contain information relevant to the topics listed on the reading list. Review both each week before starting the written or verbal discussion preparations. There will be some online activities, quizzes, reflection papers, discussion forums, case studies. These assignments are intended to evaluate your learning as you progress through the course.

The discussion forum for each module will contain questions related to the module topic. Weekly discussion modules will be opened on Monday. The initial scholarly post is due on Friday at 11:00 pm but can be submitted before due date. Be sure to complete the weekly response to discussion thread posts by no later than 11:00 p.m. of each Sunday evening. Final response posts will be accepted by Tuesday after the week is completed. A 5% deduction for posts turned in after the due date will be assessed. (Refer to rubric for discussion forum). Use current evidenced based articles from the TAMIU online library or google scholar to support & cite your responses.

Each student is expected to become familiar with the assigned articles and books and other evidence-based literature pertinent to this course. The course readings and textbooks will provide a foundation for selecting literature of interest to the student. Readings from the public domain will be posted directly or linked to the Blackboard website.

Course Expectations:

Class and Online Participation will be evaluated regarding the extent to which the student:

1. Extracts meaningful concepts from literature & completes the assigned readings & activities for each module.
2. Attaches significance to concepts studied and considers application of these concepts in care of persons experiencing mental disorders, other stress or adaptive dysfunction while completing written work.
3. Seeks validation for interpretation and adequacy of data from research, literature, faculty and peers.
4. Presents understandings of relationships between theory and practice in psychiatric mental health nursing and in the psychosocial treatment of mental and physical disorders.
5. Assumes major responsibility for achieving knowledge appropriate to class participation.
6. Examines attitudes, values, and beliefs which determine his/her philosophy of psychiatric/mental health nursing.
7. Complete discussion forums, written assignments using reputable evidence-based resources & citations consistent with the guidelines/rubric that are presented for each assignment using APA format guidelines (7th edition) or Owl Pardue APA formatting and style guide ih (owl.purdue.edu).
8. Use reputable evidence-based resources (within past 5 years), health care websites, journals through the TAMIU library, google scholar for information and class assignments (e. sites with Health-on-the Net [HON] approval). Note: Wikipedia is not considered a primary source and any information obtained from Wikipedia needs to be verified using other sources.
9. Any written work that is posted on Blackboard should reflect the student's ideas related to readings or other student posts, **not AI generated.** All posts should be courteous and respectful of the other class members.
10. Submit written work electronically to the Drop Box and the on-line discussions as .doc, docx or .pdf files. Do not use alternate file formats without checking with the instructor to ensure that the files can be opened.
11. Preparation for course exams is based on content from objectives, readings, presentations & module activities.

Instructions for the Psychotherapy presentation: After selecting a psychotherapy, the student will present a power point case presentation on the selected psychotherapy. After the oral or voicethread presentation, the student will submit the Psychotherapy power point case presentation in the designated dropbox on the designated due date. Students will select a psychotherapy from a list to analyze, & present based on the rubric criteria. Students may be assigned to groups by the faculty. If there are groups, assignments will be submitted by one student in each group. Alternative forms of submission will not be accepted.

Written assignments (Written Case Studies, Quizes & DSM5-Tr videos, Written Reflective Journals ...must be submitted by the designated time on the due date online.

Discussion Forums: Discussion board requires initial scholarly post & two response posts to other student on a question based on the module readings. I will respond to posts in content-related discussions when learners post something particularly interesting, and when learners post something incorrect that needs correction.

The discussion board section will have a "Frequently Asked Questions" type of forum where learners can post general questions & answers about the course. You can expect a response from me within 24 – 48 hours. Also, I will respond to posts in content-related discussions when learners post something particularly interesting, and when learners post something incorrect that needs correction.

Also, students are expected to participate in the discussion forum assignments on the course content using peer reviewed evidence-based research articles within the past 5 years.

Student-Instructor Communication Policy and Response Time

Announcements/Course Messages/Emails

Announcements that include reminders and information pertinent to the course will be posted weekly and as a needed basis. Typically, an email response can be expected within 24 - 48 hours, Monday - Friday (except holidays & weekends). Check your emails daily as there may be some changes in the course. There will be a Question/Comment discussion board where students are encouraged to ask about anything that may be confusing or need clarification.

Regularly scheduled virtual office hours via Blackboard virtual space will be on Tuesday from 4 pm-7 pm or Wednesday 3 -6 pm. central time. If another time is needed, send an email with your request & 2 available date & times. You can contact me by phone (956-326-2458) during these hours. You can expect to receive a return phone call within 24- 48 hours.

Assignments and Assessments Assignment and assessment turnaround time for feedback will be within 7 days but may vary depending on the type of assignment. Some assignments may receive summary feedback. Depending on the assignment, grades will be posted once the quiz, exam or paper has been graded

Course Communication Guidelines (Netiquette)

There are course expectations concerning etiquette or how we should treat each other online. We must consider these values as we communicate with one another. Visit **Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services' web page on Netiquette (http://www.tamiu.edu/distance/students/netiquette.shtml)** for further instruction.

Accommodations/Accessibility Policy

Texas A&M International University seeks to provide reasonable accommodation for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Director of Student Counseling and to contact the faculty member in a timely fashion to arrange for suitable accommodation. For more information, contact the online at **Office of Disability Services for Students (DSS)**, via phone at 956.326.3086 or by visiting the staff at the Student Center, room 118. A link to the Disabilities Services for Students site has also been included under the "Resources" tab inside the course.

Student Support Resources

The University wishes to have all students succeed in their courses. To provide support to our students, an array of services in the areas of technology support, academic support, student support, and accessibility support may be found at the University. For more information, visit the Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services page on **University Resources and Support Services**.

Computer/Technology Requirements

When participating in distance education courses, it is vital to consider the technology involved in order to have a successful course. Online students will need regular access to a personal computer that runs on a broadband Internet connection.

It is recommended that you meet the technical requirements listed on the Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services' webpage (https://www.tamiu.edu/distance/students/technology-requirements.shtml) when using the learning management system (LMS) of the University.

Additional Hardware. For this class, you will need the following additional hardware:**a webcam and microphone for VoiceThread discussions.** Recently purchased laptops may have these built-in web cameras. If you do not have this equipment, it is recommended to purchase a stand-alone webcam, microphone, or a webcam with a built-in microphone from your local electronic store or any online store.

NOTE: Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services may check out available webcams to students on a first-come, first-served basis. To check out a webcam, please stop by Killam Library, Room 259, and request an available webcam.

Additional Software. You will need the following additional software: ***[list any additional software required here. Additionally, and if applicable, you may use the following statement:]*** TAMIU Students may access online versions of this software through their Dusty Office 365 account at **https://**

dusty.tamiu.edu/. This site also provides students access to download the Microsoft suite for educational use. **See instructions for downloading the Microsoft Office suite**.

Note: Students, if you do not own the required hardware or software or do not have access to the Internet, it will be highly challenging for you to make any progress in this class. However, my goal is to assist you in finding solutions and guide you appropriately most of the required materials can either be found free of charge at TAMIU's library, classrooms, and available computer labs. **Visit Media Services' web page on the availability of on-campus computer labs.** In addition, you may also purchase any of these items at any electronic store.

Learning Management System (Blackboard)

Students are provided with an orientation (*eLearning (Blackboard) Student Orientation*) and access to guides on how to use the Blackboard LMS. Guides may be available at **Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services' Student eLearning Tutorial Videos page** or by contacting the eLearning team at **elearning@tamiu.edu**.

Minimum Technical Skills Expected

When participating in distance education courses, it is vital to consider the technology involved in order to have a successful course. Students in distance education should have knowledge of basic computer and Internet skills, as mentioned on the **Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services' webpage**.

Technical Support Services

Because of the nature of distance education courses, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) computing and information services are vital to the success of online students. This webpage covers contact information for Distance Education Services (Blackboard Support), the OIT Help Desk, and E-mail support: **Technical Support Services**.

Web Conferences/Synchronous sessions

There will be a synchronous session for orientation, mid-semester session & psychotherapy presentation at end of the course.

Rubrics

Each assignment will have a rubric to be used for grading criteria. The rubric will provide an understanding of how you will be assessed on the assignments. The rubrics will be located along with the assignment instructions in the assignment folder in Blackboard.

Late Work Policy

Papers that are not submitted by the designated time on the due date in the designated manner will receive the following deductions: 5% the first day late, l0% for the second day late. All subsequent submissions will be graded "0" for the assignment.

In the event of an emergency situation, in which a written assignment cannot be submitted by the due date in the designated manner, the student may petition the professor for consideration of an extension. All petitions must be in writing (e-mail is acceptable). The student must petition the professor prior to the assignment due date. All petitions must be received no later than 5:00pm the day prior to the due date of the assignment.

Student challenges: Any student having questions regarding assignments, exams, papers or course grade, must schedule an appointment to see the lead faculty to review the matter no later than TWO DAYS after grade is received. Open communication between students and course faculty is highly encouraged. Students are highly encouraged to seek assistance from the faculty.

Course Evaluation

At the end of this course, students are encouraged to complete a course evaluation that will be distributed to them via email and through a course link.

Proctoring

This course requires the use of LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor (webcam) for online exams. There is a $15 fee for the webcam feature that's used with LockDown Browser (sometimes referred to as Respondus Monitor). This is a one-time fee, valid for 12 months (365 days) for all courses or exams that use Respondus Monitor. You will be prompted to make the purchase the first time an exam requires the use of LockDown Browser's webcam feature. Payment can be made with PayPal, Visa or Mastercard. Further information located in Blackboard ultra.

Guidelines

When taking an online exam that requires LockDown Browser and a webcam, remember the following guidelines:

- Select a location where you won't be interrupted
- Before starting the test, know how much time is available for it, and also that you've allotted sufficient time to complete it
- Turn off all other devices (e.g. tablets, phones, second computers)
- Clear your area of all external materials - books, papers, other devices
- Remain at your computer for the duration of the test

- To produce a good webcam video, do the following:
  - Avoid wearing baseball caps or hats with brims
  - Ensure your computer or tablet is on a firm surface (a desk or table) - not on your lap, a bed, or other surface that might move
  - If using a built-in webcam, avoid tilting the screen after the webcam setup is complete
  - Take the exam in a well-lit room and avoid backlighting, such as sitting with your back to a window

LockDown Browser will prevent you from accessing other websites or applications; you will be unable to exit the test until all questions are completed and submitted.

Getting Help

Several resources are available if you encounter problems with LockDown Browser.

- The Windows and Mac versions of LockDown Browser have a "Help Center" button located on the toolbar. Use the "System & Network Check" to troubleshoot issues.
- If you have problems downloading, installing, or taking a test with Respondus LockDown Browser, email the TAMIU elearning Team at elearning@tamiu.edu. (elearning@tamiu.edu)

Accessibility and Privacy Statements on Course Technologies

At Texas A&M International University, we believe that all students should have equal technology opportunities in the classroom. These technologies/sites may also require user data, such as the creation of a username and password. You may find the accessibility and privacy policies of the technologies used in this class on the following pages: **Accessibility Statements and Privacy Statements**.

In this class, we will utilize: voice thread recordings or other recording format available through blackboard.

Syllabus Subject to Change

While information and assurances are provided in this course syllabus, it should be understood that content may change in keeping with new research and literature and that events beyond the control of the instructor could occur. Students will be informed of any substantive occurrences that will produce syllabus changes.