



NORTHEAST TEXAS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

VNSG 2160- Clinical-Mental Health Nursing

Course Syllabus: Spring 2026

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”

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Weekday	Office Hours
Monday	By appointment
Tuesday	Clinical Day
Wednesday	Clinical Day
Thursday	Clinical Day
Friday	By appointment

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Weekday	Office Hours
Monday	By appointment
Tuesday	Clinical day
Wednesday	Clinical day
Thursday	Clinical day
Friday	By appointment

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description:

A health-related work-based learning experience that enables the student to apply specialized occupational theory, skills, and concepts. Direct supervision is provided by the clinical professional.

Prerequisite(s):

Mandatory co-requisite: VNSG 1238- Mental Health Nursing

Pre-requisite: Completion of the second semester of the Vocational Nursing Program.

Course Learning Outcomes:

1. As outlined in the learning plan, apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, tools, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic,

environmental, social, and legal systems associated with the occupation and the industry.

2. Demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, interpersonal and teamwork skills, and appropriate written and verbal communication skills using the terminology of the occupation and the business/industry

Evaluation/Grading Policy:

The breakdown of the course requirements is as follows:

%	Requirement
40%	Discussion Boards/Assignments
40%	Mental Health Journey Assignment
20%	MMSE assignment

Semester grades will be earned as follows

Percentage	Letter Grade
90% and above	A
80 %–89.99%	B
78 %–79.99%	C
77.9% and below	F

Students must maintain a minimum exam average of 78% to be eligible to sit for the final exam. All exam grades, including the final exam, must average 78% or higher before the final course grade is calculated. Grades will not be rounded when calculating averages (77.5–77.9 will not round to 78%).

Posting of grades: Exam grades will be posted within 72 hours of the exam, and assignment grades within 7 calendar days of when the student turned in the assignment.

Late work will be graded, and 10 points will be deducted for each day the assignment is late, up to 3 days. After the third day, the grade will remain a zero; however, all assignments are required to be completed in order to proceed to the next level of the program.

Required Instructional Materials:

Publisher: Videbeck, S.L. (2025). Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing (10th edition). Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins

ISBN Number: 978-1-975-23915-2

Publisher: ATI PN Mental Health Nursing Edition 12.0

ISBN Number: 1565332628

Optional Instructional Materials:

Nursing Drug Handbook

Minimum Technology Requirements:

Students must have a working knowledge of Microsoft applications and email. They should be able to upload and download documents, submit assignments through the Blackboard Learning System, and participate in discussion postings. Additional technology skills may be required at the discretion of the course instructor.

Minimum System Requirements:

Windows 24

- Operating System: 64-bit versions of Windows 10 or Windows 11
- Not Supported: Windows RT and Windows 10/11 S
- RAM: 8GB of usable RAM or higher
- Hard Drive: 8GB or higher available space

MacOS

- Operating System: macOS Ventura, Sonoma, or Sequoia
- Only genuine versions of macOS are supported
- Recommended: Use the same operating system version as your most recent successful mock exam
- CPU: Intel or M series processor
- RAM: 8GB or higher
- Hard Drive: 8GB or higher available space

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

Computer requirements:

Minimum Technology Requirements: Students are required to have access to a working laptop computer with at least 2 GB of free space for use during class sessions and for online testing. Tablets and “Chromebook” computers are not compatible with testing platforms and are not recommended. Students are also required to have access to internet service and not rely on “hot spot” internet, as this is also not compatible with the testing platforms used.

Minimum Technology Requirements:

- Daily high-speed internet access
- Microsoft Word
- Power point

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

- Word Processing skills
- Email skills

Course Structure and Overview:

The Mental Health Nursing clinical experience aims to help students apply classroom knowledge to real-world psychiatric and behavioral health settings while developing skills in therapeutic communication, clinical judgment, professionalism, and safe nursing practices. During the rotation, students may engage in various activities such as inpatient psychiatric care, community mental health programs, SIM lab exercises, group therapy, patient interactions, medication observation, safety assessments, and interdisciplinary teamwork. The focus is on recognizing mental health disorders, ensuring patient safety, employing therapeutic communication techniques, and supporting recovery-oriented care.

Clinical assignments are designed to enhance critical thinking, self-awareness, and communication skills while linking theory to practice. Students are expected to uphold professionalism, confidentiality, and respectful, nonjudgmental interactions with clients, peers, staff, and instructors. The main goal of mental health clinicals is to prepare students to deliver compassionate, safe, and therapeutic nursing care to clients facing mental health challenges across various healthcare settings. As outlined in the learning plan, students should apply relevant theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized tools, materials, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and across political, economic, environmental, social, and legal systems related to the field. They should demonstrate legal and ethical conduct, safety practices, interpersonal and teamwork skills, and maintain effective written and verbal communication using industry-specific terminology.

Communications:

The student is expected to communicate with classmates, instructors, various campus and clinical personnel and campus administration in a professional and respectful manner, upholding the highest degree of consideration and ethical practice in an effort to mirror expectations of the profession of nursing.

Email: The student is required to utilize their NTCC-provided student email account for all formal written communication. Please check your NTCC email every day. Email is the official form of communication used at NTCC. All emailed questions to the instructor will be responded to within 24 hours, but usually within a few hours when possible.

Teams messaging notifications: Communication with the instructor through Teams messaging is permissible during daytime hours. Instructors will respond within 24 hours, but usually within a few hours when possible.

Institutional/Course Policy:

Please refer to the Vocational Nursing Student Handbook for policies on attendance, tardiness, HIPAA, social media, withdrawals, communication, ethical practice, professionalism, conduct, etc. Those policies are an extension of this course's requirements and effectively become enforceable under this syllabus as such.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to altered operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

Statement Regarding the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technology:

Employees and students shall be permitted to explore artificial intelligence (AI) and implement its use in and out of the classroom in accordance with policy and administrative regulations. The use of AI shall only be as a support tool to enhance student outcomes or as necessary to engage in research and shall never take the place of faculty, staff, and student decision-making. Any use of AI must comply with law, policy, and administrative regulations relating to student and employee privacy and data security. A student shall only use AI tools with faculty permission and shall be expected to produce original work and properly credit sources, including AI tools used in creating the work.

Example:

APA (7th edition)

OpenAI. (2026). ChatGPT (March 25 version) [Large language model]. <https://chat.openai.com/>

MLA (9th edition)

OpenAI. ChatGPT. 25 Mar. 2026, <https://chat.openai.com/>.

Employees or students who use AI tools to deceptively harm, bully, or harass others shall be disciplined in accordance with policy. [See DH, DIA series, FFD series, FFE, FLB, and the FM series] AI Use by Employees and Students. Northeast Texas Community College 225500 TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES CRB ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (LOCAL) DATE ISSUED: 12/8/2025 1 of 1 UPDATE 50 CRB(LOCAL)-AJC Adopted: 12/16/2025

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodation as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodation. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Tentative Course Schedule:

Mental Health clinicals will meet three days per week for most of the semester to provide students with consistent hands-on learning experiences across a variety of behavioral health settings. These clinical experiences are designed to help students strengthen therapeutic communication, clinical judgment, patient safety awareness, and professionalism while caring for clients experiencing mental health disorders. Students are expected to actively participate in all clinical activities, complete required assignments, and demonstrate respectful, compassionate, and professional behavior throughout the rotation.