

PTEC-93: PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE FOR PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS 3

Effective Term

Fall 2025

CC Approval

03/07/2025

AS Approval

03/13/2025

BOT Approval

03/20/2025

COCI Approval

05/15/2025

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Psychiatric Technician

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Psychiatric Technician (Any Degree and Professional Experience)	

Subject Code

PTEC - Psychiatric Technician

Course Number

93

Department

Psychiatric Technician (PTEC)

Division

Health Occupations (HEOC)

Full Course Title

Principles & Practice for Psychiatric Technicians 3

Short Title

Prin & Pract Psych Tech 3

CB03 TOP Code

1239.00 - *Psychiatric Technician

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

C - Clearly Occupational

Rationale

Changed from 18 weeks to a 16-week semester course and PTEC regulations changed to comply with the Title IV Federal amendments.

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

A course designed to prepare the student to be eligible for licensure as a Psychiatric Technician in the State of California. Topics include: Role of Psychiatric Technician, Psychopharmacology, Mental Health Nursing I and II, Management of Assaultive Behaviors, Clients Rights, Psychophysiological, Neurotic and Psychotic Disorders, Group Therapy, Crisis Intervention, Suicide, Substance Abuse, Domestic Violence, Personality Disorders, Eating Disorders, Mood Disorders, Organic Mental Syndrome and Leadership/Supervision.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade Only

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites

Prerequisite(s)

Completion of PTEC-91 and PTEC-92 with a minimum grade of C.
Required Health documents.

Requisite Justification

Requisite Description

Course in a Sequence

Subject

PTEC

Course

91

Level of Scrutiny

Content Review

Upon entering this course, students should be able to:

1. Complete a physical assessment.
2. Identify signs and symptoms of physical disorders
3. Develop a plan of care to meet the needs of the patient with a physical illness
4. Ability to give total patient care to the person with physical illness

This course is required and approved by the California Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians

Requisite Description

Course in a Sequence

Subject

PTEC

Course

92

Level of Scrutiny

Content Review

Upon entering this course, students should be able to:

1. Complete a physical assessment.
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SECTION D - Course Standards

Is this course variable unit?

No

Units

17

Lecture Hours

200

Lab Hours

318

Outside of Class Hours

400

Total Contact Hours

518

Total Student Hours

918

Distance Education Approval

Is this course offered through Distance Education?

No

SECTION E - Course Content

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Accurately perform and document basic nursing skills, basic physical and mental assessments and interventions while prioritizing patient care.
2. Ethically advocate for patients with mental illness, forensic concerns, and developmental disabilities in all settings, assuring patient's rights, privacy, dignity and confidentiality.
3. Develop leadership and supervision skills by applying leadership theories in the clinical site.
4. Communicate effectively and clearly (written and verbally) with the populations served, community members, classmates, instructors, and the interdisciplinary team.

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize the human being as an individual who is growing, who has physical and emotional needs, and who lives in a social context.
2. Evaluate the nature of the person with whom he is working as having alterations in psychosocial functioning.
3. Analyze deviant behavior including the biological, sociological and psychological factors which influence the functioning of the individual.
4. Develop an awareness of self and learn to evaluate the importance of his/her impact on others.

5. Develop a set of attitudes and to begin to practice skills, which are consistent with therapeutic interactions and interventions.
6. Operate as a contributing member of the mental health team.
7. Utilize theory-based knowledge for making judgments in the clinical setting.
8. Learn the various psychiatric medications, their trade and generic names, their use, therapeutic dosages, common side effects, life threatening side effects, and signs and symptoms of toxicity.
9. Identify various psychiatric diseases and their treatments.
10. Accurately perform and document basic nursing skills, including medication pass without error, basic physical and mental assessments and interventions while prioritizing patient care.
11. Effectively participate in a therapeutic environment and communicate in a professional and respectful manner.

Course Content

1. Introduction and Objectives
2. Role of the Psychiatric Technician
3. Psychopharmacology
4. Management of Assaultive Behaviors
5. Mental Health Nursing I and II
6. Clients' Rights
7. Patient Education
8. Stress, Coping, and Defense Mechanisms
9. Anxiety Disorders
10. Organic Mental Syndrome
11. Personality Disorders
12. Domestic Violence
13. Crisis Interventions/suicide
14. Mood Disorders
15. Sexual Disorders
16. Group Therapy
17. Substance Abuse
18. Eating Disorders
19. Leadership and Supervision
20. Behavioral Modification
21. Culturally Congruent Care
22. End-of-life Care
23. Ethics
24. Anatomy and Physiology
25. Nutrition
26. Psychology
27. Normal Growth and Development
28. Nursing Process
29. Communication (written and verbal)
30. Nursing Science

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	In group activity, students collaborate to solve simulated patient problems.
Discussion	Students are led in a mediated discussion and review of patient-specific issues.
Field Experience	Clinical experiences at various locations.
Lecture	Instructor relays information on a given subject
Other	Projects, online assignments via the Elsevier/Evolve LMS platform
Other	Virtual clinical experience via EVOLVE learning platform. Dynamic scenario-based learning for critical thinking and interactive skill building.
Workshop	

Observation and Demonstration	The instructor demonstrates a nursing skill practice- instructor assists students in practicing nursing skill return demonstration-students demonstrate skill for the instructor.
Group Work	Students collaborate in theory to address and understand various patient case studies, disease processes, and pharmacology.

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Performances	Objective testing, observation of clinical practice, individual interviews and counseling and consultation with agency personnel. Example 1. Clinical instructor will observe student pass medication to a patient with 100% accuracy. Example 2. Meet with unit supervisor and student once a week and review student progress in meeting clinical objectives.
Exams/Tests	Exams are once a week: pharmacology competency exam and weekly quizzes assigned via an educational platform.
Class Participation	Discussions during class on present and past content.
Projects	Collaborative work with case studies and presenting to class.
Skills Demonstration	Spontaneous clinical skills assessment for competency.
Homework	Students are prepared for class, bringing meaningful discussions and class to class.
Lab Activities	Skills performance
Essays/Papers	Regularly assigned assessment exams pertaining to course content.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

- Textbooks
- Scholarly Journals
- Patient records
- Nursing policy and procedure manual
- Evolve, Elsevier, Sherpath, and Shadowhealth

Writing Assignments

- Chapter objectives
- Various writing assignments using APA Format
- Journaling clinical experience of the day and observations of abnormal behaviors and interventions
- Various handouts
- Nursing care plans
- Solve pharmacology problems and read medication labels
- Transcribe doctor's orders
- Documentation to communicate with the collaborative treatment team
- Documentation of personal experiences
- Behavior modification plan
- Writing a sample Interdisciplinary Note (IDN)

Other Assignments

- Comprehensive case study/ patient presentation... written and oral
- Medication cards
- Interactive discussion on Canvas
- Virtual clinical experience via Evolve platform. Dynamic scenario-based learning for critical thinking and interactive skills building.
- Reading required textbook

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Halter, M.

Title

Foundations of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing

Edition/Version

9th

Publisher

Elsevier

Year

2025

Rationale

This is Sherpath Vantage. It provides digital access to lessons and videos.

ISBN #

9780443270055

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Halter Varcarolis

Title

Foundations of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing

Edition/Version

9th ed

Publisher

Elsevier

Year

2022

Rationale

Digital access to book that coincides with the other textbook for this course.

ISBN #

9780323876070

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Ogden

Title

Ogden Calculations of Drug Dosages

Edition/Version

12th ed

Publisher

Elsevier

Year

2023

Rationale

Online access for Calculations of drug dosages to provide a more interactive experience for the students

ISBN #

9780323879842

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Visovsky

Title

Introduction to Clinical Pharmacology

Edition/Version

11th ed

Publisher

Elsevier

Year

2025

Rationale

Online access to clinical pharmacology to provide a more interactive experience for the students

ISBN #

9780443268335

Course Codes (Admin Only)**ASSIST Update**

No

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

No

Only Pass/No Pass

No