

# Common Course Outline

PAST 214

Psychosocial Issues in Medicine I

2 Credits

## The Community College of Baltimore County

### Description

Psychosocial Issues in Medicine I

Covers psychological processes underlying human behavior in medical settings. Emphasizes the dynamics of the patient-health provider relationship, including communication skills, approaches to patients, working with special populations, cross-cultural communication, stress and disease, chronic illness, adherence, domestic violence, human sexuality issues, and death and dying.

### Overall Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate effective communication skills
- B. Identify and demonstrate approaches to patients who have or show:
  - 1. Depression
  - 2. Anxiety Disorders
  - 3. Paranoid/Suspicious Behavior
  - 4. Hostile/Angry Demeanor
  - 5. Dependency
  - 6. Somatization
  - 7. Silence
  - 8. Demanding Behavior
- C. Identify and demonstrate approaches to special populations of patients:
  - 1. Children
  - 2. Adolescents
  - 3. Elderly/Geriatric
  - 4. Gay/Lesbian
- D. Identify and demonstrate effective cross-cultural communication strategies.
- E. Identify interconnections between stress and disease.
- F. Identify and demonstrate basic stress reduction strategies.
- G. Identify and demonstrate interventions in life areas affected by chronic illness.
- H. Identify and demonstrate assessment and intervention approaches with domestic violence patients
- I. Identify factors related to compliance and non-compliance in treatment.
- J. Identify strategies to increase patient compliance with medical regimen.
- K. Identify range and diversity of human sexual practices and concerns.
- L. Identify approaches to assess sexual history and sexual dysfunctions.
- M. Identify issues relating to beliefs about death, dying, and grief.
- N. Identify and demonstrate approaches to dying patients and their families.
- O. Identify and demonstrate guidelines for requesting a psychiatric consult and a psychiatric referral.

## **Major Topics**

- A. Basic communication skills
- B. Approaches to patients
- C. Approaches to special populations
- D. Cross-cultural communication
- E. Stress and illness
- F. Effects of chronic illness
- G. Domestic violence
- H. Compliance and non-compliance in medical treatment
- I. Issues in human sexuality
- J. Death and dying

## **Course Requirements**

Methods of Evaluation:

- A. Written examinations
- B. Review of literature
- C. Journal abstracting
- D. Reaction papers

## **Other Course Information**

Methods of Instruction:

- A. Lecture and demonstration
- B. Video tapes
- C. Role playing