

**University of South Florida  
College of Nursing  
Undergraduate Program Course Syllabus**

**Course Number and Title:** NSP 3640  
**Introduction to Military and Veteran Health**

**Course Credit:** Three (3) Credits

**Instructor:** Alicia Rossiter, MSN, ARNP, PNP-BC, FNP  
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**Day/Time/Location:** Web-based  
Orientation – On line

**Course Description:**

This course will provide an introduction to the military/veteran culture and the healthcare needs and concerns related to this unique population.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Identify pertinent factors related to military service and culture that influenced policy evolution and health care delivery to the veteran population.
2. Examine veteran health concerns in regard to their commonality among veteran groups and their uniqueness to historical times of conflict.
3. Identify and explore the unique characteristics and dynamics of the military family.
4. Identify symptoms, etiology, and clinical presentation of veterans with PTSD.
5. Discuss practices or treatment modalities in treating veterans with PTSD.
6. Introduce students to the complexity of combat related injury, traumatic brain injury, and polytrauma rehabilitation.
7. Discuss the unique needs of patients and families dealing with polytrauma.
8. Identify the unique health care needs of women veterans.
9. Define Military Sexual Trauma (MST) and discuss how to identify and assist women who experienced MST.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Apply the knowledge gained regarding the unique healthcare needs of the veteran population into their nursing practice both in the veteran medical system as well as the general population.
2. Describe the continuum of care from battlefield/point of injury to home.
3. Recognize the dynamics of the military family and their role in the care of veterans.
4. Recognize the unique healthcare needs of women in the military.

## **Topical Outline:**

### **DEFINING THE VETERAN**

1. Definition of veteran
2. Military services and branches
3. Military demographics
4. Military culture

### **EVOLUTION OF THE VETERAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

1. Revolutionary War through OIF/OEF
2. Current Veteran health care system policy

### **VETERAN HEALTH CONCERNS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN**

1. Age specific population competencies
2. Conflict specific health care issues

### **THE MILITARY FAMILY**

1. Military family culture
2. The effects of deployment and reintegration on the military family
3. Resources for the military family

### **POLYTRAUMA**

1. Combat Injury
2. Evacuation
3. Levels of care
4. VA Polytrauma System of Care
5. Rehabilitation

### **PTSD**

1. PTSD: Overview
2. Impact of PTSD on veteran and family
3. Treatment modalities and practices used in treating veterans with PTSD

### **WOMEN VETERANS: A GROWING POPULATION WITH UNIQUE NEEDS**

1. Women in the military: Overview
2. Special health issues

### **MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA**

1. Military Sexual Trauma: overview
2. Health Issues related to MST
3. Combating MST

### **Course Expectations:**

This is a Web-Based Course available on Blackboard. It is necessary that you have access to a computer that has software access to PowerPoint or PowerPoint Reader and that you have an established HSC Email Account. Microsoft Word is the word processing program required by the University and is the format required for all written assignments submitted for a grade in this course. Blackboard 9: Firefox web browser is recommended as your browser. [www.Mozilla.com/firefox](http://www.Mozilla.com/firefox). You can also use I.E. 8 or Safari. If you need assistance, please contact Health IT. 813 - 974-6288.

It is expected that the learners will demonstrate initiative in seeking learning experiences that will enable them to achieve the course objectives. This includes reviewing all modules, reading required readings, participating in on-line discussions and completing all requirements by the assigned dates. Each student is responsible for notifying faculty if unable to meet any of these requirements

Faculty will be available by email, telephone and by appointment in the Tampa office. Email will be considered the communication method of choice. Please email with suggested dates and times for Tampa in-office appointments – confirmation will be sent. Phone appointments may also be arranged using the same email method. Emails will be reviewed daily Monday through Friday. If an email message requires a response, the student should receive that response within 48 hours. If the student has not received that response within the 48 hour time frame, please email again.

A general discussion board will be used to facilitate communication with and among faculty and students. This discussion board will also be reviewed Monday through Friday unless student notified otherwise.

### **Student Expectations:**

Assignments are due on or before the posted due date for summative evaluation. (Please check the class schedule for specific information and deadline dates). There will be no assignments for extra credit.

Submission of course materials: All course materials must be submitted through the assignment section of BlackBoard.

Return of course materials: Course materials will be returned in several ways: 1) they may be scanned and files attached to the assignment section 2) completed on line and file attached to the assignment section (where you submitted). Please be aware that this is an alternative method when there are time constraints. Papers will be retained for one month after completion of the semester after which they will be shredded.

### **Evaluation Methods:**

- Quiz
- Discussion boards
- Case studies
- Power point presentation
- Scholarly paper

**Grading Scale:**

A	93-100%
B	84-92%
C	75-83%
D	67-74%
F	66 and below

**Teaching Strategies:**

Web-based Lectures  
Blackboard Discussion  
Curriculum-based projects

**Mandatory Check-in Policy for Web-based Classes**

Students enrolled in web-based classes must check in by sending an email to the lead faculty confirming that you will be taking the course by Friday at 5 pm in the first week of the semester. Failure to do so will result in the student being dropped from the class.

**Withdrawal Policy**

Withdrawal Policy (approved Faculty Council 12/15/06; revised 1/19/07)

Withdrawals are limited to 1 per course, with a limit of 2 per undergraduate or graduate program. Withdrawals are defined as officially withdrawing from any class after the Drop/Add period, and before the final Withdrawal date as outlined in the Academic Calendar. Any student withdrawing in excess of stated policy may be dismissed from the College of Nursing, unless the College of Nursing has pre-approved a documented Medical and/ or Emergent situation.

**Incomplete Guidelines**

Definition: An incomplete grade (“I”) is exception and awarded at the instructors discretion only when students are unable to complete course requirements due to illness or other extenuating circumstances beyond their control. This applies to all gradable courses, including pass/fail (S/U).

Students may be eligible for an “I” when:

- Majority of the student’s work for a course has been completed before the end of the semester
- The work that has been completed must be qualitatively satisfactory
- The student has requested consideration for an “I” grade as soon as possible but no later than the last day of finals week.

**University Policy on Religious Observance:**

No student shall be compelled to attend class or sit for an examination on a day or time prohibited by his or her religious belief. In accordance with the University policy on observances of religious days, students are expected to notify their instructors if they intend to be absent for a class or announced examination prior to the scheduled meeting.

### **Student Disability Services:**

Student Disability Services exists to ensure that students with disabilities have the technical, academic, and emotional support necessary to achieve academic and personal success. The Office obtains and maintains disability-related documentation, certifies eligibility for services, determines reasonable accommodations and ensures the provision of services. “Students in need of academic accommodations for a disability may consult with the office of Students with Disabilities Services to arrange appropriate accommodations. Students are required to give reasonable notice prior to requesting an accommodation.” For more information please visit the Students with Disabilities Services (SDS) website at <http://sds.usf.edu>.

### **Resale of Class Materials**

The sale of class recordings or notes is not permitted.

### **Institutional Guidelines**

*Nursing Academic Policies and Procedures:*

[http://health.usf.edu/nocms/nursing/pdfs/Baccalaureate\\_Handbook.pdf](http://health.usf.edu/nocms/nursing/pdfs/Baccalaureate_Handbook.pdf)

*USF Undergraduate Catalog 2012-2013:*

<http://www.ugs.usf.edu/catalogs/catdl.htm>

*USF Academic Policies and Procedures:*

<http://www.ugs.usf.edu/pdf/cat1213/08ACADEMICPOL.pdf>

*Disruption of Academic Process, USF Regulation 3.025:*

<http://generalcounsel.usf.edu/regulations/pdfs/regulation-usf3.025.pdf>

Disruption of the academic process will not be tolerated.

*Academic Integrity, USF Regulation 3.027:*

<http://generalcounsel.usf.edu/regulations/pdfs/regulation-usf3.027.pdf>

Violations of policies regarding academic integrity will not be tolerated. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and is grounds for failure.

The University has an account with an automated plagiarism detection service (SafeAssign) which allows instructors and students to submit student assignments to be checked for plagiarism. The instructor reserves the right to 1) request that assignments be submitted as electronic files and 2) submit student’s assignments to SafeAssign, or 3) request students to submit their assignments through SafeAssign through my USF. Assignments are compared automatically with a database of journal articles, web articles, the internet and previously submitted papers. The instructor receives a report showing exactly how a student’s paper was plagiarized.

*Student Grievance Procedure, USF Policy 10-002:*

<http://generalcounsel.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-10-002.pdf>

*Campus Closure Policy:*

Emergency Preparedness for Academic Continuity

<http://www.usf.edu/h1n1/emergency-preparedness-for-academic-continuity.asp>

*Holidays and Religious Observances, USF Policy 10-045:*

Review USF attendance Policy for the Observance of Religious Holidays by student at:

<http://generalcounsel.usf.edu/policies-and-procedures/pdfs/policy-10-045.pdf>

Students who anticipate the necessity of missing any exam due to the observance of a major religious observance should provide notice of the date/s to the instructor, in writing, by the second class meeting.

*Library Resources:*

USF Library Resources and Services: <http://lib.usf.edu>

Shimberg Health Sciences Library: <http://library.hsc.usf.edu>

Shimberg Health Library Tutorials: <http://library.hsc.usf.edu>  
(Follow links under Instructional Services section)

Citing Sources (APA 6th Edition) Guidelines and Examples:

<http://lib.usf.edu/citing-sources/apa/>

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/5601>

**Required Textbooks:**

There is no required textbook. Selected web sources and readings will be available for the student to access within the individual modules.

Access to the internet with a reliable computer is required. Microsoft Word 2003 or later (2007 or 2010 preferred). Free download available from <http://openoffice.org>.

Blackboard functions best using the Mozilla internet browser.

**The schedule, policies, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances or by mutual agreement between the faculty and students.**

**NSP 3640 Introduction to Military and Veteran Health  
Course Schedule:**

<b>Module</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Assignments</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Points</b>
Start Here	1	Start Here	Syllabus quiz Attendance email	8/31/12 5pm	s/u
1		Overview of Military and Veteran Health Care	DB - Introduction Module Evaluation	8/31/12 8/31/12	s/u s/u
2	2	Defining the Veteran	DB - Veteran Interview	9/07/12	10
	3	Evolution of the Veteran Health Care System	Quiz – Health Care System	9/14/12	5
			Identify topic for Scholarly paper Module Evaluation	9/14/12 9/14/12	s/u s/u
3	4	Age Specific Competencies of the Veteran Population	Elluminate Session: Military Cultural Awareness	Dates TBA	5
	5	Potential Conflict Related Health Care Issues	DB – Amputations and Prosthetics Module Evaluation	9/28/12 9/28/12	5 s/u
4	6	Family Systems Theory	DB – The Military Family	10/05/12	5
	7	Military Life and the Deployment Cycle	Deployment Case Study Module Evaluation	10/12/12 10/12/12	10 s/u
5	8	Polytrauma: Overview	Quiz – Blast Injury	10/19/12	5
	9	Polytrauma System of Care	DB- Injury and the Family Module Evaluation	10/26/12 10/26/12	5 s/u
6	10	PTSD: Overview	Quiz - PTSD	11/02/12	5
	11	PTSD: Care and Treatment	PTSD Case Study Module Evaluation	11/9/12 11/9/12	10 s/u
7	12	Women Veterans: Overview	PowerPoint presentation	11/16/12	10
	13	Women Veterans: Special Health Issues	DB – Peer Review of PowerPoint Module Evaluation	11/23/12 11/23/12	5 s/u
8	14	Scholarly Paper Due	Scholarly Paper	12/02/12	15
	15	Military Sexual Trauma	DB – MST Documentary Module Evaluation	12/7/12 12/7/12	5 s/u
			Course wrap-up	Course/faculty evaluation	12/7/12
				<b>TOTAL</b>	