

School: University of South Florida

Audience: Baccalaureate Curriculum

Approach: Separate Course Methodology: Web-based

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Course: Introduction to Military and Veteran Health

Course Credit: Three (3) Credits

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

Evaluation Methods:

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

Teaching Strategies:

Web-based Lectures
Blackboard Discussion
Curriculum-based projects

Required Textbooks:

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

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