Jordan University of Science & Technology
Faculty of Medicine
Dept of Neuroscience - Division of Psychiatry

Course Title: Clinical Psychology (Behavioral Science)
Course code: M 314
Credit Hours: 3
Calendar Description: 8 weeks / year 3
Course Coordinator: Prof. Tewfik Daradkeh

A. Course Description
This course on behavioral science (clinical psychology) has two purposes: to introduce you to psychosocial aspects of medical practice and to offer you an overview of clinical psychiatry. Psychiatry has as its allied disciplines sociology and psychology. Behavioral science includes behavioral biology, including biochemical, physiological and pharmacological correlates of behavior; individual behavior including emotions, life cycle, motivation, personality and its psychopathology; and interpersonal and social behavior. Most lecturers are clinicians. It is, therefore, to be expected that the material covered in this course will be clinically relevant. In view of the limited time available, not every topic can be covered. Although some lecturers distribute lecture notes, others may not. You are welcome to take notes in classes.

The course is organized into many sections that cover the human health behavior from the biological, psychological and social perspectives.

B. Course Objectives:
- To understand human behavior in health and disease.
- To understand psychosocial aspects of disease.
- To prepare you for Psychiatry Clerkship.
Format:
The course is delivered through lectures and or seminars one hour daily for 8 weeks. The content of the course is as follows:

**SCHEDULE AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

1. **Orientation to the Course; Biopsychosocial Model; Doctor/patient Relationship**
   
   **Objectives:**
   1. To understand the course requirements and the grading policy.
   2. To explain the biopsychosocial model of patient care.
   3. To identify factors which influence the success of the physician-patient relationship.

2. **Growth and Development in Infancy and Childhood, ADHD, Common Behavioral Problems**
   
   **Objectives:**
   1. To identify normal developmental milestones as well as common deviations
   2. To name key concepts presented by the major child development theorists
   3. To discuss diagnosis and treatment of ADHD

3. **Adolescent Development, Common Health and Behavioral Issues**
   
   **Objectives:**
   1. To recognize the major developmental tasks of adolescence
   2. To develop appropriate strategies for establishing rapport with these adolescent patients and for confronting behavioral problems

4. **Adult Behavioral Concerns: Sexual Health and Chronic Disease Management**
   
   **Objectives:**
   1. To understand appropriate strategies for managing patients with chronic disease
   2. To recognize some common sexual health issues in adults.

5. **Geriatric Issues, Aging, Death and Dying, End of Life**
   
   **Objectives:**
   1. To identify the unique problems and psychosocial issues which influence the older patient
   2. To explore some ways the physician can address these needs
6. Stress and Illness

Objectives:
1. To examine ways in which stressful life events are related to health/illness.
2. To understand how some coping strategies affect susceptibility to illness.
3. To learn effective ways of managing stress.

7. Stress and coping

Objectives
1. To Describe the impact of stress on health.
2. To List common symptoms of stress.
3. To Identify coping strategies for stress.

8. Brain and behavior

Objectives
By the end of this course you should be able to demonstrate an understanding of:
1. the main structures of the brain and nervous system
2. how neuronal and brain functioning correlates with psychological experiences
3. the impact of physiological processes on psychological experience
4. research findings related to biological psychology, neuroscience and neuropsychology

9. Behavioral Genetics

Objectives
1. Describe the genetic methods applied to behavior
2. Describe role of genetics and environment in conditions such as MR, IQ, Substance abuse, schizophrenia, affective disorders, and dementing illnesses
3. Describe the value of twin studies and adoption studies in behavioral genetic studies
4. Define heritability

10. Psychoneuroimmunology (PNI)

Objectives
1. How do psychological processes influence immune function and health?
2. Brief overview of bidirectional communication between CNS and Immune System
3. Brief overview of the immune system
4. Discuss how stressor and classical conditioning alter immunity
11. Patient encounter, Professionalism, Delivering Bad News, Difficult Encounters

Objectives:
1. To identify physician behaviors which maximize patient cooperation
2. To understand how to be effective in helping patients change their behavior.
3. To understand the nature of professionalism for the physician.
4. To develop techniques for presenting unexpected or unwanted information
5. To identify strategies for managing difficult encounters with patients.

12. Psychopathology
Classification System for Mental Disorders, Anxiety Disorders

Objectives:
1. To understand the structure of the diagnostic system for mental disorders
2. To recognize and differentiate among common anxiety disorders
3. To identify some appropriate treatment strategies

13. Psychotic Disorders, Schizophrenia, Mood Disorders

Objectives:
1. To identify the characteristics of psychosis
2. To understand the symptoms of schizophrenia
3. To understand the symptoms of mood disorders
4. To differentiate between thought disorders and mood disorders

14. Personality Disorders

Objectives:
1. The student will be able to appreciate some of the basic theories underlying personality disorders.
2. The student will be able to identify the difference between personality disorders and personality traits.
3. The student will be able to identify the basic features of the personality disorders

15. Sleep Disorders

Objectives:
1. To understand the dynamics of sleep disorders, both physical and psychological.
2. To be able to differentiate between various forms of sleep disorders
3. To understand the rationale for therapies
16. Somatization, Adjustment Disorders, Eating Disorders

**Objectives:**
1. To identify the characteristics of somatoform disorders,
2. To identify the characteristics of adjustment disorders
3. To identify the characteristics of eating disorders

17. Psychoanalytic, Behavioral, and Social Learning Theories

**Objectives:**
1. To survey some well-known theories of behavior.
2. To understand the application of these theories to the practice of medicine.

18. Psychology and Psychobiology of Child Abuse

**Objectives:**
1. To recognize signs of different kinds of child abuse
2. To understand the role of the physician in situations of child abuse

19. Substance Abuse and Addictions—Alcohol and Other Drugs

**Objectives:**
1. To discuss the physiological, psychological, and social factors related to addictions.
2. To define alcohol abuse and alcohol dependence.
3. To learn a model for assessing a patient’s readiness to change.

20. Domestic Violence: the Role of the Physician

**Objectives:**
1. To discuss the dynamics of domestic violence.
2. To recognize the signs and symptoms which might be seen in patients.
3. To develop intervention and referral strategies.

21. Suicide and attempted suicide

**Objectives**
1. Identify psychological, familial, and genetic factors in suicidal behavior.
2. Describe prevalence of suicide and suicide attempts.
3. List types of suicidal behavior.
4. Recognize what physicians can do to identify suicidal intent and intervene.
22. Human Sexuality

**Objectives**

1. Describe sexual development across the lifespan.
2. Discuss the anatomy and physiology of the sexual response cycle for both sexes.
3. Summarize the major sexual dysfunctions.
4. List sexually transmitted diseases and risky sexual behaviors.
5. Summarize medications that may affect sexual desire.
6. Consider the effects of gender and lifestyle on health care.
7. Identify physician factors important in dealing with a patient’s sexuality.
8. Describe the relevance of explorin

**Evaluation:**

- Attendance and Participation: 10
- First Examination (mid-course (50 MCQs)): 50
- Final Examination (40 MCQs): 40

**Suggested textbooks:**

3. Behavioral Science in Medicine, B Fadem. Lipincott Williams & Williams, 2003