**KENNEBEC VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**FAIRFIELD, MAINE**

**Social Sciences Department**

**Approval Date: 5/20/15**

**Semester:** TBA

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| **COURSE NUMBER:** | MHT216 | **CREDIT HOURS:** | 3 |
| **COURSE TITLE:** | Mental Health and Aging | **CLOCK HOURS:** | 45 |
| **PREREQUISITES:** | None | | |
| **CO-REQUISITES:** | None | | |

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| **INSTRUCTOR** | **VOICE MAIL** | **OFFICE** | **E-MAIL ADDRESS** |
| TBA | TBA | TBA | TBA |
| **OFFICE HOURS:** | TBA | | |

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| **TEXTS:** |
| Vaillant, G.E. (2002). *Aging Well: Guideposts to a Happier Life*. New York: Little, Brown and Company. |

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| **OTHER MATERIALS:** |
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| **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** |
| This course provides a comprehensive overview of the unique health and treatment needs of the psychiatrically ill, older adult. It will enable mental health caregivers to provide age-sensitive care in a variety of settings. Topics will include biological, social, psychological, and physical aspects of aging, dementias, and major psychiatric disorders. |
| **LEARNING OUTCOMES:** |
| Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:   1. Describe the aging process and its significance in caring for older adults with psychiatric and mental illnesses. 2. Discuss the crucial concepts of the strengths perspective, including empowerment, suspension of disbelief, dialogue and collaboration, membership, synergy, and regeneration. 3. Describe communication/interviewing skills to enhance interaction with the elderly, especially those with perceptual or functional impairments. 4. Assess the strengths, past achievements, and interests of older adults and their formal and informal support systems. 5. Recognize signs and symptoms of major psychiatric disorders as they manifest in the older adult, especially depression and dementia. 6. Identify the DSM-IV criteria for diagnosis of major mental and cognitive impairments for older adults. 7. Explain the current intervention strategies and mental health services for older adults. 8. Recognize the impact and interrelationship between social problems and mental health in the elderly. 9. List and describe the various types of elder maltreatment. 10. Identify and describe the stages and stresses of older adult caregiving for another older adult. 11. Demonstrate proficiency in reading\*\*. |
| **COURSE CONTENT:** |
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| **COURSE ACTIVITIES:** |
| **Special Assignments**  Special Assignments relate to specific assignments created to measure general education learning outcomes and the Essential Learning Outcomes identified by the college. ELOs are marked by a single asterisk (\*) in the course Learning Outcomes while other general education learning outcomes are marked by a double asterisk (\*\*). |
| **GRADING:** |
| TBA |
| **GRADING SCALE:**  TBA |
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| **ATTENDANCE POLICY:** |
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| **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** |
| The MHRT/C is a competency-based certification. The following competencies associated with this course have been deemed by the Maine Department of Mental Health Services as necessary to work in the field.  <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/cfl/MHRT/2008%20Guidelines.pdf>   1. Knowledge of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 2. Understands benefit and entitlement programs 3. Understands interaction of co-occurring medical issues 4. Knowledgeable about changing treatment needs for adult stages of transition 5. Knowledge of community provider system 6. Knowledge of generic community resources including available natural supports   *These outcomes are assessed utilizing a specific set of assignments standardized within the context of the course.* |
| **OTHER INFORMATION:** |
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| **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES (2014)**  In accordance with state and federal law, this College is committed to assisting qualified students with disabilities achieve their educational goals.  ***If you are in need of an accommodation in this course:***  • Students must contact the Dean of Students, Enrollment Services Center, Frye Building, 453-5019,  [knormandin@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:knormandin@kvcc.me.edu)  • Students must provide current, appropriate documentation of their disability.  • Students must make a timely request for accommodation to the Dean of Students.  • Accommodations will not be provided until the faculty member receives a letter requesting accommodations. This letter is created with the Dean of Students and is supported by the documentation of said disability.  • Requests for accommodation must be renewed each semester for each course.  This document is available in enlarged print and on audio tape. Please contact the Dean of Students at 453-5019 or [knormandin@kvcc.me.edu](mailto:knormandin@kvcc.me.edu)  **NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION (2014):**  Kennebec Valley Community College does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. Students requesting classroom accommodation should be forwarded to the Dean of Students, Enrollment Service Center, Frye Building, phone: 453-5019 or the Director of the Learning Commons, Lunder Library, phone: 453-5084  Complaints about College decisions related to disability accommodations or discrimination must be forwarded to Affirmative Action Officer and ADA Compliance Officer, Dean of Academic Affairs, Enrollment Services Center, 92 Western Avenue, Fairfield, ME 04937, phone: 453-5822. |