

Western Technical College

10544205 Introduction to Alzheimer's and Dementia

Course Outcome Summary

Course Information

Description	Study of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Students will differentiate between stages of dementia and Alzheimer's disease. By analyzing normal brain processes and how these diseases affect brain function, students gain insight on best practices in responding to the needs of this population and their caregivers and loved ones.
Career Cluster	Health Science
Instructional Level	Associate Degree Courses
Total Credits	3

Textbooks

Validation Techniques for Dementia Care: The Family Caregiver's Guide to Improving Communication. Copyright 2007. de-Klerk-Rubin, Vicki. Publisher: Health Professions Press. **ISBN-13:**978-1-932529-37-1. Required.

36-Hour Day. 6th Edition. Copyright 2017. Mace, Nancy L. Publisher: Hopkins Fulfillment Services. **ISBN-13:**978-1-4214-2223-7. Required.

Success Abilities

1. **Demonstrate ability to think critically.**
2. **Demonstrate ability to value self and work ethically with others in a diverse population.**
3. **Transfer social and natural science theories into practical applications.**
4. **Use effective communication skills.**

Course Competencies

1. **Compare and contrast a healthy brain with that of a brain inflicted with dementia.**
Assessment Strategies

1.1. Presentation

Learning Objectives

- 1.a. Examine the functionality of healthy brain neurons.
- 1.b. Identify the location and function of each lobe of the brain.
- 1.c. Explore the impact of various forms of dementia on the brain.
- 1.d. Examine preventative care for various forms of dementia.

2. Differentiate between the various forms of dementia.

Assessment Strategies

2.1. Presentation

Learning Objectives

- 2.a. Explore the symptoms of various forms of dementia.
- 2.b. Explore the causes of various forms of dementia.
- 2.c. Explore brain changes associated with various forms of dementia.
- 2.d. Compare and contrast various forms of dementia.
- 2.e. Investigate various neurological tests related to the forms of dementia.
- 2.f. Students will discuss the importance of the collected data from neurological tests.

3. Identify the risk factors of dementia.

Assessment Strategies

3.1. Presentation

Learning Objectives

- 3.a. Characterize risk factors related to various forms of dementia including Alzheimer's.
- 3.b. Develop strategies to control for variable risk factors.
- 3.c. Explore new/developing research findings regarding risk associated with Alzheimer's and various forms of dementia.

4. Identify how dementia changes many facets of an individual's life.

Assessment Strategies

4.1. Presentation

Learning Objectives

- 4.a. Examine the physical symptoms related to various forms of dementia.
- 4.b. Examine the psychological symptoms related to various forms of dementia.
- 4.c. Explore the social symptoms related to various forms of dementia.

5. Explore the diagnosis of dementia.

Assessment Strategies

5.1. Presentation

5.2. Role Play

Learning Objectives

- 5.a. Explore factors examined throughout the diagnosis process (comprehensive history, symptoms, etc).
- 5.b. Explore diagnostic procedure(s) of various forms of dementia.
- 5.c. Explore the potential impact of a dementia diagnosis on the patient and caregiver(s).
- 5.d. Examine characteristics of stages of dementia (early, middle, advance, and terminal).

6. Develop strategies to respond to behaviors associated with dementia and Alzheimer's.

Assessment Strategies

6.1. Presentation

6.2. Observation

Learning Objectives

- 6.a. Explore potential behaviors associated with various forms of dementia.
- 6.b. Explain potential psychiatric problems associated with various forms of dementia.
- 6.c. Examine culturally responsive dementia care plans.
- 6.d. Explore the use of validation therapy with various forms of dementia.
- 6.e. Explore medical drug treatments available for various forms of dementia.

7. Analyze the caregiver role associated with dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Assessment Strategies

7.1. Presentation

Learning Objectives

- 7.a. Examine the strengths based philosophy of caring for persons with dementia.
- 7.b. Explore the person-centered theme of care.
- 7.c. Examine the importance of self-care for caregivers.
- 7.d. Explore various respite and other support services.