

**Margaret H. Rollins School of Nursing  
N201 Nursing Care of Special Populations  
MENTAL HEALTH NURSING**

**Class Preparation**

**Directions: Answer the following questions:**

1. What is your perception of an individual with a mental illness?

My perception of an individual with a mental illness is someone who is struggling with challenges that they may not talk about and their thoughts may be distorted by misconceptions.

2. What would you say to a depressed client who was admitted to a psychiatric facility after attempting suicide?

I would ask them if they are ready to talk and tell them that I am here to listen to any questions or concerns that they may have. Then I would sit down in the room next to the bed and sit there in silence for a minute and reassure them that we are here to help them through this difficult time.

3. What is a Mental Status Examination?

**A mental status examination is used to evaluate mental health functions and behaviors during a time period. Some of the categories evaluated are appearance, behavior, mood, thought process, judgement, and speech.**

**Directions:** Identify the following key terms associated with caring for patients with mental illness and substance use disorders in general practice settings with the descriptions or definitions listed below.

- |                             |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| a. diagnostic overshadowing | e. social distancing    |
| b. patient-centered care    | f. stigmatization       |
| c. screening                | g. suicide prevention   |
| d. SBIRT                    | h. trauma-informed care |

\_\_\_b\_\_\_ 1. A concept that requires nurses and other healthcare professionals to listen to and empower the patient in decision making around his or her care and establish a collaborative partnership

\_\_\_f\_\_\_ 2. An attitude of devaluing a person because of a particular characteristic or illness

\_\_\_d\_\_\_ 3. An evidence-based approach referring to screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment

\_\_\_a\_\_\_ 4. A phenomenon in which a person's physical symptoms are attributed to his or her mental illness

\_\_\_c\_\_\_ 5. Methods of assessment for suicide risk and for differentiating between suicide ideation and attempts

\_\_\_h\_\_\_ 6. Care that assesses for and demonstrates sensitivity to the impact of trauma history on current behavior and relationships in every aspect of nursing intervention

\_\_\_g\_\_\_ 7. The identification of clinically significant symptoms that require further assessment

and intervention

\_\_\_e\_\_\_ 8. An aspect of stigma that refers to the tendency of healthcare workers and others to avoid people with mental illness or addiction