BEDFORD COLLEGE

NURSING STUDIES

BCAL 1336/12/1

1982-83

PSYCHOLOGY

(Course Unit : ¹/₂ Unit)

Aim:

The course will introduce students to psychological theories generally and in particular how they might apply to everyday nursing experiences. Patients' behaviour will be explored and made comprehensible in relation to crises of illnesses and hospitalisation. Patients' and families' dynamics in relation to responses of crises will receive attention. Comparative and historical approaches in psychological literature will be compared and contrasted considering traditions of management, measurements, psychological testing and psychodynamics.

Objectives:

- To provide students with intellectual equipment that enables them to locate their patients and to understand their observations of them and of themselves.
- (2) To develop supporting mechanisms in relation to their patients' needs.
- (3) To develop an appreciation of historical and comparative approaches in the development of psychological theories.

Context:

The subject-matter will be facilitated by using a generational approach, by taking a developmental psychological view of the human life cycle, by focussing on students' practical work as they discuss their learning experiences arising out of the clinical situation. Students' own responses will also be discussed and shown to depend on similar variables as those of their patients: the dynamics of the family, meaning of illness, and belonging to particular social and cultural groups. Whilst the theoretical framework will be using a developmental psychological approach, psychological theories will be discussed and their appropriateness for nursing considered.

Teaching Methods:

Lectures / films / tutorials / seminars.

Assessment:

Written work / group discussions.

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