

**THE COMPLETE DOCTOR – 256**  
**Winter Quarter**  
**Class 2003**

- Course Director:** Margaret Wilson, D.O., Division Chairperson  
 Professor  
 Family Medicine & Community Health Department
- Staff Support:** Kim Blackman, Project/Course Coordinator  
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- Class Dates:** See attached calendar for additional lectures, labs, and exercises
- Lectures:** Tinning Education Center, McCreight Classroom
- Recommended Text:** **Difficult Topics and Communication**  
 “How To Break Bad News—And Not Devastate the Patient,” Mayo Clinic Proceedings, E.T. Creagan (*handout*)  
Field Guide to the Difficult Patient Interview, Platt & Gordon (*library, bookstore*)  
How To Break Bad News, A Guide for Health Care Professionals, Johns Hopkins University Press, R. Buckman (*library*)  
**Geriatrics**  
Working with Your Older Patient: A Clinician’s Handbook, National Institutes of Health and Department of Health and Human Services (*Provided by Family Medicine & Community Health*)
- Grading:** You must earn 70% of the total points.
- The final grade will be determined as follows:
- |                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Quiz                  | 20 points       |
| Videotape Experience  | Pass / Practice |
| House Call Assignment | 20 points       |

**COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**Geriatrics**

(By the end of the course, the student will)

1. Be familiar with commonly used functional assessment tools and how to do a home care assessment. Conduct a home care visit and perform a home assessment with an elderly person in the community.
2. Be familiar with the challenges and obstacles geriatric patients face in daily living.

**Difficult Topics and Communication**

(By the end of the course, the student will)

1. Know and use screening instruments in a clinical setting.
2. List four critical issues in breaking bad news to patients.
3. Demonstrate competency in key communication skills needed in addressing difficult topics with patients.