COURSE INTRODUCTION

Course Description

This course focuses on the basic drug classification, concepts, and principles of pharmacology with special consideration for the nursing role in developing a comprehensive approach to the clinical application of drug therapy through the use of the nursing process. Nursing implications relative to the utilization of drug therapy are examined. Dosage calculations are evaluated for competency.

Credits: Three-semester hours (3:0)

Course Prerequisites: BIOL 2401 and 2420, and NURS 4322 or BIMS 3401

Course Objectives with Specific Learning Outcomes:

1. Patient Education- Develop skills to provide patient education regarding drug therapy. Demonstrate ability to use sound, evidence-based resources for consumer drug information.

2. Safety - Describe strategies employed for patient protection during the preparation and administration of medications.

3. Nursing Implications - Demonstrate an understanding of the nursing implications of drug therapy.

4. Pharmacological Terminology- Define basic pharmacological terminology.

5. Understand Basic Pharmacologic Processes - Develop a practical understanding of various pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic processes.


7. Classes of Drugs Used for Treatment of disease - Describe major classifications of drugs used in modern treatment of disease.

8. Dosage Calculations - Demonstrate competency in performing clinical drug and dosage calculations.

9. Evaluate Drug Therapy- Develop an understanding of the processes of evaluation of drug therapy.

MATERIALS

Required Textbooks:


**Recommended Resources:**


**LEARNING ENVIRONMENT**

**Distance Learning Experiences**

Discussion, independent reading and study are used to stimulate the development of an understanding of theory, process and principles of clinical application of drug therapy through the use of the nursing process. Classes will focus on evaluation, application and utilization of drug groups or specific representative drugs used for different body systems and nursing application in administering these drugs. The student is responsible for identification of individual learning needs, self-direction, and demonstration that learning has occurred. Faculty will provide guidance to assist the student’s successful completion of this course. This course values independent thinking and the challenging of ideas.

Course objectives are met through individual study using assigned readings, suggested resources, active involvement in distant online classroom activities (discussions and chats), and exchange of ideas with classmates and faculty, and utilizing critical thinking skills. Teaching methods includes power point presentations, small group discussion, case study analysis, independent study of text books and additional resources. Class participation makes up a significant portion of your course grade and will be evidenced by individual and group assignments. While the faculty will provide guidance and consultation, the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-directed learning, seeking additional resources, and communicating learning needs to faculty as needed to achieve course objectives.

The on-line format of this course has the same rigor and expectations for learning as the face to face Pharmacology course. This course follows a set on-line schedule for weekly participation. The schedule is available in the Blackboard course and calendar.

**Class Time:** This section of NURS 3342 is web-based and applies the principles of asynchronous distance learning.

**Web Class Specifics:**

1. Students must have basic computer skills to be capable to complete the course requirements.

2. Students must have access to the Internet to successfully communicate with the faculty and students enrolled in this course.

3. Web-based courses do not reduce the amount of time you are likely to spend completing course requirements. Rather, the time spent in the course is set by your personal learning style, not a lecture schedule.
4. After completion of Orientation Module during week one and Week 1, those of you who experience problems with navigation of the Web-based learning course should inform the instructor immediately. Computer or Internet problems are not an excuse for late work or lack of participation. Students should have a back-up plan for internet access in case of emergencies.

5. Logging into this Blackboard course to read announcements, discussions, blackboard message, and email is essential to success in the course and consistent, DAILY log-in during the student’s work week is strongly recommended.

6. Upon receipt of communication via email from your faculty, the student is expected to acknowledge the message by replying.

**Student Evaluation** is ongoing to enhance experiential learning and provides the student with feedback regarding performance in meeting course objectives. Evaluation methods include discussion participation scoring, case study scoring, and scheduled examinations that provide the student opportunity to demonstrate mastery of course objectives. Faculty and Course Survey are a required part of this course.

**Faculty Conferences** provide an opportunity to discuss progress toward course objectives and are scheduled on an “as needed” basis. Students or faculty may initiate a faculty conference. Conferences are conducted in person, by telephone, or by video conferencing.

**Classroom Civility**

The learning process involves an exchange of ideas and an exploration of concepts between faculty and students. Students must log in to the Bb course to participate in classroom activities. A certain level of decorum facilitates the on-line learning process for learners and teachers. Students must follow the on-line learning environment communication and behavior guidelines described in "Netiquette" found in the Course Orientation Module.

**GRADING**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Possible Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 Exams*</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Study</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math Test*</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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*Math Test is mandatory and non-completion may result in an “Incomplete” grade for the course.

**Very Important to Understand** - *Students must achieve an average of 75% or higher exam average
for the 5 exams. Grades for other components will not count unless the student has earned a 75% cumulative average on the exams. If the student fails to attain the 75% or higher exam average, the student’s course grade in SAIL will be "F" without calculation of any other components.

Students with less than 75% exam average should make an appointment for a faculty conference as soon as possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90 -100</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83 - 89</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75 – 82</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>67 – 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 67</td>
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EXAMS

1. Students are required to take the exams as scheduled.

2. If the student has a severe illness or tragedy which causes the student to be absent from a scheduled exam, the student must notify the faculty of the absence prior to the start of the exam.

3. If the student does not notify the course faculty about an absence prior to the start of the exam a grade of 0 (zero) for the exam may be averaged into the student’s final grade.

4. If the student is allowed to take the missed exam at a later time, the exam will be administered in a proctored testing site within days of the original scheduled exam date. Proctored exams may result in added expense to the student.

5. If a second or third exam is missed, a grade of 0 (zero) for each exam will be averaged into the student’s final grade.

6. Students are required to take all exams in a proctored setting. The exams must be taken on testing dates listed in the course schedule. Proctored exams at off-campus proctor testing sites involve third party charges. All costs for exams are the responsibility of the students. Details for proctor testing sites are available in the Blackboard course shell.

7. Math Test must be taken by using the Respondus Lockdown Browser. No proctored testing center is required for the Math test. Calculators may be utilized for math questions.
8. Students must attain a 75% or higher cumulative average on course exams to pass the course. Math Test is not considered as a course exam, yet required to complete to pass the course.

9. Students with documented specialized test-taking needs should discuss this with the faculty within two weeks after the start of the semester and contact the office of Students with Disabilities. (See below.)

10. Due to test security concerns, there is limited opportunity to review testing materials.

11. There should be no use of references (textbooks or electronic resources) during the examination.

18. Being in possession of ANY testing materials or electronic devices is defined as cheating. Refer to University Academic Misconduct Policy.

**WEEKLY CLASS PARTICIPATION**

Students must participate in the course activities on a weekly basis. The majority of the weeks, students will participate in discussion of specific questions aimed at meeting week and course learning objectives. Refer to the course Weeks/Lessons and Schedule for specific weekly participation assignments. Discussion assignments begin on Wednesday and ends on Monday unless otherwise specified in the schedule. All graded written assignments may be submitted through anti-plagiarism software.

**GRADE APPEAL PROCESS**

As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamu.cc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html.

For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

**RESOURCES AND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

**Dropping a Class:** Please consult with BOTH your academic advisor and faculty before you decide to drop a course to be sure it is the best thing to do. Dropping a course can affect scholarships, financial aid eligibility, your GPA, your sequencing, progress, and standing in the program. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class.

**Academic Advising:** The College of Nursing and Health Sciences require that students meet with an Academic Advisers soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Island Hall 3rd floor. Advisors are Angelica Santillan (361-825-2461) IH 321 for students with last names beginning with A – L and Rachel Verhayden (351-825-3748) IH 318 for students with last names beginning with M – Z.
Students with Disabilities:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to a penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. Each student is expected to do their own work.

Cheating on exams includes the unauthorized use of any assistance during exams, and/or sharing of exam materials with other students before, during, or after exams. All cheating will be reported to the University Academic Affairs committee. 
http://falcon.tamucc.edu/~students/JAffairs/ja_code_of_conduct_article3.htm

There should also be no use of references during the examination. Any student determined by faculty to have cheated on an exam may receive a zero for that exam. Exam performance may be verified through repeated testing in a proctored setting. Further consequences will be determined on an individual basis, but may include automatic course failure. ALL acts of student misconduct will also be reported to the Department of Student Affairs.

Plagiarism: The highest standards of academic honesty are expected of students. Faculty adheres to the University policy regarding academic honesty as published in the current University Catalog. Plagiarism or misrepresentation of references will result in failure of the work in question without the opportunity to redo the work. Any amount of plagiarism may result in an automatic “F” for the assignment.

Plagiarism means to steal and pass off the work of another as one’s own. It usually results from bad paraphrasing that merely substitutes a few word changes for those of the original author and forgetting to use quotation marks and a reference citation. However, these are technically considered plagiarism. The only sage way to paraphrase is to read the original over several times and write your own conception of what you have read without looking at the original. In other words, when paraphrasing, keep the source book closed. (Wilson, p. 523) **NOTE** Your assignments are subject to analysis by plagiarism detection software.