Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi  
College of Nursing and Health Sciences  
NURS 3342 Use of Pharmacology Principles  
Fall 2014 Course Syllabus

Faculty: Cristi Day RN, DNP, FNP-C, ADM-BC

- Office: Island Hall 344  
- Office hours: Monday 2:00pm-4:00pm by WebX. Other times by appointment only.  
- Email: Blackboard messaging preferred  
- Telephone: Office: (361) 825-2568

Faculty: Amy McClure MSN, RN

- Office: Island Hall  
- Office hours: Monday.  
- Email: Blackboard messaging preferred  
- Telephone: Office: (361) 825-

Course Description

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.
   
   a. 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.

**Required Textbooks:**


**Recommended Resources:**


**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 virtual classroom activities (discussions and chats), 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 texts 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 the principles of asynchronous distance learning apply for all students. The online weekly schedule begins on Tuesday at 0800 and ends on Monday at 2400.

Web Class Specifics:

1. Students must have basic computer skills to navigate the course.

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 Unit 1 during week one, 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, and email is essential to success in the course and consistent, DAILY log-in during the student’s work week is 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 weekly participation scoring, case study scoring, and scheduled examinations that provide the student opportunity to demonstrate mastery of course objectives. Faculty, and Course Evaluation 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 and by telephone.

**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. The on-line learning environment communication and behavior guidelines should be reviewed in "Netiquette" found in the Course Orientation Module.

**Grading**

Grading is a process of measuring the outcomes of learning against standards and assigning a symbol to the level of performance achieved. The final determination of the grade, therefore, rests with the professor.

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<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<td>D</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Grade Components</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Five Exams Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Exams</td>
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<td>60% of course grade*</td>
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Class participation:
Weekly Assignments

Weekly Participation Assignments are available in schedule and calendar. 25% of course grade

Case Study

Individual Assignment 10% of course grade

Math Module

This module is mandatory and non-completion may result in an “Incomplete” grade for the course.

Math Module Pre-Test
Math Module Quiz
Grades averaged 5% of course grade

**Very Important to Understand** - *Students must achieve an average of 75% or higher exam average for the five 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% exam average, the student’s grade is SAIL will be the exam average - without any other components calculated into the grade.*

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

“**Extra credit**”- As nursing is a profession with specific, non-negotiable standards and competencies, there will be no opportunity for “extra” credit. You must meet the criteria and standards of mastery in order to pass the exams and the course.

**EXAMS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Exam Dates</th>
<th>Dates Scheduled</th>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td>September 16</td>
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<td>Exam 2</td>
<td>October 14</td>
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<td>Exam 3</td>
<td>November 4</td>
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<td>Exam 4</td>
<td>November 25</td>
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<td>Exam 5 Comprehensive Final</td>
<td>December 9</td>
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Students may choose to come to campus to and test in Island Hall at the date/time listed above. OR students can secure a proctored testing site between the hours of 10am and 5pm.

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

2. If the student has a severe illness or tragedy which causes the student to be absent from a scheduled exam, the faculty must be notified 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 on testing dates listed in the syllabus. Proctored exams at off-campus secure testing sites may result in added expense to the student. Details for secure testing sites are available within the Blackboard course shell.

7. Students must attain a 75% cumulative average on course exams.

8. 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.)

9. Calculators may be utilized for math questions.

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 is defined as cheating. Refer to University Academic Misconduct Policy.
WEEKLY CLASS PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Weekly participation in the course is required. The majority of the weeks, students will participate in discussion of specific questions aimed at meeting unit and course learning objectives. Refer to the course Units/Lessons and Schedule for specific weekly participation assignments. Discussion assignments begin Tuesday at 0800 and ends on Monday at 2100 unless otherwise specified in the schedule. All graded written assignments may be submitted through anti-plagiarism software.

Discussion Grading - Weekly participation grading criteria is available within the course.

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.tamucc.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...
Students with Disabilities:

Disabilities Accommodations:

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’ve 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.