Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
College of Nursing and Health Sciences

NURS 3548 E01 and 701 Nursing Care of Children and their Families
Syllabus
Spring 2016

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CREDITS: 5 semester hours (3:6)

COURSE DESCRIPTION: “Applying a family centered approach; this course focuses on health promotion, acute and chronic health conditions, and rehabilitative needs of children. Emphasis is placed on developmental, physiological, psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual care of the child within the family unit. Using the nursing process, strategies to promote and maintain optimal functioning of the child-family unit and to enhance the strengths of the family unit are explored in lecture and clinical. Clinical activities emphasize the application of theory to practice in a variety of community and acute care settings. Prerequisites: NURS 3318, 3342, 3435, and 3614.

Note to Course Description: In the course description, “physiological” care is only one component of what we will study in this course. Pediatrics is about a growing human being and therefore “developmental and psychosocial” aspects are equally as important as the medical/surgical aspects of care. Play is a child’s “work” and therefore student participation in play activities is encouraged. Because children are part of a family, we must also consider the cultural and spiritual influence on the family and client’s care. Parenting styles and parent expectations/concerns in response to illness and treatment are examined and thus teaching interventions and modeling of appropriate communication and play are important interventions. Because a Pediatric client is most often seen in well-child clinics, acute care clinics, school and family community health centers, many of your clinical hours will be achieved through assignments that examine or simulate these type of nursing environments; hospital nursing is only one type of Pediatric nursing. While in the hospital, every effort will be made for the student to experience a critical care environment as well as opportunities provided to learn from non-nursing but nurse-supportive members of the health care team.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

4. Utilize the concepts of global health and transcultural nursing in applying knowledge of values, life styles, ethnicity, and religion to families. (AACN Essential Skills: I, II, IV, VII, IX)

5. Describe and demonstrate caring behaviors while providing nursing care to children and families from diverse populations. (AACN Essential Skills: I, II, VIII, IX)

6. Demonstrate effective and appropriate communication skills with children, their families, health care teams, and classmates/faculty by expressing ideas clearly and coherently orally, in writing, and electronically. (AACN Essential Skills: I, II, III, IV, VI)

7. Implement the nursing process with individuals experiencing acute or chronic illness. (AACN Essential Skills: IX)
   a. Utilizing critical thinking, assess children and families responses to specific illnesses.
   b. Utilize the data collection process based upon Gordon’s functional health patterns, Piaget, Erickson, and Maslow to derive NANDA nursing diagnoses appropriate to the individual child and family.
   c. Identify appropriate goals and outcomes to meet the client and family needs.
   d. List appropriate nursing interventions and rationales for identified nursing diagnosis.
   e. Demonstrate appropriate therapeutic nursing interventions to assist children and families to attain, maintain, or regain optimal health.
   f. Describe and implement patient teaching plans for selected patient problems.
   g. Demonstrate safe, technically competent care of children and their families.
   h. Evaluate the effectiveness of care and revise plan as needed.

8. Give examples of relevant and recent research findings, particularly as they relate to nursing care of children and their families undergoing disorders of the physiological systems. (AACN Essential Skills: III)

9. Demonstrate responsibility for own learning at levels consistent with course and professional expectations. (AACN Essential Skills: I, V)
   a. Seek opportunities to acquire and apply new knowledge to practice.
   b. Demonstrate professional role behavior.
   c. Demonstrate accountability for own behavior.
   d. Demonstrate collaborative skills with members of the interdisciplinary health care team in planning, coordinating, providing and evaluating patient care.

**REQUIRED TEXTS AND RESOURCES:**

Evolve Website access @ [https://evolve.elsevier.com/staticPages/index.html](https://evolve.elsevier.com/staticPages/index.html) to access required evolve Case Studies and required HESI Testing. Although the case studies are paid for through the college, the HESI testing is a shared cost between the student and the college.

TAMU-CC Blackboard Access
**Recommended:** (NCLEX Study Prep)


**Optional:** *Available free online through the Library at StatRef!*

**LEARNING EXPERIENCES AND TEACHING METHODS:**

> “Some old school types complain these days that the higher education too often feels like it is all about customer service. Students and their parents believe they are paying top dollar for a product, and so they want it to be valuable in a measurable way. It’s as if they’ve walked into a department store, and instead of buying five pairs of designer jeans, they’ve purchased a 5-subject course load.

> I don’t fully reject the customer-service model, but I think it’s important to use the right metaphor. It’s not retail. Instead, I’d compare college tuition to paying for a personal trainer at an athletic club. We professors play the roles of trainers, giving people access to the equipment (books, labs, our expertise) and after that, it is our job to be demanding. We need to make sure that our students are exerting themselves. We need to praise them when they deserve it and tell them honestly when they have it in them to work harder.”

> – Randy Pausch, from *The Last Lecture*

Teaching methods include lecture, seminar, discussion, small group work, independent study of texts and library resources, computer assisted instruction, audio-visual aids and assignments. While the Professor will provide guidance and consultation, **the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-direction, seeking consultation and demonstration of course objectives.** Students will participate in the following:

1. **Written assignments:** Students are expected to follow instructions associated with the assignments for this course. Students who are confused about an assignment should contact the appropriate faculty member (lecture assignments – classroom instructor; clinical assignments- clinical faculty) in a timely manner to ensure satisfactory completion of the assignment on the date it is due. No late work is accepted. All work must be turned in
following the instructions provided for that assignment. (No emailed assignments will be graded.) Unless otherwise instructed, students should use the APA Publication Manual, 6th Edition as a reference for formatting and organizing written assignments. Points will be deducted for poorly written papers, for both formal and informal writing.

2. **Communication** – You may reach the course or clinical instructors via TAMU-CC email, Blackboard email, phone, or office hours. **We recommend you set your Islander email to come directly to your phone as we send emergency information in this manner.** Although faculty try to answer email within 48 hours, remember, even if you are not in clinical, clinical faculty are in clinical from Wednesday through Saturday. In addition, many times emailed questions or concerns are asking about what is/was stated in the syllabus or on assignment instructions. Consequently, all emails will be read but all may not be answered if already covered by another means (lecture, announcement, discussion, general email, syllabus, calendar, assignment instructions or grading rubric, etc.) and maybe not by the student’s expected time frame. Plan ahead and read all course materials thoroughly.

Evenings and weekends are reserved for family and personal interests, and although we are not expected to work, we often do to accommodate the student; however, this should not be an expectation by the student. Your course is available 24/7 but your faculty is not.

3. **Students are expected to complete all required readings prior to taking quizzes.** As a 5-semester credit course, faculty expect 8 - 10 hours of independent preparation and study each week. Preparation for learning includes assigned readings for the scheduled topics, review of anatomy and physiology, review of assessment, review of class notes from previous courses as applicable, and homework assignments and quizzes.

4. **Students are expected to be respectful of others.** Individual conversations, accessing social media, using a personal computer for other than taking notes or researching current topics, arriving to class late, sleeping during class-time, and studying for another class during classroom time are unacceptable behaviors. Students who demonstrate these behaviors may be asked to leave class. Pagers and Cell Phones will be turned off or on vibrate. NO TALKING during class…please leave if you aren’t going to pay attention. See “Professional Behavior” below for more.

5. **Students are expected to complete an anonymous course evaluation at the end of the course.** The evaluation will be available through Blackboard. The practice of providing feedback to educational experiences is consistent with professional nursing responsibilities. Constructive criticism is valued. Although we make every attempt to meet your educational needs, sometimes we may miss something. Please do not interpret our lack of changing our course based on your opinion as a disregard for that opinion, but remember you are only one voice in a large classroom. We thoughtfully go through each suggestion to see if we can accommodate it for the best of the whole class.

**CLINICAL INFORMATION:**

**CLINICAL OBJECTIVES:**

1. Apply caring nursing concepts and non-nursing theories with culturally diverse children and families across the age/health continuum.
2. Apply relevant and recent research findings in the clinical setting.
3. Incorporate ethical and legal principles into the nursing process.
4. Apply the nursing process with children and families experiencing acute and chronic illnesses.
5. Implement a teaching plan with selected clients.
6. Collaborate effectively with other members of the health care team.
7. Demonstrate safe and competent practice as described in the clinical evaluation criteria.
8. Communicate caring and respect for clients and their families.
9. Evaluate personal strengths and limitations in relationship to personal behavior.
10. Demonstrate responsibility for own learning and behavior.

Clinical Practice:
The clinical experience focus is on nursing care of children and their families from diverse populations who are experiencing health related issues (health promotion, health maintenance, or health alterations.) Clinical practice is the application of the theoretical component into the hospital and community practice area. Students must pass a Clinical Skill Competency lab in the learning lab with a grade of 90 or better in order to go to the first clinical day. If competency is NOT demonstrated, students will be expected to attend remediation and attempt competency. This may cause a delay in the student’s clinical rotation and/or cause a student to receive a clinical warning for each missed day. The opportunities to do these requirements are given during a mandatory clinical orientation. Students who do not or cannot attend clinical orientation must make arrangements to make up these required clinical hours in order to attend clinical. For the remainder of the four and half-week rotation, students will observe various pediatric environments and provide total nursing care to children and their families in the acute care setting. Clinical performance is graded Pass/Fail. The final summative clinical evaluation uses the clinical evaluation for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. If the student fails clinical, he/she will receive an F in the course, regardless of the theory grade.

Patient Safety:
If, in the instructor’s professional judgment, a student is unable to provide safe nursing care to patients and if this deficit is such that it cannot be remedied in the given clinical time within the limits of available faculty supervision, the student will be removed from the clinical setting and will receive a grade of F in the course.

Attendance Policy:
Clinical hours are planned in advance with cooperation of numerous health care professionals and are designed to assist the student in achieving the objectives of the course. THE STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND AND COMPLETE ALL CLINICAL HOURS AS ASSIGNED; PUNCTUALITY IS EXPECTED. Any student who is scheduled for a clinical experience that does not attend, may receive a Clinical Warning. Students will be on time and prepared for clinical experiences. Students are not allowed to leave the building during the stated hours of clinical practice, nor be on the unit in student attire after clinical is over. Clinical is a time of learning and part of the course work. The presence of children or other visitors is not appropriate at any time during the clinical experience. Any or all of the above infractions may constitute a Clinical Warning.

** Students are to report to nurse in charge of clinical experience prior to initiation of patient care, breaks, and termination of assignment. Students must adhere to the Texas Nurse Practice Act and the ANA Code for Nurses. Any violation of either will constitute dismissal from
clinical course and the nursing program. You must contact the nurse in charge of your clinical experience if you are going to be absent, at least one hour prior to the absence. Students who miss clinical for any other reason than family emergency or illness, and those students who fail to follow procedure by contacting their faculty prior to clinical, will receive a Clinical Warning which will be written and signed by the instructor. Students who are dismissed from clinical for unprofessional conduct, unsafe nursing practice, or inappropriate attire will also receive a Clinical Warning or Clinical Failure for that clinical day (no make-up day will be provided). A student who earns two Clinical Warnings will receive a Clinical Failure and a final grade of “F” for the clinical even if the time allotted for clinical practice has not expired. Students unable to attend or complete a given clinical rotation may receive an “I” (Incomplete) or “F” (Clinical Failure) for the clinical rotation depending on arrangements made with the assigned faculty.

Clinical Expectations and Assignments:

Hospital Expectations: Preparation for clinical practice is required. Students will complete written careplans. Careplans and assignments are due during the week of that particular clinical experience and at the time chosen by the clinical instructor. Written careplans/assignments are graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Students must pass two careplans during the rotation. Observation in various pediatric environments will have their own assignments to validate learning objectives. Clinical instructors are responsible for facilitation of the student's learning needs and evaluation of student progress in the clinical area. Feedback from staff RNs is used to assist in the evaluation process. Students will sign a “Critical Elements” to clarify and acknowledge their safety and legal responsibilities. Some special considerations and responsibilities for the hospital are listed below:

1. Provide total nursing care to clients under the supervision of clinical faculty and assigned staff registered nurses.
2. Participate in all nursing care activities of the registered nurse except those activities that require additional RN certification (i.e., arterial punctures, etc.). For additional clarification, the following apply:
   a. Students will NOT check or otherwise be held responsible for the administration of blood or blood products.
   b. Students MAY sign out narcotics with the direct visual supervision of clinical faculty or assigned RNs.
   c. Students MAY draw blood from central lines and arterial lines with direct visual supervision of the staff RN or faculty.
   d. Students MAY administer medications with direct visual supervision of the staff RN, only after clearance from their clinical instructor. (Completed in lab prior to clinical in the hospital.)
3. Coordinate all nursing care activities with the assigned staff. This includes but is not limited to aides, LVN’s and RN’s. The student should utilize the Nurse Manager, Charge Nurses, and other members of the health team as resources.

Assignments in addition to the Hospital Clinical Experience: You are required to complete 90 hours of clinical. The hospital rotation will only be some of those hours. Assignments have been developed to encompass other aspects of Pediatric Nursing that cannot be achieved in the
hospital environment. These assignments count as clinical hours and therefore, fall under the same attendance and completion rules/policies as the hospital clinical time. Each assignment a student fails to complete in a timely manner will result in a Clinical Warning. As stated above, two clinical warnings constitute a clinical failure.

90 hours Total
2 Hospital Orientation
48 Hospital hours at a Children’s Hospital (A minimum of 6 days in the hospital is required even if you do 12 hour shifts.)
8 hours School Nurse Observation
8 hours Pediatrician's Office Observation
8 Family Crisis
8 Well Child and Family Assessment
8 Teaching Project

Dress Code:
Each student will take pride in his/her personal appearance as a professional representative of the Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi College of Nursing and Health Science and the nursing profession as a whole. First impressions of individuals often have a significant and long-lasting effect on establishing rapport with others. In light of the need to satisfy consumers of health care, a confident, professional and corporate image of nursing will be expected. Students will adhere to the dress code of the agency/institution in which the clinical practice takes place. If a student is not properly attired, including the College of Nursing and Health Sciences ID badge and patch, the student will be dismissed from clinical for the day and receive a Clinical Warning. Students are required to bring all equipment needed to perform patient care and vital signs assessment with them.

Dress Code During Hospital Clinical Hours:
Should you have questions or concerns regarding these guidelines, please feel free to discuss them with your clinical instructor.
1. Uniform: Clean, pressed, appropriately hemmed, and properly fitting scrub with Texas A&M picture I.D. For your Pediatric experience ONLY, a student may choose to wear a pediatric print scrub top with a TAMU-CC patch and their blue scrub pant. For outpatient or clinic experiences, apparel will be determined by agency. Please see the student handbook as some items may have changed.
2. Hair: Students should evaluate their choice of hairstyles so hair is neat, controlled, and appropriately arranged off the face. Because long hair may interfere with direct patient care and/or personal safety in the pediatric environment, it should be pinned up, off the collar. Likewise, swinging braids and/or ponytails are not allowed. No hair adornments such as ribbons or bows are allowed. Male students should be clean-shaven or beards neatly trimmed.
3. Jewelry: A watch and wedding band or other single, significant and conservative ring may be worn. No charm bracelets, bracelets, or activity/sports bands may be worn on the wrists except for a watch. Only one set of stud earrings in the earlobes are acceptable. ALL other body piercing jewelry is inappropriate in the clinical setting and must be removed.
4. **Jackets**: No sweaters are permitted in patient care areas. A plain T-Shirt (long or short sleeve) may be worn under your uniform in blue, black, or white, or a scrub jacket in matching blue with the TAMU-CC patch sewn on the sleeve may be worn.

5. **Nails**: should be short and well groomed; no artificial nails or polish.

6. **Shoes** may be black or white leather; no mesh or cloth.

7. **Community attire**: will be determined by the agency.

**Alternate Clinical Hours:**
The clinical experience may include opportunities outside the hospital setting. These experiences have been chosen to give different perspectives of the pediatric population. Professional behavior is expected. The TAMUCC uniform should be worn unless otherwise stated.

**Reminders:**
1. **Cell phones** are allowed to be used in a private area (never in a client’s room) when contacting your instructor during clinical hours. Many hospitals have a “No cell phone” policy for their staff so please be respectful of this policy.

2. **Skills Competency**: Students are responsible for all nursing skills learned from previous courses. While absolute fluency in performing basic skills is not expected, competency and requisite knowledge of how to perform basic skills is expected. Therefore, it is likewise expected that the student will return to the skills laboratory to practice any basic nursing procedure in which he/she is uncomfortable prior to performing the skill in clinical. If necessary, the instructor may advise the student to return to the skills laboratory for assistance with an unsatisfactory procedure. In such a case, the student will need a signed slip by the skills lab manager stating that he/she has practiced the procedure before returning to clinical. *Please review any videos as necessary from previous courses.*

3. **Complete honesty** to the clinical instructor is an expectation of every student. Dishonesty shall be defined to include withholding information and/or failing to immediately disclose appropriate information pertaining to the client and/or clinical scenario to the faculty member and/or the assigned registered nurse. Students who are found to be practicing in a dishonest manner will be asked to leave the clinical setting and further, will immediately receive a failing grade in the course and dismissal from the nursing program.

4. **Confidentiality**: Confidential handling of all patient information, both written and verbal is an expected critical behavior and a federal law. Violation results in a failing grade in the course. Examples of violations are: talking about patient matters in social non-professional situations, removing confidential materials from agency premises, revealing client/patient names to non-professional or professional non-related persons, and posting pictures of patients or information (even generalized) on social media.

5. **Medication Administration**: Students may be evaluated for competency prior to or during clinical regarding the administration of medications. The student shall consult his/her assigned registered nurse and administer the medication ONLY with DIRECT VISUAL supervision of the clinical instructor OR the Registered Nurse AT THE CLIENT’S BEDSIDE. Failure to follow this policy, in any way and/or any time, may result in the student receiving a failing grade in the course. **Remember, most clinical errors can be corrected if discovered quickly and reported to the instructor and physician. Students are required to report IMMEDIATELY any nursing errors to their clinical**
instructor and the assigned nurse. Critical nursing errors are defined as commission and/or omission of nursing judgments and/or interventions and evaluations that adversely affect a client's welfare and/or place a patient's health at risk.

6. **Reporting:** Always keep your assigned staff RN informed of your patient's clinical status at regular intervals. Report any changes immediately to preceptor and the supervising RN.

7. **Certified Profile** including Basic Life Support (BLS-C) for the Healthcare Provider and all required immunizations are the responsibility of the student. Certified Profile must remain current through the entire semester. Any student practicing without current certification will receive a **Clinical Warning** for every day missed due to non-compliance and may receive a **Clinical Failure** in the course.

8. **Patient/client care** of any type is strictly prohibited without preceptor/faculty present in the clinical facility.

9. **All written work** will be evaluated by presentation of data to support achievement of the objective(s). All work will reflect the student's junior standing in the College of Nursing and Health Science. Therefore, critical consideration will be given to scholarliness including quality of content, neatness, spelling, and grammar.

10. **Evaluation** of clinical performance conferences with the clinical instructor/preceptor are required during each rotation in the form of individual conferences, post conference, or private appointments as deemed necessary by the clinical instructor.

**Clinical Activities and Patient Assessments:**

**Client Assessment:** Students should be able to **verbalize** and complete a focused/head to toe assessment of the client(s) assigned to them (See below.) Students are expected to discuss the pathophysiology of the client's underlying health problem in addition to the plan of care required with the clinical instructor. Discussion of pathophysiology should include (a) expected findings, (b) medical management, (c) possible complications, and (d) nursing management.

**Medications:** Students are to be familiar with medications prescribed to the client. The bedside medication sheet should be completed for all medications the student has the possibility of administering to the patient during the clinical day. A separate form should be used for each patient.

**Daily Focused Assessment:** To be completed each clinical day for all of your nurse’s (and therefore yours) patients.

**Nursing Care Plan:** Information to be completed on the “careplan” patient includes:

- **Patient Database:** Completed on the selected patient. Each criterion should be answered. If there are multiple choices, choose those that apply to the patient. Only criteria that are obviously Non Applicable should be labeled N/A, such as info applicable to opposite gender, info that is not age appropriate, etc.
- **Head-to-Toe Assessment:** May be done with a partner to help practice precision and effectiveness.
- **Nursing Theorists Assessment:** This will help you apply the growth and development theory to your patient.
• **Growth and Development Anticipatory Guidance**: The columns labeled “Milestones Expected” and “Next stage of Development” should be completed after the first clinical day in preparation for the second day. The column “Milestones Achieved” should be completed as evaluation of the patient occurs.

• **Medication List**: Completed for the medications that can be given during the clinical day for the selected patient. Remember to always calculate your “Safe dose range” based on the client’s daily weight. **This form MUST be complete prior to administration of medications.**

• **Patho Tree**: Should explain the pathophysiologic cause of the identified patient’s illness/problem/concern.

• **Diagnosis**: Patient demographics, Medical Diagnosis, Assessment data (signs/symptoms), Identified nursing diagnosis (3) in priority order (Nursing diagnosis should include 2 physiologic and 1 psychosocial diagnosis), Long Term Goal/Patient Goal (1), Short Term Goals/Patient Outcomes (2), and evaluation of each goal.

• **Nursing Interventions**: Each nursing diagnosis should be restated at the top of the page. Each diagnosis includes 6 interventions (2 assessment, 2 caring, and 2 teaching). Each intervention must be supported by rationale that is evidence based and supported in your textbooks. (Try to use the Pedi text instead of Ackley). Each intervention must be evaluated using three criteria, 1. Was the intervention successful? 2. What was the patient response? 3. Will this intervention continue, be modified, or resolved?

• **SBAR Report Form**: We will use these to practice giving report in post conference.

**Clinical Evaluation**

**Hospital Clinical**: The clinical experience for Pediatric Nursing is Pass/Fail. Both the student and the clinical instructor do evaluations of the student hospital experience throughout the clinical rotation. The evaluation tool used is the same tool used in all clinical courses and is based on the objectives of the TAMU-CC Nursing Program. Attached below is a copy for your records.

**Assignments**: The assignments are 100 points and the student must achieve a 75 or greater in order to pass the assignment. If less than a 75 is achieved, the student will receive a **Clinical Warning**. As stated above, if a student receives two (2) clinical warnings, the student will fail the course. There will be no make-ups, re-dos, or late work allowed. All instructions must be followed including how to submit the work for a grade or it may affect the passing grade. Again, being able to follow directions is an imperative skill a nurse MUST possess.

**Note**: Even if you have a signed clinical evaluation stating you passed the hospital portion, you have not completed the clinical portion unless all of the required assignments are complete with a score of greater or equal to a 75.

**GRADING CRITERIA**: Completion of NURS 3548 requires the successful completion of both the clinical and theoretical components of the course. Theory is given a letter grade and if the student passes clinical, the course grade will be the grade achieved in theory. The theory grade is based on three unit exams, a comprehensive final, a teaching project and weekly classroom assignments and quizzes to evaluate your knowledge of pediatric nursing practice. **To pass the theory component, the student must achieve a minimum test average of 75%**. Test Average
is calculated by averaging the Final Module/Unit Tests and the Comprehensive Final HESI Exam. The percentage value (weight) of each requirement is as follows:

**Grade weights:**
- Final Module/Unit Tests = 40%
- Comprehensive Final HESI Exam = 30%
- Journals = 10%
- Assignments = 20%

- Assignments 1-7 are evolve Case Studies (CS) – a screenshot (or photo) including your grade, name, and date must be uploaded to the assignment area in Blackboard by the deadline in order to receive credit.
- The Teaching Project, The Family Crisis Assignment, The Well-Child and Family Assessment Assignment, 2 Care plans, and the Daily Logs count toward clinical requirements. **These must be completed with a 75/100 or better in order to pass clinical regardless of how you performed in the hospital rotation.** Failure to pass clinical constitutes a failure in the course.

You must have a test average of 75% or better in order to pass the course regardless of other grades.

**LATE WORK:** Course assignments, module quizzes, and clinical assignments submitted late will be subject to point deductions as follows:
- 10 points will be deducted for submissions up to 1 week after the due date.
- 20 points will be deducted for submissions 1-2 weeks late.
- A grade of zero will be awarded for any submissions greater than 2 weeks late.

In the event that a student is aware they may need to submit an assignment late due to illness or other circumstances, it is the student’s responsibility to inform the professor prior to the due date. Deductions for late assignments with special circumstances and notification before the due date may be waived at the professor’s discretion.

**Examination Guidelines:**
1. Exams/Quizzes are created to not only test your knowledge of content but to help you practice testing using the NCLEX style questions. As you progress through nursing school, research shows that the pattern you have created on these exams is reflective of how you will do on your Exit HESI and eventually NCLEX.
2. Medication math items will be included on each examination.
3. The final examination will be comprehensive.
4. Testable material is based on course, classroom, lab, and clinical objectives. Included are all required readings, lecture and discussion content, related material in the course syllabus, content covered by media presented in or required for class/clinical including guest speakers, and material given as handouts.
5. Exam dates, times and locations are subject to change.
6. Students will be allowed to use the calculator available on the computer or a simple calculator for medication type questions.
7. No Cell Phones, IPods/IPads, PDAs or Beepers are allowed during examination times.
8. Course faculty will review the exam and the grades will be posted on Blackboard. Those
students scoring below 75 on any exam are encouraged to make an appointment with the faculty of record to review their exam and address their concerns. Reminder – a total test/quiz average of 75% or better is required to pass the course regardless of your other grades. See Grading Policy above for calculation.

Grading scale for TAMUCC CONHS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>83-89</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>75-82</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>65-74</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-64</td>
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**Dropping a Class**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with the professor before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. 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. **Faculty cannot drop you from a course.**

**Mary Jeff Bell Library**
There are many resources on the Mary & Jeff Bell Library (http://rattler.tamucc.edu/) website. The home page will take students to links for online databases, online articles, the online catalog, and interlibrary loan requests. The “Distance Learning” (http://rattler.tamucc.edu/distlearn/index.htm) link will be especially helpful to all students. This site includes all the information students need for remote access as well as tutorials on using the databases and finding articles. If eligible, registering as a distance student confers eligibility for a TexShare card. These cards are a Texas wide library card that allows users to use all state libraries in Texas. The cards will be mailed to students, so be sure mailing addresses are current in the University system. For any questions about receiving the TexShare card, please contact Dan Cayce: Daniel.cayce@tamucc.edu

**Center for Academic Achievement (CASA)**
The Center for Academic Student Achievement offers a variety of services, including a writing center. For more information about all of these services, go to the website: http://tlc.tamucc.edu/ or call 361-825-5933

**Professional Behavior:**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may
be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

In addition, how you speak to your Instructors in person, on the phone, or in an email should be with respect; anything else will not be tolerated and will result in a breakdown in communication between student and faculty. Faculty will not respond to threatening, menacing, loud, or aggressive behavior/words from students and will report such behavior to University authorities.

**Academic Honesty:**
We take this VERY seriously – one day you will be a nurse and your integrity (honesty) is imperative. There will be times that being a nurse will challenge your integrity to do “the right thing”. Start now to do “the right thing”. 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. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one's own work.) At best you end up with a “0”, and at worst, you are removed from the University. Below is the University’s policy on Academic Honesty. Three of the most common ways students cheat unknowingly:

1. Work in a study group to answer questions or work on a paper that is to be individual work. Study groups are great to discuss content; however, formulating answers to an individual assignment is cheating.
2. A friend is in a panic and asks to see what you did because the instructions are unclear. Nurses are kind and helpful people, so we help. Giving that student your work allows that student to copy your work and it makes it impossible for the instructor to decide what the intent actually was. You will both be punished for cheating. Instead, point them toward the resources that you used to help them find the answer.
3. Copying and pasting from internet sources or textbooks without giving due credit. ALWAYS cite your sources! (Even when answering questions – if you got it somewhere – cite it.)

**POLICIES:**

**Evaluation Input from Students**
The faculty of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences places great value on evaluative input from students. Evaluation of courses, instructors and clinical facilities provides the College with important data which is used to strengthen the program. Data is analyzed as to trends and themes and is important to curriculum and sequencing decisions. All evaluations for courses posted are online. The online mechanism allows us the opportunity to tabulate and store information in order to analyze trends within the curriculum. Please be assured that this information is secured and not released until after grades are submitted. No names are available to faculty. In order to garner some reliability and validity, the College must have representative data from the student population. That representation, based on the literature, has been set at 70%. The College is anticipating that students will thoughtfully participate in the evaluation process which will assist the faculty with the growth of the program. A link to evaluations will be available on
Blackboard toward the end of the semester. Thank you in advance for your assistance with the evaluation process.

**Academic Integrity and Honesty**

It is expected that University students will demonstrate a high level of maturity, self-direction, and ability to manage their own affairs. Students are viewed as individuals who possess the qualities of worth, dignity, and the capacity for self-direction in personal behavior. 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. (Plagiarism is intentionally, knowingly, or carelessly presenting the work of another as one’s own).

*Plagiarism means to steal and pass off the work of another as one’s own work. It usually results from bad paraphrasing or improper referencing. The substitution of a few changes from those of the original author and forgetting to use quotation marks, and reference citation are technically considered plagiarism. The only safe way to paraphrase is to read the original over several times and then write your conception of what you have read without looking at the original. In other words, when paraphrasing, keep the source book closed! (Wilson, 1985, p. 523)*


Please see the following sites for additional information:

- University Student Handbook and Code of Conduct: [http://www.tamucc.edu/~students](http://www.tamucc.edu/~students)
- University catalog related to academic integrity and honesty: [http://catalog.tamucc.edu/](http://catalog.tamucc.edu/)
- University Rules and Procedures: [University Procedure 13.02.99.C3.01 Academic Misconduct Cases](#)

**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 contact the Disability Services Office at 361.825.5816 or visit the office in CCH 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 Disabilities Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816

**Title IX**

As part of the Texas A & M Corpus Christi University policy, pregnant students are urged to contact the Title IX office for facilitation of academic issues impacted by pregnancy, delivery
and subsequent complications. Contact information: Mr. Samuel Ramirez, Title IX Coordinator or Ms. Rosie Ruiz, Deputy Title IX Coordinator (825-5826).

**Active Military Duty**
Active duty military personnel, military spouses, and veterans with special circumstances (eg: deployment, drill requirements, disabilities) are welcome and encouraged to communicate these, in advance if possible, to the course and clinical instructor.

**Grade Appeals Process**
The College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CONHS) adheres to the University’s student grade appeal procedures described in Section 13.02.99.C2.01 (revised May, 2013) and follows those guidelines. See [http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/](http://academicaffairs.tamucc.edu/Rules_Procedures/) for the University procedure and see [http://conhs.tamucc.edu/shb/](http://conhs.tamucc.edu/shb/) for the CONHS process identified in the Student Handbook.

**Support Services**
Students are encouraged to seek faculty assistance in accessing University Services, including tutoring, health services, personal counseling, degree counseling, financial aid, learning resources, job/work placement, career guidance, and computer/technical support/instruction. If a student is interested in other support services provided by the University, the student is encouraged by the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and the University to seek these services.

**Syllabus Disclaimer:** While the provisions of this syllabus are as accurate and complete as possible, the faculty reserves the right to change non-critical aspects of the course to accommodate emergencies, unexpected technical problems, or any unforeseen circumstances. Such changes will be announced as soon as feasible and will be communicated by course email or announcements via Blackboard. *It is the STUDENT’S responsibility to keep abreast of course announcements.* Questions regarding course requirements should be addressed when the syllabus is received, within the first week of the course.

The Texas A&M University Corpus Christi: TAMUCC College of Nursing and Health Sciences Student Handbook is available online: [http://conhs.tamucc.edu/shb](http://conhs.tamucc.edu/shb)

The handbook and syllabus should be reviewed before signing the receipt form.
The following receipt form must be signed and returned within the first week of classes.

Student Handbook Receipt & Statement of Syllabus Understanding Form

I have reviewed a copy of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences Student Handbook located on the college website and the course syllabus for eLine NURS 3548. I have been provided an opportunity to clarify questions. Receipt form must be signed and submitted to the course faculty. I understand the expectations set forth in the 3548 course syllabus and the CONHS Student Handbook.

____________________________
Student Name(Print)

___________________________     ___________
Student Signature            Date