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

NURS 5326 Advanced Physiology with Pathophysiological Applications  
Syllabus Spring 2017

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Office Hours by Appointment  
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Denise.delarosa@tamucc.edu

Credits: 3 semester hours (3:0)

Course Description: The study of normal physiology and pathologic mechanisms of disease across the lifespan that will serve as the foundation for clinical assessment, decision making, and client health management in advanced practice nursing.

Course Objectives

The graduate nursing student, through physiological and pathophysiological study of subcellular mechanisms, cells, tissues and organ systems should be able to:

1. Develop critical thinking skills using the physiological parameters that determine cellular and organ system function and dysfunction (ME I, IX)
2. Develop skills necessary to make objective clinical decisions based on the best available evidence from disciplined research to direct complex health care decisions in nursing practice. (ME I, III, IV, V, VIII, IX)
3. Interpret current research in the field of advanced physiology and pathophysiology to improve health care for their clients (ME I, IV, V, VI, VIII, IX)
4. Integrate theoretical and research based physiology and pathophysiology concepts into modern nursing practice (ME I, IV, V, VI, VIII, IX)
5. Develop a pathophysiological rationale for advanced level nursing management of acute and chronic conditions (ME I, II, IV, VI, VII, VIII, IX)
6. Develop a physiological basis for health care within diverse populations across the life span, through advanced knowledge of alterations found in common disease states within those populations and age groups. (ME I, II, III, VIII, IX)

6.1 Participate in the creation of a positive learning experience using the new technologies
6.2 Evaluate her/his own progress toward achievement of long term goals within the discipline of nursing
6.3 Develop a more sophisticated practice paradigm based on physiological and pathophysiological concepts
6.4 Demonstrate responsibility for class preparation, student group assignments, and active participation in the on-line discussion forums and chat sessions.

**Lecture Location:** TAMUCC online Courses
http://islandonline.tamucc.edu

**Class Time:** This section of NURS 5326 is web-based and the principals of distance learning apply for all students. The **online week runs from Wednesday to Tuesday.** That means that all students should be prepared to discuss any topic that is assigned on the Wednesday designated on the class schedule. Topics for the week are noted on the class schedule according to date and content. All **assignments** are due on the day indicated in the Course Schedule.

**Required Textbook**
ISBN-978-0-323-08854-1

**OPTIONAL** (but very useful)

**Teaching and Learning Methods**
- Assigned readings
- Review of main course text PowerPoint presentations
- Modules on important topics in pathophysiology
- Asynchronous discussions on weekly topics and posted study questions
- Group assignments
- Tests (online at assigned times as listed on the course schedule)
- Quizzes will be optional for your learning and will not count toward final grade

**Syllabus and Course Schedule** – Please read through this syllabus and the course schedule carefully. If you have any questions or concerns, you must email the course faculty through Blackboard immediately to resolve the issue within the first week of the semester. If no concerns are raised, it will be assumed that all students have read and understand the content and expectations.
Course Requirements and Grading

Evaluation methods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examinations (4)</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Assignments (3)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in Weekly Online Discussions</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course Grade Components

1. **Course Tests**: Each test will be made up of multiple choice questions. These questions will be drawn from the course texts, case studies, any assigned readings, posted discussions based upon these readings and other coursework. Current theories on the etiology, pathogenesis, physiology and pathophysiology which are covered in the course content will be the focus. Critical thinking skills will be needed to choose correct answers.

**Students must achieve an average of 75% or higher on the course tests before the grades for the group case studies and for discussion post participation are counted.**

*Exam dates are noted on your course schedule.

**Exams will be offered on Thursdays

***EXAMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 11 AM – 5 PM only. EXAM TIMES ARE NON-NEGOTIABLE, SO PLEASE ARRANGE YOUR SCHEDULE SO THAT YOU CAN TAKE THE EXAM DURING THE SCHEDULED TIME.

PROCTORED TEST SITE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: All tests given within the graduate nursing program are given through proctored test sites according to the Secure Testing Sites policies and procedures document (located under the INFORMATION link on the course menu panel to the left). No student may use notes, books, handouts, etc., during the tests. The Secure Testing Policy is considered a part of this syllabus, and may be found as a separate document under the same Information icon under which this syllabus and its accompanying course schedule is found.

*Make up exams will not be permitted. Students are advised that there is ample time to take the test when it is scheduled. Students are further advised that waiting until late in the testing period to take the test may result in difficulties with time. PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO START THE TESTS. Tests in progress will be automatically submitted when the testing time has ended.*
2. GROUP ASSIGNMENTS - Case Studies/Sets of Questions: Three group assignments in the form of case studies and/or sets of questions will be assigned during the semester. Group assignments will count for 20% of the final course grade. Each member of a student group will receive the same grade on each case study, and equal participation in the case study is expected from all students.

Students will work in small groups to evaluate each posted assignment’s given information and questions, collaborate in researching the problem and the possible answers, and turn in the assignments in a timely fashion. One student will be selected by members of each group to turn in the group’s written assignment. This student “scribe” will change with each assignment. No one student may be responsible for acting as scribe more than once in the semester. Students will be assigned to a group during the first week of the semester. Each group will have a number which will correspond to the group number found within the Communication icon under Discussions.

**Group Assignments: Grading Criteria Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physiology/Pathophysiology of the questions stated</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The answer is clearly and concisely stated.</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence of literature search – current research used other than the text</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APA format</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double spacing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Times New Roman font, size 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference page</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title page with running head and each group member’s name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No abstract required</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GROUP ASSIGNMENTS submitted after the due date and time will be subject to a 10% grade reduction for each day late. Submission 48 hours or more after the due date will not be accepted and will receive a grade of 0.

*** The course instructor will be a member of all the student groups and will be able to monitor activities within the group discussion area. Students who are holding back other members of the group will be noted. Students who consistently do not make adequate contribution to the group assignments will receive a separate grade for this activity which will be based on their particular contribution. This grade will be at the discretion of the instructor.

3. Participation in Weekly Discussion Topics: participation in weekly discussions will count for 10% of the final grade. A minimum of two postings are required weekly. The initial posting (if assigned) is due by Saturday at midnight and the response posts are
due by **Tuesday at midnight** of each week. All postings must be scholarly and contribute to the knowledge and learning of the group. Response postings must be substantive and further the discussion with additional information and/or questions for continued investigation (not just agreeing or disagreeing). All postings must be sourced and in APA format.

*No “extra-Credit” work will be permitted in this course.*

**Grading:**

The college of nursing letter grading scales for all programs consists of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-89</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75-82</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-74</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 and below</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please consult the University Catalog for explanation of University grading policies. Graduate students must maintain a 3.0 GPA on a 4 point scale

**Communication:** Communication between students and faculty should take place by email within Blackboard. It is expected that all students and faculty check their email at least once every 48 hours. If an email is sent requiring a response, that response should be sent within 48 hours of receipt of the original email. This is an expectation of both students and faculty.

**Academic Advising:** The College of Nursing and Health Sciences require that students meet with an Academic Advisor as 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.

**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.

**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).

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/)

**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).

**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.