NURS 3548 Nursing Care of Children and Their Families

Syllabus

Spring 2018

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CREDITS: 5 semester hours (3:9)

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, psycho-social, cultural, and spiritual care of the child within the family unit. Using the nursing process, strategies are formulated for promoting and maintaining optimal functioning of the child-family unit and for enhancing the strengths of the family unit. Clinical activities emphasize the application of theory to practice in a variety of acute care settings. Prerequisites: NURS 3318, 3342, 3435, and 3614.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the completion of Nursing Care of Children and Their Families, student will be able to:


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:

Sherpath only (this includes electronic copy of the text):
9780323512503

Sherpath with black and white print text:
9780323555784
Electronic Health Record (EHR) access

RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND RESOURCES:


Teaching / Learning Strategies:

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:** 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. **Students are expected to complete all required readings prior to each class period.** Written homework may be assigned at the discretion of the faculty. As a 5-semester credit course, faculty expects 8 - 10 hours of independent preparation and study each week, in addition to class time and clinical time. Preparation for all classes 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.

3. **Students are expected to participate in classroom discussions and be respectful of**
others. It is assumed that students will prepare for each class so that they can make knowledgeable contributions on the subject. All contributions should be made in a respectful manner and the discussion should be an orderly sharing of ideas. NO disrespect to classmates, faculty, or guests will be tolerated. 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. Cell Phones will be turned off or on vibrate.

4. **Recording** - Permission to video or audio record must be obtained from each lecturer prior to class. Clinical examples or examples from clinical experiences cannot be recorded due to patient confidentiality and HIPPA regulations. Any use of an audio or video of anything to do with this course or clinical that is posted or shared via any form of social media without the course manager’s specific permission may be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

**Grading Policy**

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, a well child and family assessment, 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 Tests 1-3 and the Final Exam. The percentage value (weight) of each requirement is as follows:

**Grade weights:**
- Test 1 = 15%
- Test 2 = 20%
- Test 3 = 20%
- Comprehensive Final HESI Exam = 20%
- Teaching Project = 5%
- Well Child and Family Assessment = 5%
- Journals = 5%
- Sherpath assignments/EAQ/case studies 10%

- The **Teaching Project, The Well-Child Assignment, and the self-evaluations in your Journals 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.
Assignments:

- **Evolve Adaptive Quizzing (EAQ)**
  Adaptive Quizzes will be assigned as listed on the course calendar. EAQ may not be submitted late. Students will receive a score of zero for work not completed by the date and time listed on the course calendar.

- **Evolve Case Studies**
  Case Studies will be assigned as listed on the course calendar. Case Studies may not be submitted late. Students will receive a score of zero for work not completed by the date and time listed on the course calendar.

Clinical Assignments:

- **Well Child and Family Assessment** – These may be turned in early but may not be graded until after the due date.
- **Josie King Journals** (5 entries total – no more than 1 per week and 3 must occur during clinical as part of your self-evaluation.)
- **Teaching Project** – as assigned, either morning or afternoon

Examination Guidelines:

1. Students must achieve a combined average of 75% on all exams to pass the course.
2. The final exam is comprehensive.
3. Students are held accountable for content from previous and concurrent courses. Questions related to content from previous or concurrent coursework may appear on quizzes or examinations.
4. All exam dates and times are printed on the course schedule.
5. Exam dates, times and locations are subject to change.
6. No examination or test material is to leave the classroom.
7. Any student determined by faculty to have cheated on the exam will receive a score of zero for that exam and may be subject to failure from the course and dismissal from the nursing program.
8. Exams will be given only on the date and time scheduled. For each exam:
   - Cell phones, PDAs and beepers are not allowed during exams and must be turned off.
   - All books, bags, notebooks, and purses will be left at the front of or outside the room.
9. Medication math problems will be included on each exam. Calculators may be used and will be provided on the computer exam interface.

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/course coordinator to review their exam and address their concerns.
Grading scale:

- A 90-100
- B 83-89
- C 75-82
- D 67-74
- F 0-66

Late work & Make-up Examinations:

Late assignments will not be graded. No make-up examinations will be administered. If a student misses either Exam 1, 2, or 3 the comprehensive final exam will count as the Final Exam grade and as the grade for the missed exam. An unexcused absence for ANY exam will result in a zero for that exam. Exam average must be a 75 or higher to pass this course. See Attendance Policy below.

Attendance:

Students missing more than three classes in a didactic/theory course in any College of Nursing Program may receive one letter grade lower.

Class Cancellation:

In the event that a class is canceled, the student is expected to do the readings and complete the objectives for that day. The content will still be included on examinations. The material in this syllabus and dates identified in the Course Calendar are subject to change. Check your Islander e-mail for all university closing updates. Check Islander email AND Blackboard for all course related emails.

In the event of an unforeseen adverse event, such as a major hurricane and classes could not be held on the campus of Texas A&M University–Corpus Christi; this course would continue through the use of Blackboard and/or email. In addition, the syllabus and class activities may be modified to allow continuation of the course. Ideally, University facilities (i.e., emails, web sites, and Blackboard) will be operational within two days of the closing of the physical campus. However, students need to make certain that the course instructor has a primary and a secondary means of contacting each student.

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.

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

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 your academic advisor, the Financial Aid Office, and me, before you decide to drop this course. 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. Please refer to the University calendar for the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

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 in a professional nursing program must function within the legal, moral, and ethical standards of the profession. These standards guide practice. The following is a guide for your clinical preparation and performance. It alerts you to the major areas for which you will be held accountable.

Please see the clinical evaluation tool, located on the College of Nursing & Health Sciences website (http://conhs.tamu.edu/nursingstuhandbook/index.htm) under Nursing Undergraduate Curriculum for clinical objectives. While the professor will provide guidance, supervision and consultation, the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-direction, seeking consultation and demonstration of course and clinical objectives.

It is the responsibility of the student to be sure that all health records, immunizations, CPR certification and Hospital Orientation are current and on file. These are required by the University, the college, and the clinical facilities to insure the health of students and patients. Students who do not have Hospital Orientation, current immunizations, CPR certification, liability insurance, background checks, and urine drug screening on file will not be permitted to attend clinical until their file is up to date. The student will receive a clinical warning for every day clinical is missed related to the above, thus putting themselves at risk for failing clinical related to absences.

**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.** 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 coursework. The presence of children or other visitors is not appropriate at any time during the clinical experience.

** Students are to report to the nurse in charge of the patient prior to initiation of patient care, breaks, and at the end of the shift.

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.

Students are to contact the faculty member in case of an absence or tardiness. In the case of an absence, students must call faculty one hour prior to their clinical time. 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 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 for that day and no make-up will be provided. A student who earns two Clinical Warnings will receive a final grade of “F” for the clinical period 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” (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. Written careplans/assignments are graded on a Pass/Fail basis.

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.

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.

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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.)

e. Students will **NOT** give IV push medications.

f. Students will **NOT** take care of a patient with airborne precautions without checking with their instructor for permission.

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**

56 = hours in the hospital, clinic, Urgent Care Center, and Nueces County Community Action Agency, school nurse, and other areas as assigned
9 = Well Child and Family Assessment Assignment
9 = Teaching Project with ECDC
16= Hospital/Clinical Orientation and Skills Assessment/SIMS

**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 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 hospital experience ONLY, a student may choose to wear a pediatric print scrub top with a TAMU-CC patch and their blue scrub pant.
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 nail polish.

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

**Alternate Clinical Sites:**
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. Driscoll has a no cell phones policy for their staff and we will follow this policy as well. Keep it out of sight and DO NOT use unless you are in the break room. When at the Nueces County Community Action Agency, cell phone use is prohibited. Cell phones may **NOT** be brought into the assigned buildings. Leave secured at home or in your car.

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 **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 for the next clinical week.

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 (including the DCH “brains”), revealing client/patient names to non-professional or professional non-related persons, sharing comments and/or pictures of patients or families on social media. Students will sign a confidentiality statement that is required of all persons giving nursing care at DCH.

5. **Medication Administration:** All students will be evaluated for competency prior to clinical regarding the administration of medications. Before any medication administration, the student must be checked off in a Medication Administration lab prior to starting clinical. Should the faculty member be unavailable at the time a medication is due (e.g., working with another student), the student shall consult his/her assigned **registered nurse** (RN) 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. FAILURE TO DO SO JEOPARDIZES THE CLIENT'S WELFARE. 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 faculty and the supervising RN.

7. **Basic Life Support (BLS-C) for the Healthcare Provider and current immunizations must be current and remain current throughout the clinical rotation.** These must be loaded to CastleBranch (MyCB) in order to attend clinical. This is the responsibility of the student to keep Castle Branch up to date. Any student practicing without current certification will receive a Clinical Warning and may receive a failing grade in the course.

8. **Patient/client care** of any type is strictly prohibited when faculty are not 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 a student’s clinical performance will be 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.

**Clinical Evaluation**
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.

**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/)

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 penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in an automatic grade of F in this class.

**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.

**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**

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, 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 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](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

**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.