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

Course Syllabus Fall 2018

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COURSE TITLE: Nursing 4322: Health Alterations

CREDITS: 3 semester hours

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays 0900-1100 or by appointment
Daily Blackboard access: use Blackboard Email for all course discussion

PREREQUISITES: Admission to RN-to-BSN Nursing Program OR Anatomy & Physiology

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course offers an exploration of selected pathophysiological processes that occur in the body when a homeostatic imbalance is brought about by internal or external factors. Knowledge of the etiology of specific impaired health states that individuals may experience, as well as the behavior and symptomatology that may be manifested will be explored. These principles will enable the student to frame problems through the critical thinking process.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze the cause and effect relationships among multiple body systems in response to dysfunction.
2. Assess physiological responses to specific disease states.
3. Discuss risk factors to specific disease states.
4. Evaluate the compensatory mechanisms that are activated in response to dysfunction.
5. Describe the nurse’s collaborative role in monitoring for potential complications in individual human systems with selected health alterations.
6. Describe the nurse’s role in selecting therapeutic interventions.


Examity:

This course requires the use of exam-proctoring involving third party charges. Exam-proctoring charges will range from $16.00 - $50.00 per exam. Students will be required to schedule exams at least 24 hours in advance or incur late scheduling charges. All costs for exams are the responsibility of the student. Students will also be responsible for providing webcam with a microphone to be used in test proctoring.

Essential Content:

- The Cell
  - Cellular Biology
  - Genes and Genetic Diseases
  - Altered Cellular and Tissue Biology
  - Fluid and Electrolytes, Acids and Bases
- Mechanisms of Self Defense
  - Innate Immunity: Inflammation and Wound Healing
  - Adaptive Immunity
  - Infection and Defects in Mechanisms of Defense
  - Stress and Disease
- Neurologic System
  - Structure and Function of the Neurologic System
  - Pain, Temperature, Sleep, and Sensory Function
  - Alterations in Cognitive Systems
  - Disorders of the CNS and PNS
  - Alterations of Neurologic Function in Children
- Endocrine System
  - Mechanisms of Hormonal Regulation
  - Alterations of Hormonal Regulation
- Hematologic System
  - Structure and Function of the Hematologic System
  - Alterations of Hematologic Function
  - Alterations of Hematologic Function in Children
- Cardiovascular and Lymphatic System
  - Structure and Function of the Cardiovascular and Lymphatic System
  - Alterations of Cardiovascular Function
  - Alterations of Cardiovascular Function in Children
- Pulmonary System
  - Structure and Function of the Pulmonary System
  - Alterations of Pulmonary Functions
  - Alterations of Pulmonary Function in Children
- The Renal and Urologic Systems
  - Structure and Function of the Renal and Urologic Systems
  - Alterations of Renal and Urinary Tract Function
  - Alterations of Renal and Urinary Function in Children
• The Reproductive Systems
  • Structure and Function of the Reproductive System
  • Alterations of the Female Reproductive System
  • Alterations of the Male Reproductive System
• Digestive System
  • Structure and Function of the Digestive System
  • Alterations of Digestive Function
  • Alterations of Digestive Function in Children
• Musculoskeletal and Integumentary System
  • Structure and Function of the Musculoskeletal System
  • Alterations of Musculoskeletal Function
  • Alterations of Musculoskeletal Function in Children
  • Structure, Function, and Disorders of the Integument
  • Alterations of the Integument in Children

COURSE POLICIES:

1. Students are expected to behave in a professional manner and are accountable for their behaviors.
2. Cell phones and beepers will be turned off or on “vibrate” during class and in exams for all classes that meet on Campus
3. No children are allowed in class for all classes that meet on Campus.
4. Required reading should be completed before class. Assignments will be due at the beginning of the class period. For online Blackboard classes, the class week will be considered to start each week on the same day as the first day of scheduled postings online (Monday to Sunday if Monday is the first day of class, Wednesday to Tuesday if Wednesday is the first day of class, etc.).
5. Should a student miss a class, it is his/her responsibility to obtain handouts, lecture notes, and information from instructor or peers. There will be no automatic excused lack of participation for the class week for online Blackboard classes. For online Blackboard classes, you must meet your posting requirements each week. There is no make up work for online Blackboard classes.
6. Taping of lectures is permitted in this course.
7. Students must achieve a mean of 75% on major exams.
8. All exam dates are printed on the Topical Outline for classes that meet on Campus. The exams will be given in a proctored setting (Computer labs in Island Hall). For online classes exam dates are posted in the first day’s postings and are to be taken using Examity as mentioned.
9. Students with documented test-taking needs should discuss them with faculty prior to the first scheduled exam.
10. Students who are late for exams may not be allowed to test, if allowed, will not be given extra time. For online, Blackboard classes, you must finish the test in the time allotted. You must take the test on the day it is open or there will be no other time allowed to take the test and the score will be a zero.

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11. No exam may leave the classroom; any student leaving the room with an exam will receive a zero for that exam. For online Blackboard classes do not discuss the test with your classmates. Sharing any information about a test or quiz is cheating and will be reported to the Judicial Affairs Committee.

12. Cheating is considered to have occurred if you share information about a test in verbal, written or printed format, online or in person. Taking the test must be an individual event. Do not take the test and allow others to see your responses.

13. Any student determined by the faculty to be cheating on an exam will receive a zero for that exam.

14. For classes that meet on campus, if a student is absent on the day of the exam:
   a. The student must notify the instructor prior to the start of the exam in order to have a make-up exam scheduled.
   b. The student must bring documentation to the instructor related to the absence as appropriate.
   c. The make-up exam may be multiple choice, essay, sentence completion, case study analysis, or any combination of these options at the discretion of the faculty. The student will not be notified regarding the format of the exam. The make-up exam must be scheduled within 5 working days of the originally scheduled exam.
   d. For Blackboard online classes, you must take the exam within the time it is posted through Examity. If you are unable to do so you must provide the instructor with documentation prior to the start of the exam why you are unable to take the exam. Notifying the instructor AFTER you have missed the exam will result in ZERO for the grade. If you have made arrangements for a make up exam with the instructor it must be taken within 5 days of the originally scheduled exam.
   e. For Blackboard online classes, you must make at least one original posting in that week’s discussion area. It should be within 48 hours of when the assignment is posted. It should be at least 75 words in length and be properly cited (APA format). You will be graded for content, format and appropriateness of your response. Each week your discussion points may accumulate to total number of points per week (please see the syllabus below). Postings after midnight (CDT) on the last night of the class week will be considered late and will not be graded. Your first posting of the week must be within 48 hours of start of the course week or you will lose credit for that post. Plagiarism will result in a zero for that posting and is subject to plagiarism checks. Each week there will be at least four required postings to earn your possible total of 20 points for each unit posted. If there are two units posted you will be required to post 4 times for each unit.
After your initial posting, the other postings should be in response to a post from your fellow classmates. This assists in everyone's learning.

15. **The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for person 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 Driftwood 101.

16. **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. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Faculty Center rooms 163 & 165, and advisors are Johanna DuBose 825-3748 and Angelica Santillan 825-2461.

17. **Academic Honesty**

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to a penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. Ethics also requires that if you are aware of cheating you must report it or you are just as guilty as the cheater. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one's own work.)

http://falcon.tamucc.edu/~students/JAffairs/ja_code_of_conduct_article3.htm

18. **Grade Appeal Process**

As stated in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CONHS) Handbook under section VII Policies and Procedures, a student that believes they have an academic grade appeal is encouraged to go through the CONHS academic review process prior to pursuing University Grade Appeal. See the handbook for the process.

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

19. **Dropping a Class**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. You may also want to discuss this course of action with your advisor. 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 see the academic calendar to determine the last day you may drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

**SUPPLIES:** You do need a working reliable computer with reliable Internet service. Please take the introduction quiz to be sure that your computer will work with Blackboard. You will need a current version of Adobe Reader. It is available as a free download from http://www.adobe.com/products/reader/

You may use any PDF reader that you have access to. You will also need Word compatible software. If you do not have this, OpenOffice is a free download that will provide you with this function. It may be found at: http://www.openoffice.org/

Please submit all work in word.doc format if asked but weekly posting assignments should all be done in the Blackboard discussion forum and not submitted as Word documents.

**COURSE EVALUATION:** In order to pass Nursing 4322, the student must achieve a minimum grade average of 75% on exams and quizzes in order to pass the course. Group work, Sherpath lessons and Attendance make up the other 25%.

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<tr>
<th>Course Grade Components</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>4 Exams</td>
<td>65% of course grade*</td>
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Class participation:
Weekly Discussions
Weekly Participation Assignments are available in schedule 10% of course grade

Unit Quizzes
Individual Assignments in Blackboard 10% of course grade*

Sherpath
Assignments in Sherpath 7.5%

EKG module 7.5%

**Very Important to Understand** - *Students must achieve an average of 75% or higher exam average (65% of course grade) along with the quiz average (10% of course grade).* Grades for other components will not count unless the student has attained a 75% cumulative average on the four exams along with the quiz average.

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

**Examity**

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**Grading Scheme**
A= 89.5 and above
B= 82.5 and above to less than 89.5
C= 74.5 and above to less than 82.5
D= 66.5 and above to less than 74.5
F = less than 66.5

All tests and quizzes are timed. **Please make arrangements to be available every Wednesday from 0900-2359 to take quizzes and exams (except as noted in the schedule); they are not given at any other time. Final is December 7, Friday and is the only exception.**
EXAMS

Students will be taking exams using Examity between the hours of 0900 and 2359 on the dates listed in the course calendar. Instructions regarding Examity will be provided in Blackboard.

1. Students are required to take the exams when scheduled.
2. **Students should not schedule their exams within 1 hour of the due time** – there have been MANY instances where the students are unable to take the exam before it is closed due to scheduling late. **PLEASE make your schedule to start the exam with at least 2 hours to spare before the cut off time. Exams will be open between the hours of 0800 and 2100. Exams should be scheduled at least 1 week in advance of the scheduled test date.**
3. If the student has a severe illness or tragedy which causes the student to be absent from a scheduled exam, the faculty must be notified of the absence prior to the start of the exam.
4. If the student does not notify the course faculty about an absence prior to the start of the exam a grade of 0 (zero) for the exam may be averaged into the student’s final grade.
5. If the student is allowed to take the missed exam at a later time, the exam will be administered in Examity within days of the original scheduled exam date. The instructor may decide to count the next exam twice to make up for the missed exam.
6. If a second or third exam is missed, a grade of 0 (zero) for each exam will be averaged into the student’s final grade.
7. Students are required to take all Exams in Examity on testing dates listed in the course calendar. Proctored exams using Examity may result in added expense to the student.
8. Students must attain a 75% cumulative average on course exams. The quiz average will be factored into the exam average. The exams are weighted at 65% and the quiz average is weighted at 10% of the 75% average.
9. Due to test security concerns, there is limited opportunity to review testing materials.
10. There should be no use of references (textbooks or electronic resources) during the examination. Anyone that uses unapproved material during an exam may be subject to Academic Misconduct.
11. Being in possession of ANY testing materials is defined as cheating. Refer to University Academic Misconduct Policy.
12. **The days for the exams are non-negotiable unless there is a medical excuse or proven family emergency.**
13. The exams are objective, multiple-choice, and true and false question format. The final will be cumulative, with previously untested material given heavier weight.
Discussions
Students are allowed and encouraged to use any resource in their discussion postings as long as it is cited appropriately (APA format).

I will read each and every posting, interjecting ideas; questions or asking clarification. I am online every day and if you need to discuss anything about the course please email me in the Blackboard email. Do NOT send emails to me through the campus email, I may NOT check that mailbox for several days but I check Blackboard several times every day. Please contribute to the learner-centered environment with your discussion forum posts. Please participate in the discussion forums daily, remember that discussions after the last night of the class week, (midnight CDT) will not be included in your grade. You will lose points if you do not post each week. Expect to read a great deal. Your assignments contain essential information; please do NOT get behind in your reading. Interact, engage, and contribute to establishing and sustaining a learner-centered environment. Expect to spend 15-20 hours per week on the course. Accept that successfully completing this program of study while challenging will open a myriad of doors for you professionally and personally.

Texas A&M Corpus Christi School of Nursing and Health Sciences believes discussion forums are an excellent way to pull online learning together. You are encouraged to post and respond regularly, the greater the participation, the greater the educational reward. You cannot pass this class without participation in the weekly discussion postings. Please expect to read a great number of posts per week and assist with meeting this expectation by quality participation.

All quizzes and exams will be available each Wednesday (except as noted in the schedule). Please check course announcements everyday to check for any changes to the schedule.

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 Rules and Procedures: [University Procedure 13.02.99.C3.01](http://catalog.tamucc.edu/)
- [Academic Misconduct Cases](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).

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/ for the University procedure and see 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.