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

NURS 3342 Online Use of Pharmacology Principles

Syllabus

Spring 2020

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CREDITS:  semester hours (3:0)

PREREQUISITES:  Anatomy & Physiology 1&2 with a C or better; Health Alterations prior to, with a C or better, or currently with this course

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Focuses on the basic drug classifications, concepts and principles of pharmacology, with special consideration for the nursing role in developing a comprehensive approach to the clinical application of drug therapy through the use of the nursing process. Nursing implications relative to the utilization of drug therapy are examined. Dosage calculations are evaluated for competency. (Is a pre-requisite for admission into the nursing program)

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Define basic pharmacological terminology.

2. Develop a practical understanding of various pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamics processes.
3. Recognize significant adverse drug reactions and drug-drug and drug-nutrient interactions.

4. Describe major classifications of drugs used in modern treatment of disease.

5. Demonstrate an understanding of the nursing implications of drug therapy.

6. Develop an understanding of the processes of evaluation of drug therapy.

7. Develop the necessary skills to provide patient education regarding drug therapy.

8. Describe strategies employed for patient protection during the preparation and administration of medications.

9. Demonstrate competency in performing clinical drug and dosage calculations.

**REQUIRED TEXTS AND RESOURCES:**

**Required Textbook:**

Lilley, L., Collins, S., Snyder, J. (2020). *Pharmacology and the Nursing Process* (9th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. ISBN: 9780323695282 (This is mandatory and must be purchased in the TAMUCC bookstore. It will include an eBook and Sherpath). Please do not use access code until class starts. It will be used through Blackboard.

Sherpath is learning system from Evolve/Elsevier that is designed to assist in your learning pharmacology and is required for this course. All assignments will be in Sherpath through Blackboard.

**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. See Orientation Unit/Lessons for further instructions.
Optional Resource:

St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. ISBN: 9780323594370
E-Study Guide: ISBN: 9780323371384 (only purchased through your student EVOLVE @ evolve.elsevier.com

(This book is not required, but may be a useful resource for this course)

(Specific reading assignments will be listed on the Course Schedule and under Units/Lessons tab.)

Learning Experiences and Teaching Methods:

Discussion, independent reading, and study are used to stimulate the development of an understanding of theory, process, and principles of clinical application of drug therapy using the nursing process. Classes will focus on evaluation, application, and utilization of drug groups or specific representative drugs used for different body systems and nursing application in administering these drugs. The student is responsible for identification of individual learning needs, self-direction, and demonstration that learning has occurred. Faculty will provide guidance to assist the student’s successful completion of this course. This course values independent thinking and the challenging of ideas.

Course objectives are met through individual study using assigned readings, suggested resources, active involvement in virtual classroom activities (discussions and chats), exchange of ideas with classmates and faculty, and utilizing critical thinking skills. Teaching methods includes power point presentations, small group discussion, case study analysis, independent study of texts and additional resources. Class participation makes up a significant portion of your course grade and will be evidenced by individual and group assignments. While the faculty will provide guidance and consultation, the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-directed learning, seeking additional resources, and communicating learning needs to faculty as needed to achieve course objectives.

The on-line format of this course has the same rigor and expectations for learning as the face to face Pharmacology course. This course follows a set on-line schedule for weekly participation. The schedule is available in the Blackboard course and calendar.

Class Time: This section of NURS 3342 is web-based and the principles of asynchronous distance learning apply for all students. The online weekly schedule

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begins on Sunday at 0600 and ends on Saturday at 2359 unless otherwise noted in the unit lessons.  

**Web Class Specifics:**

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

2. Students must have access to the Internet to successfully communicate with the faculty and students enrolled in this course.

3. Web-based courses do not reduce the amount of time you are likely to spend completing course requirements. Rather, the time spent in the course is set by your personal learning style, not a lecture schedule.

4. After completion of Unit 1, during week one, those of you who experience problems with navigation of the Web-based learning course should inform the instructor immediately. Computer or Internet problems are not an excuse for late work or lack of participation. Students should have a back-up plan for internet access in case of emergencies.

5. Logging into this Blackboard course to read announcements, discussions, and email is essential to success in the course and consistent, DAILY log-in during the student’s work week is recommended.

6. **Upon receipt of communication via email** from your faculty, the student is expected to acknowledge the message by replying to the message within 24 hours of receipt.

**Student Evaluation** is ongoing to enhance experiential learning and provides the student with feedback regarding performance in meeting course objectives. Evaluation methods include weekly participation scoring based on discussions, Sherpath assignments/quizzes, and scheduled examinations that provide the student opportunity to demonstrate mastery of course objectives. Faculty and Course Evaluation are a required part of this course.

**Faculty Conferences** provide an opportunity to discuss progress toward course objectives and are scheduled on an “as needed” basis. Students or faculty may initiate a faculty conference. Conferences may be conducted in person, by WebEx or by telephone.

**Classroom Civility**

The learning process involves an exchange of ideas and an exploration of concepts between faculty and students. Students must log into the Bb course to participate in classroom activities. A certain level of decorum facilitates the on-line learning process for learners and teachers. The on-line learning environment communication and behavior guidelines should be reviewed in "Netiquette" found in the Course Orientation Module.
Grading is a process of measuring the outcome of learning against standards and assigning a symbol to the level of performance achieved. The final determination of the grade, therefore, rests with the professor. There will be no end of course negotiations of grades, unless there is a gross miscalculation.

“Extra credit”- As nursing is a profession with specific, non-negotiable standards and competencies, there will be no opportunity for “extra” credit assignments. You must meet the criteria and standards of mastery in order to pass the exams and the course (see course exams section). After each exam, all questions will be reviewed by faculty and scores MAY be adjusted if some questions did not perform well upon analysis of the data (did not accurately measure knowledge).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Grade Components</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A. Four Exams</strong> (Please note that you must attain a weighted 75% exam average, as the 1st criteria for passing this course. Once the 1st criteria is achieved, then the below will be averaged into your final grade, which is the 2nd criteria)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Course participation:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Weekly Discussions (Assignments are available in the schedule)</td>
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<td>2. Unit Quizzes (Individual Assignments in Blackboard)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Sherpath Lessons (Individual Assignments in Blackboard)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Math Module (Self-Study-See Units/Lessons)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
A. **Course Exams**

There will be four exams, which are listed on the course schedule. See below regarding exam administration. *The student must attain a weighted ASSESSMENT AVERAGE of 75% or higher on the four exams (1st criteria for passing this course). Grades for other components will not count toward the course grade unless the student has earned a weighted 75% assessment average on exams. The 2nd criteria are to obtain an overall average of 75% in the course to pass (once the required 75% exam average is attained).* Students who have less than 75% on any one exam should make an appointment with faculty within one week to discuss plans for improvement and any barriers to achievement of the course objectives. Note that each test does not have to, individually, be above 75% to pass the course, the total average of the 4 needs to be at least 75%. Each exam is 50 questions with multiple choice answers, is timed and taken in a secure, proctored test environment. Please review the Test Taking Policy under Unit 1 in Course Content.

**EXAMS**

Students will be taking exams using Examity between the hours of 8am and 9 pm 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. There will not be a “make-up exam” except under the most unusual circumstances, and this would require prior arrangement at the discretion of the professor and may be in a different format. If there is severe illness requiring a hospital visit or emergency surgery for the student or a confirmed death in the immediate family, the final exam may be counted twice, at the discretion of the instructor. Students must submit documentation of the emergency or death in the family in a timely manner (within 1 week) for any exam absence to be excused. **The student must contact the faculty prior to the exam if any of the above apply.** If the faculty is not notified OR if the excuse is deemed inappropriate (this will be up to the instructor) the grade will be 0 (zero). THIS WOULD LIKELY RESULT IN COURSE FAILURE as then the cumulative exam and quiz average would be less than 75%. If additional exams are missed the student will receive a 0 (zero) for that exam.

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 scheduled to start the exam with at least 2 hours to spare before the cutoff time.** If a student is not able to take the exam due to scheduling it just before the end time, they may not be allowed to reschedule the exam. Exams will be open between the hours of 0001 and 2359. **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. Students should not schedule vacations or elective surgery during the semester.

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. (see #1)

5. If the student can 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 final exam twice to make up for the missed exam. (see #1)

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% weighted assessment average on course exams. The exams are weighted at 75% of the final grade once the exam average is met.

9. Students with documented specialized test-taking needs should discuss this with the faculty within one week after the start of the semester and contact the office of Students with Disabilities. (See below)

10. Calculators may be utilized for math questions.

11. Due to test security concerns, there is limited opportunity to review test material. If you have a conflict or disagreement about a test item submit your comments to the faculty in writing via Blackboard email along with SPECIFIC (page, column, page section, statement) supporting references within 24 hours of taking the exam and it will be reviewed. However, in general items are reviewed and adjusted solely based on statistical performance of the item (question).

12. 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.

13. No exams, quizzes, exam materials, sheets used during the exam, or printed copies of exam or quiz materials or questions can leave the room, not to be printed out, nor saved in the students’ personal computer or in any electronic manner. If there is ANY breach of test security, the students(s) involved will receive a zero for

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that exam and NO students will receive any grade adjustments (curve or points added to adjust for bad questions). The student will, also, be reported to Judicial Affairs for Academic Misconduct.

14. The days for the exams are non-negotiable unless there is a medical excuse or proven family emergency.

15. Failure to comply with exam policy will result in a zero for an exam. Please refer to the Test Taking Policy.

B. Course Participation: Weekly Requirements

Weekly participation in the course is required. Most of the weeks, students will participate in discussion of specific questions aimed at meeting unit and course learning objectives. Refer to the course Units/Lessons and Schedule for specific weekly participation assignments. Discussion assignments begin Sunday at 0800 and end on Saturday at 2100, unless otherwise specified in the schedule. ALL graded written assignments are subject to anti-plagiarism software scanning. Sherpath assignments will be listed under the Units/Lessons section and will be accessed in Blackboard.

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

C. Class preparation: Quizzes/assignments:

Quizzes are important to help you with class preparation. You should read and study the weekly assigned readings BEFORE you take the quiz. The quizzes are all OPEN BOOK but be prepared as they are timed. You may use any resources and notes that you wish for these. However, the work you submit on the weekly quiz should be YOUR OWN WORK, completed independently. In other words, DO NOT take the quiz in a group please! If the instructor is made aware of sharing of questions, the student will be reported for Academic Integrity. The quizzes are open from Monday to Saturday. No late quizzes or Sherpath assignments will be accepted. You have an entire week to complete the quizzes and Sherpath assignments. Do not wait until the last minute to take the quizzes or complete the Sherpath assignments. You will need to download the Respondus Lockdown Browser, located under Class 1 in Course Content for the Orientation quiz and Math Module quizzes. These are the only quizzes that will require the Respondus Lockdown Browser.

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There will be lessons assigned in Sherpath that must be completed by the due date specified under the Course Content tab. These are designed to help you understand the content. Sherpath will be available in blackboard after purchasing the access code. **Please DO NOT access Sherpath through the Evolve website.** You must access Sherpath through Blackboard.

**Please note the following grading scale.** You will notice a difference from other classes that you have had in the past. This grading scale is consistent with the nursing program itself.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>89.5 -100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82.5 – 89.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74.5 – 82.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>67 – 74.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Negotiations:**

No end of semester grade negotiations will be entertained. Grades will be posted for graded assignments (weekly quizzes, Sherpath lessons, class participation, etc.) and exams as soon as feasible and this will allow students to see where they stand in the course. **Grades are earned by performance in relation to set standards and are therefore not subject to negotiation.** Please remember that class participation, lessons, etc do not count unless you have the required 75% test assessment average (See weighted average). **Only the final grade will be rounded.**
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:

University catalog related to academic integrity and honesty:  http://catalog.tamucc.edu/


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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.

**Syllabus Course Outline: See schedule for Dates**

**Unit 1:** Welcome and Brief Overview of Course  
Chapter 1: The Nursing Process and Drug Therapy  
Chapter 2: Pharmacologic Principles  
Chapter 3: Lifespan Considerations

**Unit 2:**  
Chapter 4: Cultural, Legal, and Ethical Considerations  
Chapter 5: Medication Errors: Preventing and Responding  
Chapter 6: Patient Education and Drug Therapy  
Chapter 7: Over-the-Counter Drugs and Herbal and Dietary Supplements

**Unit 3:**  
Chapter 18: Adrenergic Drugs  
Chapter 19: Adrenergic-Blocking Drugs  
Chapter 20: Cholinergic Drugs  
Chapter 21: Cholinergic-Blocking Drugs

**Unit 4:**  
Chapter 10: Analgesic Drugs  
Chapter 11: General and Local Anesthetics  
Chapter 12: Central Nervous System Depressants and Muscle Relaxants  
Chapter 13: Central Nervous System Stimulants and Related Drugs

**Unit 5:**  
Chapter 14: Antiepileptic Drugs  
Chapter 15: Antiparkinson Drugs  
Chapter 38: Antibiotics, Part 1  
Chapter 39: Antibiotics: Part 2

**Unit 6:**  
Chapter 40: Antiviral Drugs  
Chapter 41: Antitubercular Drugs  
Chapter 42: Antifungal Drugs  
Chapter 44: Antiinflammatory and Antigout Drugs

**Unit 7:**  
Chapter 22: Antihypertensive Drugs  
Chapter 23: Antianginal Drugs  
Chapter 24: Heart Failure Drugs

**Unit 8:**  
Chapter 25: Antidysrhythmic Drugs  
Chapter 26: Coagulation Modifiers  
Chapter 27: Antilipemic Drugs

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Chapter 28: Diuretic Drugs

Unit 9: Chapter 29: Fluids and Electrolytes
Chapter 36: Antihistamines, Decongestants, Antitussives, and Expectorants
Chapter 37: Respiratory Drugs

Unit 10: Chapter 30: Pituitary Drugs
Chapter 31: Thyroid and Antithyroid Drugs
Chapter 32: Antidiabetic Drugs
Chapter 33: Adrenal Drugs
Chapter 34: Women's Health Drugs
Chapter 35: Men's Health Drugs

Unit 11: Chapter 50: Acid-Controlling Drugs
Chapter 51: Bowel Disorder Drugs
Chapter 52: Antiemetic and Antinausea Drugs
Chapter 53: Vitamins and Minerals
Chapter 54: Anemia Drugs

Math Module: Self-study.

*Required by SACS or HB2504

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: https://conhs.tamucc.edu/current-students/assets/student-handbook-2017.pdf
The handbook and syllabus should be reviewed before signing the receipt form.