**NURS 3365-600 Pharmacology in Nursing Practice**

**Syllabus Spring 2015**

**Instructor(s):** Patti Plumer, MSM, RN, ANP-BC

**Office Number:** 537 Pickard Hall

**Office Telephone Number:**

**Email Address:** plumer@uta.edu

**Faculty Profile:** <https://www.uta.edu/mentis/public/#profile/profile/edit/id/358/category/1>

**Office Hours:**  None. Contact instructor via email with questions and issues.

**Section Information:** NURS 3365-600; 3 credit hours.

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:**  This course is completely online. No in-seat attendance required.

**Description of Course Content:** Introduction to current concepts of pharmacology and their relationship

to nursing practice. Included are basic principles of drug actions, side effects for major drug classifications,

and the role of the nurse in drug therapeutics.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Identify common alternative healing practices which could potentially interfere with drug therapy.

2. Classify data pertaining to pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.

3. Incorporate knowledge of medications to plan care for patients receiving medications.

4. Determine if medications are safe to administer based on assessment data.

5. Describe the relationship between drug actions, interactions, side effects, dosage, and anticipated effects for selected pharmacotherapeutic agents and drug classifications.

6. Judge if legal and ethical standards are correctly used, given case studies related to drug therapy.

7. Identify information about medications which need to be communicated to the person and/or health professionals.

8. Describe comprehensive, efficient, and cost-effective drug therapy.

9. Identify the role of genomics and genetics in the development of and selection of pharmacotherapeutics.

10. Demonstrate the efficient use of technology to plan and monitor care for patients receiving

medications.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:**

* Linda Lane Lilley, Shelly Rainforth Collins, Scott Harrington, & Julie S. Snyder. (2011). *Pharmacology and the nursing process,* (**7th ed**.). Elsevier. ISBN: 97888-0-323-08789-6
* Lilley, L.L. & Snyder, J.S.  (2011).  *Study Guide for Pharmacology and the Nursing Process*.  (6th ed).  Elsevier. ISBN 9780323066600
* Any nursing drug handbook or electronic equivalent published no more than 5 years ago. (Must be nursing-oriented. For example, cannot be the Physician’s Drug Reference.)

**Not required** but may be helpful:

* Lilley, L.L., Rainforth Collins, S., Harrington, S., Snyder J.S. (2011). *Pharmacology online for pharmacology and the nursing process (access code).* (6th ed). Elsevier. ISBN 9780323068895

**Descriptions of major assignments and examinations:**

1. Assignments:

* There are six Assignments to be submitted per semester, each worth 5% (all Assignments together are worth 30% of grade). See Course Schedule for their dates.
* Assignments consist of critical thinking questions based on notes that are called “Required Reading Documents (RRDs),” chapter readings, and other study material.

2. Examinations:

* There are a total of four online exams. See Course Schedule for their dates.
* Exams consist of critical thinking questions based on notes that are called “Required Reading Documents (RRDs),” chapter readings, assignments, and other study material.
* Tests 1, 2, & 3 are not cumulative. They are each worth 17% of your grade.
* Exam 4 is the final exam and *is* cumulative in content. It is worth 19% of your grade.
* My make-up exam policy in this class: If you miss one exam, there will not be a make-up exam given: the final exam grade will be substituted for your missing exam. (Note that you will receive the final exam score which will stand as both the final exam score AND the missing exam score.)

**Attendance:** No attendance requirements.

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study**: A general rule of thumb is this: for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 3 hours per week working outside of class. Hence, a 3-credit course has a minimum expectation of 9 hours of reading, study, etc.

**Other Requirements:**

1. Prerequisites for this course: BIOL 2457, 2458, CHEM 1451.

2. To be able to participate fully in assignments and exams in this course, a student must

* have reliable and speedy internet access. This course requires a student to have reliable internet access and fast connection speed, as he or she will be taking online tests that are timed. For more information on computer needs specific to Blackboard, please go to: <http://www.uta.edu/blackboard/students/index.php>

Alternatively there is the UTA Help Desk 817-272-2208 or [helpdesk@uta.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uta.edu) and/or the Learning Resource Center (LRC) in Pickard Hall: <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/centers/resource/lrc.php>.

* have intermediate-level computer competency. A student will struggle in this course if he or she is not completely comfortable with using email & discussion boards; uploading and downloading documents; and accessing resources such as search engines & websites.
* check Blackboard & UTA email for messages and important information on a daily or near-daily basis. UTA email must always be used, rather than personal email such as gmail, etc.

3. To receive credit for assignments and tests, a student must submit them by the deadlines stated in

the Course Schedule. A student in this course must be very familiar with due dates, and also with the following rules and procedures if a problem occurs in meeting a deadline.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Problem | What to do | Comments |
| **“Computer incident”**  A computer and/or internet error occurs while a student is taking a test or submitting an assignment. | Immediately send an email to the instructor. The email should detail the problem. It should be very clear as to how the computer issue interfered with submission of assignment or test.  Then click on "24/7 Blackboard Support" on the Bb login page to see if an IT person can help with the problem.  Check your emails inbox frequently for a response from the instructor, who will consider the situation, and if appropriate will “reset” the test or assignment submission for the student.  Example: A student begins to take Test 1 at 2am on Monday. After answering two questions, he notices that his screen has frozen. He immediately shuts down the site, accesses his UTA emails, and sends an explanation of the incident to the instructor. He then accesses the “24/7 Blackboard Support” technician, who is able to explain how to avoid a repeat of the incident. At 8am the next morning the student checks his emails again and sees that the instructor has re-set his test for him. He takes the test without incident. | A student who has a computer incident will be counseled to seek ways of ensuring that another incident does not occur. There will be low tolerance for recurring computer issues, including the possibility that the test or assignment will not be reset and the student will receive no credit. |
| “**Deadline not met”**  There are very adequate windows of time in which to take tests and submit assignments and therefore it should be very rare to need a deadline extension.  However, if a deadline is missed for urgent or emergent reasons (*personal illness, illness of child, critical illness or death of family member, jury duty that cannot be rescheduled, other court or legal circumstances, and military commitments that cannot be rescheduled*) a deadline extension or make-up test *may* be considered if all procedural steps are taken properly. | To obtain an extension of deadline, send an email to instructor with written excuse/verification attached (physician note or release form, obituary of loved one, airline ticket voucher, etc). This email must be sent no later than 24hours after the deadline in order for a deadline extension to be considered.  Example 1: A student is hospitalized during the “open window” to take Test 1 and misses the noon Tuesday deadline. He sends an email to the instructor before noon *Wednesday (ie, within 24 hrs)*, along with the doctor’s excuse, and asks to take the test at 8am on Thursday. The instructor opens the timed test for him at that time.  Example 2: A reservist must deploy for a week during the open window for Test 1. She sends an email to the instructor at the beginning of the semester, along with a copy of her deployment orders. Arrangements are made to take the test when she returns.  Example 3: A student misses a noon Tuesday assignment deadline because a sinus infection has made her too sick to concentrate. She sends an email to the instructor with a doctor’s excuse by noon Wednesday and is allowed a new deadline of Thursday at 8am. | Any test taken after the scheduled test window deadline (for any reason) will be in a format determined by the instructor and may include alternate format questions, such as *fill in the blank, short answer, matching, or essay.*  Penalties may be imposed if a student has more than one “Deadline not met” and or “Computer incident,” depending on the individual situation.  Once an exam is already taken, it is too late to request a re-take for extenuating circumstances. Exam re-takes are not allowed. |

4. Students must have unswerving commitment to academic honesty.

Specific examples of maintaining test-taking integrity in this course include

* working alone and without notes or other resources (including electronic ones)when taking online tests. (Most of the questions are critical thinking questions, not just rote information to memorize, so answering a question correctly will entail true understanding of the content. Thus using forbidden “helpers” such as cheat sheets, etc, will not be particularly helpful anyway.)
* maintaining test securityby not discussing the questions with your peers or attempting to copy the tests in any way. This includes saving the tests to a personal computer, printing them out, and/or using screen shots, all of which are strictly forbidden. Remember, you may be in other pre-nursing classes with students who have not yet taken pharmacology. If you discuss test questions or content of tests with these students, this is a violation of test security, and will result in being reported for academic dishonesty.
* acknowledging the following pledge prior to each test:

*By submitting this test, I certify these responses are entirely my own work and that I have not used notes, the textbook, the internet, or other electronic applications while taking the exam.*

*I have not copied the work of any other student (past or present) or collaborated with anyone on this quiz.*

*I will not share the questions or answers from this test with other students.*

*I understand that I am allowed blank paper and a pencil to work out problems as necessary but that I must shred the paper afterwards. NO other papers or books shall be open in view.*

*I understand that not adhering to the pledge above constitutes academic dishonesty,*

*which is grounds for dismissal from the program.*

As for assignments:

* Active discussion of Assignments as a learning tool, such as during a study group meeting, is allowed.
* However, simply copying someone else’s assignment answers is an example of academic dishonesty.

Whether in regards to test-taking or assignments, all students are ethically bound to report knowledge or suspicions of dishonest behavior in this course.

**Grading**:

UTA College of Nursing grading criteria:

* In order to successfully complete an undergraduate nursing course at UTA, the following minimum criteria must be met:
  + 70% weighted average on exams.
  + 70% weighted average on major written assignments.
  + 90% on math test (if applicable).
  + 90% on practicum skills check offs (if applicable).
* In undergraduate nursing courses, all grade calculations will be carried out to two decimal places and there will be no rounding of final grades. Letter grades for tests, written assignments and end-of-course grades, etc. shall be:

           A= 90.00 – 100.00

            B= 80.00 - 89.99

            C= 70.00 – 79.99

            D= 60.00 – 69.99

* The existing rule of C or better to progress remains in effect; therefore, to successfully complete a nursing course, students shall have a course grade of 70.00 or greater. Grades will be accessible via Blackboard.

Grading processfor **Pharmacology in Nursing Practice:**

* Assignments count as 30% of total course grade (6 X 5% each).
* Tests count as 70% of total course grade (3 X 17% + 1 X 19%).
* Note: At the end of the semester the Assignments grade will only count if the student has at least a 70% *test* average. If the test average is less than 70%, the Assignment grades will not be eligible for addition into the course grade. This rule is in accordance with the UTA College of Nursing grading criteria (see above)…a student must have a 70% weighted average on exams.
* See the following table for example of grade calculations.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WEIGHTED GRADE CALCULATIONS EXAMPLE** | | | |
|  | **Weight in points (ex: 5% = 5 points)** | **Student Grade in Decimals (ex: 83.5% = 0.835)** | **Weighted Points per item** |
| Assignment 1 | 5% of your grade = 5 points | 72% = 0.72 | 5 X 0.72 = 3.6 |
| Assignment 2 | 5 | 80% = 0.8 | 5 X 0.8 = 4 |
| Assignment 3 | 5 | 70% = 0.7 | 5 X 0.7 = 3.5 |
| Assignment 4 | 5 | 83.5% = 0.835 | 5 X 0.835 = 4.175 |
| Assignment 5 | 5 | 90% = 0.9 | 5 X 0.9 = 4.5 |
| Assignment 6 | 5 | 75% = 0.75 | 5 X 0.75 = 3.75 |
|  |  | Total assignment points **23.53** | |
| Test 1 | 17 | 65.2% = 0.652 | 17 X 0.652 = 11.08 |
| Test 2 | 17 | 80% = 0.8 | 17 X 0.8 = 13.60 |
| Test 3 | 17 | 70% = 0.7 | 17 X 0.7 = 11.90 |
| Final exam | 19 | 85.7% = 0.85 | 19 X 0.85 = 16.15 |
|  |  | Total test points **52.73** | |
| **23.53** + **52.73** = **78.26** = Course grade of C | | | |

**Nurs 3365-600 Pharmacology in Nursing Practice**

**Course Schedule Spring 2015**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WK** | **Date**  **Sun-Sat** | | **Content, Required Weekly Preparation/study, and What’s Due to Submit.** |
| **General flow of study:** Content is organized as *Module 1*, *Module 2*, and *Module 3* *material.*   * **REQUIRED:** Read Announcements, Q&A /Forum, & UTA emails each day. * **REQUIRED study** for each section of content**:**    + ***“Guidelines for Studying”*** *document*   + ***RRD*** (“Required Reading Document”) that is assigned for each of the sets of test material. The RRDs are posted on Blackboard, as are Assignments and other documents mentioned. For those of you preferring to listen to a podcast rather than read a document that is in addition to the textbook, podcasts of actual live classes are available, with the links under the weeks assigned.   + ***ADDENDUM to RRDs (These are short and very helpful).***   + ***assigned book chapters***   + ***Drug template***  (on your own, look up and fill in any info you feel might be relevant, using as guidelines your reading of RRDs, ADDENDUM, and chapters) * Not required but recommended: Fill in Assignment Worksheet as a preparatory tool for Assignment Submission. * **REQUIRED:** **Submit Assignments by due date & time**. (*Late or not submitted = zero points unless timely excuse*   *accepted—see syllabus.)*   * **Not required but HIGHLY recommended: Review answers and rationales document (A&R) of assignments when posted. This will really help you as you prepare for tests because they contain the same sort of questions—and when I post the assignment answers you can see WHY a question is right or wrong. Nursing classes use complex application-type questions that you may find more difficult to answer than test questions you have encountered in the past.** * **REQUIRED:** During test weeks, **take test by due date & time**. *(Late or not submitted = zero points unless timely*   *excuse accepted—see syllabus.)*   * Not required but HIGHLY recommended: Carefully review post-test discussion document when posted.   **ALERT**:  **Please “dive in” right away and read all material with *utmost studiousness* or you will get behind!**  Please “dive in” right away and read all material with *utmost studiousness* or you will get behind! | | | |
| 1 | *1/26/15*  *thru*  *1/31/15* | Orientation to course:  **SIGN ATTESTATION FORM AND SUBMIT TO YOUR COACH** *(see “Getting Started” page of course website).*  Read the following **REQUIRED** posted documents:   * Blackboard (Bb) Instructions * Syllabus * Course Overview (*part of the overview document tells you how to study for this course!)* * Course Schedule and Calendar (this document).   *Begin looking over TEST 1 Material:*   * Begin reading/studying   + ***Guidelines for Studying* *Module 1 Material***   + **RRD#1** (“Required Reading Document ” #1): “*Foundational concepts.”*   + **ADDENDUM #1**   + **chapters** 1-9 (for ch 9, pgs 102-109 & 124-129 only) 20, 21 (see more instructions in RRD1)   + **Drug template #1 (*Cholinergic and Anticholinergic Drugs)*** * Begin working on **Assignments #1 & #2** | |
| 2 | 2/1-2/7 | * **Submit Assignment #1 by noon Tuesday 2/3.**   *--you may submit assignments earlier than, but not AFTER submission deadline.* | |
| 3 | 2/8 -2/14 | * **Submit Assignment #2 by noon Tuesday 2/10.** | |
| **4** | **2/15 – 2/21** | **Test 1 window opens 8AM Sunday 2/15**. It covers readings and assignments up to this point.  **TEST 1 WINDOW *CLOSES* noon Tuesday 2/17.** (*Closure of a test window means “DEADLINE”).*  *Begin looking over TEST 2 Material:*   * Begin reading/studying   + ***Guidelines for Studying* *Module 2 Material***   + **RRD#2**   + **ADDENDUM #2**   + **chapters** in text: 10-12, 16,17,33, 38-49.   + **Drug template #2** * Begin working on **Assignments #2 & #3.** | |
| 5 | 2/22 – 2/28 | * **Submit Assignment #3 by noon Tuesday 2/24.** | |
| 6 | 3/1 – 3/7 | * **Submit Assignment #4 by noon Tuesday 3/3.** | |
| **7** | **3/8 – 3/14** | **Test 2 window opens 8AM Sunday 3/8**. It covers readings and assignments since Test 1.  **TEST 2 WINDOW *CLOSES* noon Tuesday 3/10.**  *Begin looking over TEST 3 Material:*  ***Last day to drop: 3/12***   * Begin reading/studying   + ***Guidelines for Studying* *Module 3 Material***   + **RRD#3**   + **ADDENDUM #3**   + **chapters** in text: 13-15,18,19,22-28,18,19,22-28,2,36,37,50-52.   + **Drug template #3** * Begin working on **Assignments #5 & #6.** | |
| 8 | 3/15 – 3/21 | * **Submit Assignment #5 by noon Tuesday 3/17** | |
| 9 | 3/22 – 3/28 | * **Submit Assignment #6 by noon Tuesday 3/24** | |
| **10** | **3/29– 4/4** | **Test 3 window opens 8AM Sunday 3/29**. It covers readings and assignments since Test 2.  **TEST 3 WINDOW *CLOSES* noon Tuesday 3/31.** | |
| 11 | 4/5 – 4/11 | **Study for final exam.** | |
| 12 | **4/12 – 4/18** | **Final exam window opens 8AM Sunday 4/12**. It covers all material since the beginning of the course.  **TEST 3 WINDOW *CLOSES* noon Tuesday 4/14.** | |

*As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. Patti Plumer.*

**Grade Grievances**: Any appeal of a grade in this course must follow the procedures and deadlines for grade-related grievances as published in the current undergraduate catalog. <http://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#10>

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://wweb.uta.edu/ses/fao>).

**Americans with Disabilities Act:** The University of Texas at Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of that disability. Any student requiring an accommodation for this course must provide the instructor with official documentation in the form of a letter certified by the staff in the Office for Students with Disabilities, University Hall 102. Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** The University of Texas at Arlington is committed to upholding U.S. Federal Law “Title IX” such that no member of the UT Arlington community shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity. For more information, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).

**Academic Integrity:** All students enrolled in this course are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington’s tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

Instructors may employ the Honor Code as they see fit in their courses, including (but not limited to) having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents’ Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university’s standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student’s suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Student Support Services Available**:UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at [www.uta.edu/resources](http://www.uta.edu/resources).

**Electronic Communication Policy:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as lecture, seminar, or laboratory shall be directed to complete a Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student’s feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington’s effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**LIBRARY INFORMATION: Peace Williamson**, Nursing Librarian

(817-272-7429), Email: [peace@uta.edu](mailto:peace@uta.edu)

Research Information on Nursing:

[**http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing**](http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing)

**UNDERGRADUATE**

**SUPPORT STAFF: Holly Woods, *Administrative Assistant I, Pre-nursing & Senior II***

660 Pickard Hall, (817) 272-2776 ext. 4811

Email: [hwoods@uta.edu](mailto:hwoods@uta.edu)

**Suzanne Kyle*, Administrative Assistant I, Junior I - Senior I***

661 Pickard Hall, (817) 272-2776 ext. 4817

Email: [skyle@uta.edu](mailto:skyle@uta.edu)

**STUDENT CODE OF ETHICS:**

The University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing supports the Student Code of Ethics Policy. Students are responsible for knowing and complying with the Code. The Code can be found in the Student Handbook.

**Honors College Credit:**

Students who are members of the Honors College may wish to take this course for Honors credit. If you wish to do so, please provide the Lead Teacher (or other designated faculty member) with an Honors Credit Contract (downloaded from http://honors.uta.edu/documents/credit.pdf). You and the Lead Teacher/faculty member will together determine an appropriate supplemental assignment to justify the awarding of Honors credit. If you are not in the Honors College and would like to learn more about the benefits of membership, visit the website at http://honors.uta.edu/, where you will find an application form for electronic submission.

**OBSERVANCE OF RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS:**

Undergraduate Nursing faculty and students shall follow the University policy regarding Observance of Religious Holy Days: (<http://wweb.uta.edu/catalog/content/general/academic_regulations.aspx#6>

**NO GIFT POLICY:**

In accordance with Regents Rules and Regulations and the UTA Standards of Conduct, the College of Nursing has a “no gift” policy. A donation to the UTA College of Nursing Scholarship Fund would be an appropriate way to recognize a faculty member’s contribution to your learning. For information regarding the Scholarship Fund, please contact the Dean’s office.

***The Student Handbook can be found by going to the following link:*** <http://www.uta.edu/nursing/bsn-program/> and clicking on the link titled BSN Student Handbook.