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

**Syllabus Summer 2014**

**Instructor(s):** Deana Furr, R.N., MSN

**Office Number:** 527 Pickard Hall

**Office Telephone Number:** 817-272-2776 (I will out of the office much of the summer, so will not be getting messages regularly—best to email me or the coach).

**Email Address:** [dfurr@uta.edu](mailto:dfurr@uta.edu). Student must know his or her academic coach’s UTA email (for this class it is Dr. Mary Beth Reid, maryreid@uta.edu). Academic coaches are the first point of contact, inquiry, and resource for each student.

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

**Section Information:** NURS 3365-600 (Academic Partnership section); 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. (2012). *Pharmacology and the nursing process,* (**7th ed**.). Elsevier. ISBN: 978-0323087896
* 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.)

**Optional**:

* Lilley, L.L. & Snyder, J.S.  (2012).  *Study Guide for Pharmacology and the Nursing Process*.  (7th ed).  Elsevier. ISBN 978-0323091299
* Lilley, L.L., Rainforth Collins, S., Harrington, S., Snyder J.S. (2012). *Pharmacology online for pharmacology and the nursing process (book with access code).* (7th ed). Elsevier. ISBN 9780323091305

**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, video/podcasts and other study material.
* Tests 1, 2, & 3 are not cumulative. They are each worth 17.5% of your grade.
* Exam 4 is the final exam and *is* cumulative in content. It is worth 17.5% of your grade.

**Attendance:** No attendance requirements.

**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 complete and 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 | Rules / 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 coach. 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 coach, 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 coach. 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 coach has re-set his test for him. He takes the test again without incident. | A student who has a computer incident during a test must be prepared to retake the interrupted test in its entirety at the time the coach resets the test.  If this is not possible, the student must have a reasonable explanation and suggest a time frame. Example: A student’s internet goes down in the middle of the night. She knows the coach is likely not to see her email till morning, at which time the student must be at work. The student should explain this in the initial detailed email: “I must be at work at Baylor Hospital by 6am and home by 3:30pm. May I take the test then? “  The student will be counseled to seek ways of ensuring that another incident does not occur. Only one “computer incident” will be allowed per student without consequence.  Thereafter the instructor may impose a penalty, such as subtracting pointage from the student’s score.  There is also the possibility that the test or assignment will not be reset at all and the student will receive no credit. |
| Problem | What to do | Rules / Comments |
| “**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, including proper documentation.  Note: A doctor’s note must be written on official paper with a heading (eg, the physician’s group or the hospital), must have the name of the student and the dates he or she was seen. It must be signed by a physician or RN.  Also, for an urgent out-of-town event, airline tickets are not sufficient. | To obtain an extension of deadline, send an email to the coach 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 coach before noon *Wednesday (ie, within 24 hrs)*, along with the doctor’s excuse, and asks to take the test at 8am on Thursday. The coach 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 coach 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 coach with a doctor’s excuse by noon Wednesday and is allowed a new deadline of Thursday at 8am.  Example 4: A family member falls seriously ill and the student cannot take his test within the deadline of Tuesday at noon . The student emails the coach Wednesday morning and states he will be able to take the test by Thursday. He produces a note from the RN taking care of his family member in the hospital. | No matter what the reason for needing an extension, the student must inform the coach WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER THE TEST OR ASSIGNMENT DEADLINE. The coach will decide on a new deadline, if appropriate, and it will be within a short time after the original deadline. This is so that feedback of assignments and tests can be posted in a timely fashion. After the feedback is posted, a deadline extension will not be allowed.  Any test taken after the scheduled test window deadline (for any reason) will be in a format determined by the instructor. It may be in its original format, or it may include an alternate format such as *fill in the blank, short answer, matching, or essay.*  A penalty such as subtracting pointage may be considered for a student who establishes a pattern of seeking extensions of deadline (ie, more than one extension of deadline request).    Once an exam is already taken, it is too late to request a re-take for extenuating circumstances. |
| **Miscellaneous issues:**   * Please do not ask to take a test early unless it is because of an urgent situation, or, as shown above, a military issue that cannot be changed. Vacation time should be arranged around the course schedule. * A test or assignment deadline means completion and submission BEFORE a certain date and time. If a student goes over the deadline while taking a test or submitting an assignment, points will be taken off in proportion to the number of answers submitted after the deadline. If lateness of submission occurs more than once, the student is at risk for a zero. | | |

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 (4 X 17.5% each).
* 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.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **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 | 17.5 | 65.2% = 0.652 | 17.5 X 0.652 = 11.41 |
| Test 2 | 17.5 | 80% = 0.8 | 17.5 X 0.8 = 14 |
| Test 3 | 17.5 | 70% = 0.7 | 17.5 X 0.7= 12.25 |
| Final exam | 17.5 | 85.7% = 0.85 | 17.5 X 0.85 = 14.88 |
|  |  | Total test points **52.54** | |
| **23.53** + **52.54** = **76.07** = Course grade of C | | | |

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

**Course Schedule Summer 2014**

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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 | *5/11/14*  *thru*  *5/17/14*  *(Sun-Sat)* | 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 | 5/18-5/24 | * **Submit Assignment #1 by noon Tuesday 5/20.**   *--you may submit assignments earlier than, but not AFTER submission deadline.* | |
| 3 | 5/25-5/31 | * **Submit Assignment #2 by noon Tuesday 5/27.** | |
| **4** | **6/1-6/7** | **Test 1 window opens 8AM Sunday 6/1**. It covers readings and assignments up to this point.  **TEST 1 WINDOW *CLOSES* noon Tuesday 6/3.** (*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 | 6/8-6/14 | * **Submit Assignment #3 by noon Tuesday 6/10.** | |
| 6 | 6/15-6/21 | * **Submit Assignment #4 by noon Tuesday 6/17.** | |
| **7** | 6/22-6/28 | **Test 2 window opens 8AM Sunday 6/22**. It covers readings and assignments since Test 1.  **TEST 2 WINDOW *CLOSES* noon Tuesday 6/24.**  *Begin looking over TEST 3 Material:*  ***Last day to drop: 6/27***   * 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 | 6/29-7/5 | * **Submit Assignment #5 by noon Tuesday 7/1** | |
| 9 | 7/6-7/12 | * **Submit Assignment #6 by noon Tuesday 7/8** | |
| **10** | 7/13-7/19 | **Test 3 window opens 8AM Sunday 7/13**. It covers readings and assignments since Test 2.  **TEST 3 WINDOW *CLOSES* noon Tuesday 7/15.** | |
| 11 | 7/20-7/26 | **Study for final exam.** | |
| 12 | **7/27-8/1** | **Final exam window opens 8AM Sunday 7/27**. It covers all material since the beginning of the course.  **TEST 3 WINDOW *CLOSES* noon Tuesday 7/29.** | |

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