UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARLINGTON COLLEGE OF NURSING | Syllabus

NURS 3315 Holistic Health Assessment Across the Lifespan (3 semester hours)

Spring 2016

January 18 – February 20 session

Instructors:

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Before using the email addresses above, please use the email through Blackboard first. Your coach will be your first contact, whom you will "meet" during the attestation process. If Blackboard should go down, then use the email addresses above.

Description of Course Content: Theory and practice of holistic health assessment of individuals and families across the life span designed for the Registered Nurse (RN-BSN Students only). (3 semester hours)

Student Learning Outcomes:

Performance Outcomes	Measurement Strategies
1. Demonstrate appropriate techniques to conduct holistic health assessment across the lifespan.	Quizzes Assessment forms
2. Identify normal, variations of normal and abnormal assessment finds based on variations across the lifespan.	Quizzes Assessment forms
3. Conduct comprehensive assessments of individuals and families to include nutritional, physical, psychosocial dimensions.	Assessment forms

In this class you will be assessing an adult each week. ***You may not use a patient from your work (we do not want you to violate HIPAA), but need to choose someone from your private life—a family member, friend, coworker or fellow student, to be your "assessment buddy". It must be an adult because medical history questions will be asked, and a child might be unable to answer them.*** **You may select a different adult each week, and in fact might want to select someone with health problems in the area we are covering in a particular week—someone with COPD when we study the respiratory system, for instance.**

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Course Prerequisite: N3645 Professional Nursing (may be enrolled concurrently).
1) Internet access (preferably hard-wired for quiz-taking)
2) Blackboard ID & password (given to you)
3) Word processor that allows students to submit assignments in the following formats: .doc or .docx.

.odt is not supported by the Blackboard assignment viewers which our coaches must use, despite the fact that Blackboard instructions state it does allow them. Assignments in .odt cannot be viewed or graded by instructional staff.

Note: Many students using tablet computers have had trouble submitting assignments and taking tests, so we recommend the use of hard-wired internet capabilities and a laptop or desk-top computer. At this time we highly recommend that you do not use the Blackboard app on your phone for taking quizzes and turning in material—students who try are consistently having difficulties with the program. (Perhaps soon Blackboard will be able to work out the details, but at this time the app is mainly useful only for checking on results.)

You will need access to the following equipment in order to conduct required assessments:

1. Otoscope—an inexpensive model is fine. Many students have purchased one from a local drug store or Amazon for less than $15.00.
2. Diagnostic tuning fork, in the same price range as the otoscope, but usually not sold at drug stores. You could purchase one from a medical supply or order online.
3. Reflex hammer
4. Tongue blade or similar tool for assessing the mouth/tonsils
5. Stethoscope, sensitive enough to distinguish S3 and S4 heart sounds—an inexpensive Sprague– Rappaport type of model for under $25.00 would be sufficient for your needs in this class. The stethoscope should have both a bell and diaphragm (some models have both engineered into one head) so you can better ascertain detailed heart sounds.

Student Responsibilities:

1. All students are expected to pursue their scholastic careers with honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test or other course work, plagiarism (offering the work of another as one's own), and unauthorized collaboration with another person. Students found guilty of dishonesty in their scholastic pursuits are subject to penalties which may include suspension or expulsion from the University. Please see the academic dishonesty section of this syllabus. Assignments are checked by anti-plagiarism software.

2. Students are responsible for contacting faculty members for consultation regarding a problem with, or questions about, the course. Contact your coach first, and if the coaches cannot help you, they will forward your request to the faculty responsible for that function.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

1. Weber, J. & Kelley, J. (2014). Health assessment in nursing (5th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott.

   ISBN-13: 9781451142808
   ISBN-10: 1451142803

   Please note that the e-book does not have page numbers and some students have preferred a hard copy due to the nature of assignments in the course. On the other hand, one can search for specific words in the e-book, making it easy to find content. Either version will work, so select the format that is best for your learning style. Textbook rental or the purchase of used books are an economical way of getting access to the book.

Students not receiving their textbooks by the day of class will appreciate the provision by the UTA library of making the first week readings available through the e-reserves at the following site: http://pulse.uta.edu/vwebv/enterCourseReserve.do

SUPPLEMENTAL/OPTIONAL TEXTBOOKS:

1. American Psychological Association. (2009). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (6th ed.). Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

Descriptions of major assignments and examinations (see master schedule for due dates):

Component	**% of grade**
Weekly quiz	10 % each module x 5 weeks = 50%
Weekly Assignments (9 total assignments worth 5% each.)	Week 1: 5% (Only 1 assignment) Week 2: 10% (2 assignments) Week 3: 10% (2 assignments) Week 4: 10% (2 assignments) Week 5: 10% (2 assignments) Total assignment grade = 45%
Discussion board	No discussion board for weeks 1 and 2. 1% for week 3, 2 % for modules 4 and 2% for module 5 = 5%
Total	100%

Due dates: All assignments are due at 23:59 Saturday night, CST of the week the assignment was given (Module 1 assignments are due the Saturday night of week 1, etc.) Late penalties will apply: 5% per day, beginning at 0001 Sunday morning.) See the course schedule. We will only allow late submissions without penalty for appropriate, documented reasons such as medical emergencies. Late discussion postings receive no credit—though you may still make comments and answer questions other students pose if you choose to, after the due date is expired.

Module 5 is the final module and because grades are due to the UTA registrar, ALL assignments must be turned in by 23:59 of the last week/weekend of the class, without exception. Medical emergencies compelling students to turn in work late may result in a grade of incomplete, or the grade earned without the late assignment added in. If that

should occur, the grade will be rectified through the required university channels, after processing and grading of the late work.

GRADING POLICY:

In undergraduate nursing courses, all grade calculations will be carried out to two decimal places and there will be **no rounding of grades**.
Letter grades for tests, written assignments, 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
F:	59 or below

The existing rule of C or better to progress remains in effect. Therefore, to successfully progress, students shall have a course grade of 70.00 or greater.

Students are expected to keep track of their performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including the instructor) if their performance drops below satisfactory levels.

Attendance: At the University of Texas at Arlington, taking attendance is not required. Rather, each faculty member is free to develop his or her own methods of evaluating students' academic performance, which includes establishing course-specific policies on attendance. As the instructor of this section, I require a passing score and evident log-ins and student work.

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. Contact the Financial Aid Office for more information.

In the Spring of 2016, "drop dates", meaning the last day to withdraw from or drop the class for RN-BSN Holistic Health Assessment 3315 are as follows:

For the start date of 1/18/16, the drop date is 2/8/16; for the start date of 2/29/16, the drop date is 3/21/16, and for the start date of 4/11/16, the drop date is 5/2/16.

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 or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

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.

Academic Dishonesty:

Collusion, plagiarism, and cheating are forms of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is an unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form at the University of Texas at Arlington. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. **The student's name may be submitted to the Board of Nursing for the state they reside in, should the Office of Student Conduct recommend such action.** (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Series 50101).

We reserve the right, at any time, to require a student to take or re-take any or all exams in a proctored environment. If we deem this necessary, the student is responsible for making the

proctoring arrangements, subject to our approval. This policy applies to any and all assignments and quizzes or tests given in this course.

Collusion and plagiarism defined:

Sharing test answers with other students is collusion. Copying someone's paper or any portion of it is plagiarism. Additionally, copying a portion of published material (e.g., books or journals) without adequately documenting the source is plagiarism. If five or more words in sequence are taken from a source, those words must be placed in quotes and the source referenced with author's name, date of publication, and page number of publication. If the author's ideas are rephrased, by transposing words or expressing the same idea using different words, the idea must be attributed to the author by proper referencing, giving the author's name and date of publication. If a single author's ideas are discussed in more than one paragraph, the author must be referenced at the end of each paragraph. Authors whose words or ideas have been used in the preparation of a paper must be listed in the references cited at the end of the paper. Students are encouraged to review the plagiarism module from the UT Arlington Central Library via http://library.uta.edu/tutorials/Plagiarism

A note from the lead teachers: In every session it seems that a couple of students try to share assignments—perhaps they have a busy week and do it as a last resort. Our anti-plagiarism software picks up the similarities, and they receive an F for the class. Please don't take that route! Turning in assignments late only results in 5% per day penalty—much better than F, and in this class all assignments can be done early. The assignment upload portals are open on the first day of class, so if you know you will have a hectic week in the future, work ahead.

Student Support Services:

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, or view the information at www.uta.edu/resources.

Electronic Communication Policy:

The University of Texas at Arlington has adopted the University "MavMail" address as the sole official means of communication with students. MavMail is used to remind students of important deadlines, advertise events and activities, and permit the University to conduct official transactions exclusively by electronic means. For example, important information concerning registration, financial aid, payment of bills, and graduation are now sent to students through the MavMail system. All students are assigned a MavMail account. Students are responsible for checking their MavMail regularly. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/email/. There is no additional charge to

students for using this account, and it remains active even after they graduate from UT Arlington.

To obtain your NetID or for logon assistance, visit https://webapps.uta.edu/oit/selfservice/. If you are unable to resolve your issue from the Self-Service website, contact the Helpdesk at helpdesk@uta.edu.

Expectations for Out-of-Class Study: In general, for every credit hour earned, a student should spend 3 - 4 hours per week working outside of class. Hence, a 3-credit course might have a minimum expectation of 9 -12 hours of reading, study, etc. Students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for exams, etc. Due to the accelerated nature of classes in the RN-BSN program, you may find that even more time is necessary to master some concepts or to complete some asssignments.

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) 272-7433, E-mail: peace@uta.edu

Research information on Nursing: http://libguides.uta.edu/nursing

RN-BSN PROGRAM

SUPPORT STAFF: Pamela Smith, Administrative Assistant I
Room 657 Pickard Hall, 6th floor
(817) 272-2776 ext. 4814
Email: pamsmith@uta.edu

COLLEGE OF NURSING INFORMATION

UTA College of Nursing Policy

Effective for students entering the nursing program Fall 2009 (Jr I) and forward, the following policy applies:

Students within the program, enrolled in an upper division NURS course are permitted to drop the course one time. Upon attempting the course for the second time, the earned grade is retained. Students may drop no more than three upper division NURS courses during their undergraduate career. Elective and pre-nursing courses are exempt from this policy.

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.

BLACKBOARD CONDUCT:

The BLACKBOARD discussion board should be viewed as a public and professional forum for course related discussions.

Students are free to discuss academic matters and consult one another regarding academic resources. The tone of BLACKBOARD postings should be professional in nature.

It is not appropriate to post statements of a personal or political nature, or statements criticizing classmates or faculty.

Inappropriate statements/language will be deleted by the course faculty and may result in denied access to the Main Discussion board.

Refer to UTACON RN-BSN Student Handbook for more information.

Rules for Blackboard

1. It is the student's responsibility to check Blackboard every day for course related information.

Blackboard Etiquette

1. Discussion postings are for class-related activities only. No political postings or non-related class postings are allowed. Separate discussion board is created for discussions related to senior activities like pinning, Sigma Theta Tau induction and/or Graduation information.
2. Questions posted on the discussion board by students will be answered in a timely manner—our goal is to have a 24- hour response time, but occasionally it may be longer. On weekends or evenings, questions may not be answered. Please post questions about exams early the day before the exam, as these may not be answered after 5:00 p.m. If a student has a question about an exam that may benefit the entire group, please post it on the discussion board.

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.

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

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.

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.