Seminole State College of Florida  
Associate in Science Degree in Nursing Program  
NUR 1141C: Fundamentals of Pharmacology for Nursing

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course is designed to complement the basic nursing care curriculum presented in NUR 1020C: Fundamentals of Nursing. This course will provide the beginning nursing student the opportunity to explore basic concepts regarding the therapeutic use of medications and the patient response to drug therapy. The student will be introduced to the nurse’s role in medication administration as part of the health care team. Selected patient simulation scenarios, designed specifically for the novice nursing student, will challenge the participants to utilize critical thinking skills as they apply the nursing process to clinical case studies involving common medication and simple skills. Individual and group practice activities focusing on computation skills will assist the students achieve mastery of Level One Medication Administration Safety Competencies.

Credits
2 credit hours  
Theory: 1.5 hours  
Lab/Simulation: 1 hours

Pre-requisites:

Required Textbooks

MEASURABLE COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon successful completion of this course the student will:
- Determine the level of pharmacology knowledge previously learned through life experiences and recognize its applicability to the new role of professional nurse.
- Gather and use specific drug information essential for making sound clinical judgments regarding drug therapy.
- Explain the interrelationship of various members of the health care team providing drug therapy.
- Establish medication administration practices that promote optimal patient safety.
- Use basic mathematical skills accurately to compute dosage calculation problems.
- Collaborate with peers to determine appropriate course of action using case studies and simulated clinical scenarios.
- Honestly appraise newly learned medication administration skills and know with confidence when skilled adequately to use them in the clinical setting or when additional instruction and practice is needed.
- Apply the steps of the nursing process to provide drug therapy in the clinical setting taking into consideration the needs of a diverse patient population.
- Properly administer oral and other non-parenteral forms of medication to assigned patients in a supervised clinical experience.
- Develop an attitude of inquiry that will enhance the ability to remain informed of newly developed drugs and changes in currently approved drugs.
TEACHING LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Textbook Readings
World Wide Web Research
Written Assignments
Class Discussion
Group Discussion

Group Work
Clinical Skills Demonstration
Clinical Skills Practice
Clinical Simulation
Game Reviews

COURSE EVALUATION METHODS

- Four Theory Exams 80% total
  - Unit 1
    - Exam 1 20%
  - Unit 2
    - Exam 2 20%
  - Unit 3
    - Exam 3 20%
  - Unit 4
    - Exam 4 20%

- Work Group Participation and Attendance 6%

- Work Group Synthesis Project 7%

- Medication Safety Competency Evaluation (Written) 7% (Average of all seatings)
  - Goal: No medication errors, 100% accuracy
  - Minimum competency: 80% accuracy

- Medication Administration Skill Validation (Oral) Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory
  - Competency Checklist

- Clinical Simulation Lab Absences Penalty for Multiple Absences
  - 1 absence (20% of lab sessions) No additional penalty
  - 2 absences (40% of lab sessions) 2 points deducted from final grade
  - 3 absences (60% of lab sessions) 5 points deducted from final grade
  - 4 or 5 absences (80-100% of lab sessions) Course failure

The course grade will be determined according to the following grading scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>92-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>85-91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>78-84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>70-77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>69% or below</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1. Students must have an average of 78% or above on theory exams before any additional course work is averaged in for the final grade
2. The competency goal of the Medication Administration Safety Competency Evaluation is completion of a written exam with no medication error (computation, documentation, judgment). Students are required to take the written exam up to three times per semester in the attempt to achieve this goal. Students are expected to remediate prior to the second and third attempts. The minimum competency of 80% accuracy must be achieved by the end of the course. A grade of C or better is required in each course leading to the Associate in Science Degree in Nursing
Student Accountabilities

Students are expected to review the course website (Sakai) postings during the weekdays to be kept apprised of issues or changes that affect the course. Sakai is one of the main modes of communication between faculty and students and among students in the class. Sakai may be accessed from any computer on or off campus. It is the student’s responsibility to check Sakai often. Failure to check Sakai and therefore miss an announcement is not an acceptable excuse.

Sakai is a virtual classroom and as such all postings must meet communication guidelines appropriate for classroom conversation.

Students should access Sakai for their test grades and current test averages.

Students should start a new post on Sakai if they are asking a question of a faculty, instead of replying to a previous message to ensure that the faculty read the posted question in a timely manner.

CLASS GUIDELINES

Examination Policy:

In the event of absence from an exam, the student must notify the course coordinator prior to the scheduled exam time. Failure to do so will eliminate the opportunity for make-up and result in a zero for that exam. Students should arrive on time for the exam and students who arrive after the test has started will not be allowed to take the exam and will be required to take a make-up exam.

If an exam is missed, an alternate exam related to the same content will be administered, which may include any combination of short answers, matching, essay, or multiple choice items. This make up exam must be completed within the time frame specified by the instructor and must be taken on the student’s own time in the testing center.

Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend class. Attendance will be taken. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure they sign in on the attendance sheet each day. Failure to sign in will be considered an absence. Students should not sign in for other students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Individual and Team Participation Record Totals Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>10 points automatically awarded by instructor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeks 2, 4, 5, 7</td>
<td>Classroom Session Rubric: Total of 10 possible participation points earned per week. Individual max 3; Team max 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeks 9, 10, 11, 12, 14:</td>
<td>Simulation Lab Rubric: Total of 30 possible participation points earned per week. Individual max 23; Team max 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeks 3, 6, 8, 13, 15</td>
<td>Exam Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 15:</td>
<td>10 points automatically awarded by instructor for expected completion of anonymous end of course evaluations about course and course instructors.</td>
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Term Total: 210 possible participation points

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK 1</th>
<th>WEEK 2</th>
<th>WEEK 3</th>
<th>WEEK 4</th>
<th>WEEK 5</th>
<th>WEEK 6</th>
<th>WEEK 7</th>
<th>WEEK 8</th>
<th>WEEK 9</th>
<th>WEEK 10</th>
<th>WEEK 11</th>
<th>WEEK 12</th>
<th>WEEK 13</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Exam Day</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Exam Day</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Exam Day</td>
<td>23</td>
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Exam Day
On Campus Clinical Skills Lab:
The on campus lab is an extension of clinical and therefore should be treated as such. The complete lab uniform including a lab jacket with pockets is required. The complete clinical uniform may be worn as an alternative. Students should bring basic clinical equipment for patient care to include a stethoscope, calculator, clipboard, black pen, and drug resource. Students who are not dressed appropriately will not be allowed to participate and will be recorded as absent.

Attendance at scheduled lab sessions is expected. Students should report on time to the assigned meeting location. If an absence is unavoidable, the student should contact the course coordinator prior to the clinical lab session by email (Sakai). An effort should also be made to contact a member of the patient care team so patient assignments may be revised. Students who do not follow this procedure to notify the course coordinator of an absence will be considered a no call/no show for clinical lab and a counseling form will be completed. Students who are absent for two or three scheduled clinical simulation days will have points deducted from their final course average. Students who are absent for four or five scheduled clinical simulation days will receive a failing grade for the course.

CONTENT OUTLINE

UNIT 1: BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DRUG THERAPY
Topic 1: Introduction to Drug Therapy
Topic 2: Drug Development, Marketing, and Regulation
Topic 3: Medical Terminology for Drug Therapy
   Sub-Topic: Medical Terminology, Drug Classifications
   Sub-Topic: Medical Terminology, Drug Forms and Routes of Administration
   Sub-Topic: Medical Terminology, Systems of Measurement
   Sub-Topic: Medical Terminology, Medication Equipment
   Sub-Topic: Medical Terminology, Medication Labels
Topic 4: Drugs in the Body
   Sub-Topic: Movement of Drugs in the Body, Pharmacokinetics
   Sub-Topic: Effects of Drugs in the Body, Pharmacodynamics
   Sub-Topic: Drugs Interactions in the Body

UNIT 2: THE HEALTH CARE TEAM IN DRUG THERAPY
Topic 5: Role of the Prescriber
   Sub-Topic: Role of the Physician/Prescriber
   Sub-Topic: Medication Administration, Medication Orders
Topic 6: Role of the Pharmacist/Pharmacy Technician
Topic 7: Role of the Nurse
   Sub-Topic: Monitoring Adverse Drug Reactions
   Sub-Topic: Preventing Medication Errors
   Sub-Topic: Nursing Process in Medication Administration
   Sub-Topic: Medication Administration, Medication Dosages
   Sub-Topic: Medication Administration, Oral Medication
   Sub-Topic: Medical Administration, Intravenous Medications and Solutions
   Sub-Topic: Medication Administration Skill, Oral Medications
   Sub-Topic: Medication Administration Skill, Topical Medications
   Sub-Topic: Medication Administration Skill, Basic Intravenous Administration

UNIT 3: CLINICAL SIMULATION - APPLICATION OF DRUG THERAPY
Topic 8: Pharmacotherapeutics, Pain and Comfort
Topic 9: Pharmacotherapeutics, Sleep
Topic 10: Pharmacotherapeutics, Fluids
Topic 11: Pharmacotherapeutics: Elimination
Topic 12: Pharmacotherapeutics: Nutrition
Topic 13: Pharmacotherapeutics: Infection
Topic 14: Pharmacotherapeutics: Oxygenation – Respiratory
Topic 15: Pharmacotherapeutics: Oxygenation – Hypertension
Topic 16: Pharmacotherapeutics: Oxygenation – Cardiac