Tompkins Cortland Community College

Master Course Syllabus

Course Discipline and Number: NURS 241 **Year: 2023-2024**

Course Title: Pharmacology for Nurses **Credit Hours: 3**

I. Course Description: This is a comprehensive pharmacology course which explores the basic principles of pharmacology, the legal and ethical foundations of safe medication administration, the role of the nurse in medication administration, lifespan considerations, and the major classifications of medication, including therapeutic actions and uses, clinical significance, nursing implications, adverse effects, and client and family teaching. Prerequisites: NURS 110 and BIOL 131 or BIOL 201. 3 Cr., (3 Lec.) Fall, spring, and summer semesters.

II. Additional Course Information:

1. NURS241 is open only to students matriculated in nursing.
2. This course is a requirement of the nursing program and is a prerequisite for NURS225.
3. LPNs or other health professionals may take this course with permission of the instructor or nursing program chair.

III. Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Define the basic principles of pharmacology.
2. Discuss the legal and ethical foundations, including the role of the nurse and lifespan considerations, involved in safe medication administration.
3. Utilize nursing process to educate clients to effectively manage their own health, including over-the-counter, complementary, and non-pharmacological treatments.
4. Apply knowledge of medications, including therapeutic actions and uses, clinical significance, nursing implications, adverse effects, and client and family teaching, in the major therapeutic classifications. following categories:
   A. Drugs that affect the Neurological System
   B. Drugs that affect the Cardiovascular System
   C. Drugs that affect the Urinary System
   D. Drugs that affect the Immune System
   E. Drugs that affect the Respiratory System
   F. Drugs that affect the Gastrointestinal System
   G. Drugs that affect the Endocrine System
   H. Drugs that affect the Visual, Auditory, and Integumentary Systems

IV. Tompkins Cortland General Education & SUNY Competency Goals

☒ Critical thinking (Tompkins Cortland GE Goal; SUNY Competency)
Successful completion of this course requires students to explore a huge array of information related to pharmacology and pathophysiology, and develop their understanding of how that knowledge applies to nursing process and patient care. This course requires a large amount of independent work. Students must apply all of this information to successfully answer the exam questions. Discussions include issues such as reproductive pharmacology, which require students to explore their own views as well as those of others.

☒ Social/Global Awareness
Weekly discussions explore issues related to pharmacology in the broader context of health, health care delivery, and current events. These topics include health care reform, the FDA, the pharmaceutical industry, drug abuse, health disparities among socioeconomic groups, and medical ethics.

☒ Information Management
Students in this course need to use Blackboard (the college's LMS) to access course content and exams.

☐ This course does not address either of these Tompkins Cortland or SUNY General Education Goals.

V. Essential Topics/Themes

1. Core concepts in pharmacology
2. Pharmacology and the nurse-client relationship
3. Clinically significant classes of medications including: A. Drugs that affect the Neurological System B. Drugs that affect the Cardiovascular System C. Drugs that affect the Urinary System D. Drugs that affect the Immune System E. Drugs that affect the Respiratory System F. Drugs that affect the Gastrointestinal System G. Drugs that affect the Endocrine System H. Drugs that affect the Visual, Auditory, and Integumentary Systems

VI. Methods of Assessment/Evaluation

Method	% Course Grade
1. Exams (four or five non-cumulative exams)	80-100%
2. Weekly online discussions	0-20%

VII. Texts – ☒ Required ☐ Recommended ☐ Used for more than one course (list courses)

Adams, M.P., Holland, L.N., & Urban, C. *Pharmacology for Nurses: A Pathophysiologic Approach.* (current edition). Upper Saddle River NJ: Prentice Hall.

Editions listed are current as of date of syllabus. More recent editions may be used.

VIII. Bibliography of Supplemental Materials

Online student resources which accompany the text.

Revised 09-2020/M. Schmidt

IX. Other Learning Resources

Audiovisual: Films on Demand via the library
Electronic: CINAHL, STAT!Ref, Board Vitals (all via the library)

Attendance Policy: *To maintain good grades, regular attendance in class is necessary. Absence from class is considered a serious matter and absence never excuses a student from class work. It is the responsibility of all instructors to distribute reasonable attendance policies in writing during the first week of class. Students are required to comply with the attendance policy set by each of their instructors. Students are not penalized if they are unable to attend classes or participate in exams on particular days because of religious beliefs, in accordance with Chapter 161, Section 224-a of the Education Law of the State of New York. Students who plan to be absent from classroom activity for religious reasons should discuss the absence in advance with their instructors. See college catalog for more information.*

Services for Students with Disabilities: *It is the College's policy to provide, on an individual basis, appropriate academic adjustments for students with disabilities, which may affect their ability to fully participate in program or course activities or to meet course requirements. Students with disabilities should contact the Coordinator of Access and Equity Services, to discuss their particular need for academic adjustments. All course materials are available in alternate formats upon request.*

Academic Integrity: *Every student at Tompkins Cortland Community College is expected to act in an academically honest fashion in all aspects of his or her academic work: in writing papers and reports, in taking examinations, in performing laboratory experiments and reporting the results, in clinical and cooperative learning experiences, and in attending to paperwork such as registration forms.*
Any written work submitted by a student must be his or her own. If the student uses the words or ideas of someone else, he or she must cite the source by such means as a footnote. Our guiding principle is that any honest evaluation of a student's performance must be based on that student's work. Any action taken by a student that would result in misrepresentation of someone else's work or actions as the student's own — such as cheating on a test, submitting for credit a paper written by another person, or forging an advisor's signature — is intellectually dishonest and deserving of censure.
Several degree programs offer student learning opportunities (such as internships, field work, and clinical experiences) outside the standard classroom setting. As part of the learning process, students must understand and engage in conduct that adheres to principles guiding employment within the professional workplace. These behaviors include, but are not limited to, academic integrity, accountability, reliability, respect, use of appropriate language and dress, civility, professional ethics, honesty, and trustworthiness. Disciplinary action may be initiated for inappropriate conduct occurring while participating in any course-related project or event.