



Course Syllabus: Pharmacology in Nursing Practice

Gunn College of Health Science and Human Services

Wilson School of Nursing

NURS 3313

Spring 2026

Centennial Hall: Mondays 0900-1150

Contact Information

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Course Description

Explore the nurse's role in relationship to the principles of pharmacology and drug prototypes used to treat alterations or promote health in individuals, families, groups, communities, or society (IFGCS) across the lifespan.

Course Objectives

AACN Essentials: For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to AACN BSN Essentials 2021
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DEC Competencies: In the DEC Competencies below, the following designations apply: I: Provider of Patient-centered Care, II: Coordinator of Care, III: Patient Safety Advocate, and IV: Member of the Health Care Team. For further information regarding the competencies identified for each course objective, refer to Texas Board of Nursing DECs 2021
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Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:	AACN	DEC
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1. Discuss the historic development, terminology, and ethical/legal implications associated with pharmacology.	1.1c; 1.2e 2d, e 5.1a 6.1a 9.1a; 9.1c; 9.1g; 9.3b; 9.3c; 9.3d	I: A, B II: D, E III: D
2. Relate the pharmaceutical, pharmacokinetic, and pharmacodynamics phases of pharmacotherapeutics for IFGCS across the lifespan.	1.1b, 1.2a 2.5d 3.1c 4.2c 5.2a; 5.2c; 5.2d; 5.2e 9.1b;	I: B II: A, C, D, F, G III: B, C IV: A
3. Describe predictable and unpredictable responses of individuals to drug therapy.	1.3b; 1.3c 2.3f; 2.5e; 2.7a 3b, c 4a	I: B, D II: A, B, C, D, E, F, G III: B, C IV: A
4. Explore cultural and psychosocial factors influencing the use of drug and complementary therapies.	1.2b 2.2b; 2.2e; 2.8d 6.1d	I: B, D II: A, B, C, D, E, F, G III: B, C IV: A

Textbook & Instructional Materials

Lilley, L. L., Rainforth Collins, S., & Snyder, J. S. (2023). Pharmacology and the Nursing Process (10th ed.). Elsevier.

Sherpath Advantage and Adaptive Quizzing

The digital assessment platform ExamSoft® will be utilized on for all exams. Exam-takers are required to download the test-taking software, Examplify, prior to the first exam. Please review the Examplify Minimum System Requirements (MSRs), found on the ExamSoft® [website](#).

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

This course adheres to the MSU Code of Conduct. In particular, academic dishonesty, however small, creates a breach in academic integrity. A student's participation in this course comes with the expectation that his or her work will be completed in full observance of the MSU Code of Student Conduct. A student should consult the current Student Handbook for answers to any questions about the code.

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available including online Desire 2 Learn course resources, Internet sites, other textbooks and journals, faculty, and peers when accomplishing objectives. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive for life-long learning.

However, all components of the course are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually or each group of students individually when completing a group project and are not to be shared, copied, or plagiarized from other sources. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they abided by this rule.

Academic dishonesty includes cheating, collusion, plagiarism or the acquisition of tests or test questions and other academic materials such as test banks without the permission of the faculty. Cheating, collusion, or plagiarism is defined as: (1) cheating - intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, equipment, or study aids in any academic exercise; (2) collusion - the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing work offered for credit; (3) plagiarism - intentionally representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

Academic dishonesty (cheating, collusion, plagiarism, etc.) will not be tolerated in this class. Whenever a student is unsure of whether a particular situation will be interpreted as academic dishonesty, he or she should ask the instructor for clarification.

Unless otherwise specified, the use of Automated Writing Tools, including chatGPT and similar artificial intelligence (AI) tools, is strictly prohibited in this course, even when properly attributed. The use of automated writing tools is considered plagiarism (as defined by SRRR 9.3) and will be handled in accordance with existing policy.

Any student found to be academically dishonest as defined above on any assignment will automatically receive a grade of "0" on the assignment. Additional guidelines on procedures in these matters may be found in the Office of Student Conduct.

[Office of Student Conduct](#)

Moffett Library

Moffett Library provides resources and services to support student's studies and assignments, including books, peer-reviewed journals, databases, and multimedia materials accessible both on campus and remotely. The library offers media equipment checkout, reservable study rooms, and research assistance from librarians to help students effectively find, evaluate, and use information. Get started on this [Moffett Library webpage](#) to explore these resources and learn how to best utilize the library.

Grading

Table 1: Course Grades

*Assignments	Percentage
**Exams (5)	65%
***Adaptive Quizzing	10%
***Sherpath Lessons	5%
***Dosage Quizzes (4)	20%
Total Points	100%

Table 2: Course Grade Calculation

*The final course grade will be calculated in the following manner:
*There will be no rounding of grades. If a student earns a 73.9%, then the grade recorded is a D. The grade will not be rounded.
**Students must score at least a 74% average on all exams (4 module and final exams) to pass the course. This is called the exam average.
**Students that do not achieve a 74% exam average will receive a final grade that reflects the exam average earned.
***Students who earn at least a 74% exam average will have the remaining assignment grades calculated as weighted in the table above as the course grade.

Table 4: WSON Grading Scale

Grade	Points
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	74-79
D	65-73
F	Less than 64

Homework

Sherpath lessons and Adaptive Quizzing are completed outside of class through the Elsevier platform. The Sherpath lessons will help you prepare for class. The grade (5%) is based on completion.

Adaptive Quizzing is required to aid you in preparing for exams. The quizzes are adaptive to the content you are weak in and will help you review as you continue. I encourage you to read the rationale for the questions to review the content. If you do not understand, click on the link to the textbook for further review. The Adaptive Quizzing grades that will be placed in the gradebook are the grades you earn on the quizzes. They can be taken multiple times to earn up to 100%.

Dosage Quizzes

There are four (4) dosage calculations quizzes in the course. The quizzes are class assignments and will be completed in class. If you are absent on the day of a quiz, a zero (0) will be placed in the gradebook. The quizzes will consist of 10-15 questions and administered on paper. Calculators will be provided.

Exams

1. Exam Soft requires loading Examplify application for taking course exams. Exam Soft is purchased online each semester. You will receive an email with a link to register and pay.
2. There are not enough electrical outlets for use by all students during exam administration, make sure your battery is 100% charged.
3. Students are responsible for bringing a compatible computer or tablet on which to take the exams.
4. The unit exams may cover material covered in previous or concurrent courses, the textbooks readings, classroom activities, and assignments.
5. Presence of a device capable of calling or texting in the classroom during an exam will result in an automatic zero (0) on the exam. It is advised to leave cell phones and smart watches at home. If in the room, smart watches must be removed and placed at the front of the room and phones must be turned OFF. If a phone rings or makes noise more than once during an exam the owner will receive a zero (0) on the exam.
6. If a student is suspected of cheating in any way, a zero (0) will automatically be given for the exam.
7. Students will have 5 business days following the published results of an exam to contact the course faculty via email for any test concerns.
8. Exam Soft will provide students with user identity codes, initial passwords, and instructions on how to load Examplify. Students must

maintain ready access to user identity codes and passwords on exam days. If these access codes are not available for use, the student runs the risk of not taking an exam and earning a grade of zero (0).

9. No food or drinks will be allowed during the exam.
10. Hats and hoodies may not be worn during the exam.
11. All backpacks/bags will be placed at the front of the room and may be retrieved once the exam is complete, uploaded, and the test code page has been turned into the instructor.
12. Students will not be permitted to leave the room during the exam until it is uploaded. No bathroom breaks are allowed during an exam. If students must leave, their exam must be uploaded with the confirmation screen shown to the instructor and exam access code/scratch paper turned in.

Final Exam

The final exam is comprehensive and will cover all modules in the class. The final exam will be on Monday, May 11, 2026 at 0800 in room CE101. The final exam will consist of 100 questions: 20 from each module and 20 dosage calculation items. The dropdown calculator in Examplify will be available. Scratch paper will be provided and must be turned in at the end of the exam.

Extra Credit

It is the policy of the nursing program to not accept extra credit

Late Work

No credit will be awarded if an assignment is submitted after the due date. There are no opportunities for extra credit given for any assignment. If you have a question or concern about a grade, you must contact the faculty within 24 hours of the due date to dispute the grade. Once 24 hours after the due date has lapsed, no further changes will be made on any grade.

Make Up Work/Tests

Should the student be absent from an exam, it is the student's responsibility to notify the course coordinator at least two hours prior to the exam or as soon as possible if an emergency is the cause of missing the exam. Students may make-up exams on Friday, May 1 at 0900. Any missed exams will be made up at that time. If more than one exam is missed, all will be completed at the make-up session.

Failure to comply with this policy will result in a zero for the exam(s) missed. Any make-up exam may be different from the original exam and may include multiple choice, essay, short answer, true and false, and/or matching questions.

In class quizzes and activities will not be made up. If a graded quiz or activity is missed, a grade of zero (0) will be placed in the gradebook.

Nursing Program Failure Policy

1. Students must meet all course requirements or a grade of F will be assigned.
2. A student who withdraws from the course prior to the drop date (in the Academic Calendar) may re-enroll the next semester.
3. Any student who earns a D or F in any two nursing courses (the same course twice or two different courses) will be dismissed from the program.
4. The faculty reserves the right to recommend to the School of Nursing Chair and College of Human Services and Health Sciences withdrawal of a student from the nursing program for health, legal, or academic reasons, particularly if client care is jeopardized. In addition, the student must perform within the ANA Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics.

Important Dates

- Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:"April 29, 2026 by 4 pm.
 - Check date on [Academic Calendar](#).
- Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Desire-to-Learn (D2L)

Extensive use of the MSU D2L program is a part of this course. Each student is expected to be familiar with this program as it provides a primary source of communication regarding assignments, examination materials, and general course information. You can log into [D2L](#) through the MSU Homepage. If you experience difficulties, please contact the technicians listed for the program or contact your instructor.

Attendance

Students are encouraged to attend all lectures. Students may be dropped from the course for excessive absences (more than 4) per the University policy.

Instructor Drop

An instructor may drop a student at any time during the semester for excessive absences (more than 4), for consistently failing to meet class assignments, for an indifferent attitude, or for disruptive conduct. The instructor must give the students a verbal or written warning prior to being dropped from the class. An instructor's drop of a student takes precedence over the student-initiated course drop of a later date. The instructor will assign a grade of either WF or F through

the 8th week of a long 45 hour semester, the 6th week of a 10 week summer term, or the 11th class day of a 4 or 5 week summer term consisting of 20 days. After these

periods, the grade will be an F. The date the instructor drop form is received in the Office of the Registrar is the official drop date. Refer to page 27 at <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/assets/files/handbook.pdf>.

Online Computer Requirements

Assignments and exams in this course are administered electronically. It is the student's responsibility have access to a suitable device to complete the assignments and exams. Computer failure is not a suitable excuse for missing assignment dates. If the student's computer is not functioning at exam time, the student may elect to take the make-up examination at the date scheduled in the course calendar.

Instructor Class Policies

1. **Timeliness** is expected in all aspects including being on-time for class, exams, and submission of assignments. Showing up late to an exam results in having to make up the exam. Students will not be permitted to enter late to exams.
2. **Respect** for faculty and peers is expected at all times. Distracting behaviors such as talking, texting, working on other assignments during class, or inattentiveness will not be tolerated and you may be asked to leave the classroom.
3. Students must take an **active role** in their learning and demonstrate **accountability** including evidence of commitment, responsibility, and communication.

Change of Schedule

A student dropping a course (but not withdrawing from the University) within the first 12 class days of a regular semester or the first four class days of a summer semester is eligible for a 100% refund of applicable tuition and fees. Dates are published in the Schedule of Classes each semester.

Refund and Repayment Policy

A student who withdraws or is administratively withdrawn from Midwestern State University (MSU) may be eligible to receive a refund for all or a portion of the tuition, fees and room/board charges that were paid to MSU for the semester. **HOWEVER**, if the student received financial aid (federal/state/institutional grants, loans and/or scholarships), all or a portion of the refund may be returned to the financial aid programs. As described below, two formulas (federal and state) exists in determining the amount of the refund. (Examples of each refund calculation will be made available upon request).

Services for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Midwestern State University endeavors to make reasonable accommodations to ensure equal opportunity for qualified persons with disabilities to participate in all educational, social, and recreational programs and activities. After notification of acceptance, students requiring accommodations should make application for such assistance through Disability Support Services, located in the Student Wellness Center, (940) 397-4140. Current documentation of a disability will be required in order to provide appropriate services, and each request will be individually reviewed. For more details, please go to [Disability Support Services](#).

College Policies

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

Refer to: [Campus Carry Rules and Policies](#)

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

College policy strictly prohibits the use of tobacco products in any building owned or operated by WATC. Adult students may smoke only in the outside designated-smoking areas at each location.

Alcohol and Drug Policy

To comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and subsequent amendments, students and employees of Midwestern State are informed that strictly enforced policies are in place which prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of any illicit drugs, including alcohol, on university property or as part of any university-sponsored activity. Students and employees are also subject to all applicable legal sanctions under local, state and federal law for any offenses involving illicit drugs on University property or at University-sponsored activities.

Campus Carry

Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes has prohibited. The new Constitutional Carry law does not change this process. Concealed carry still requires a License to Carry permit, and openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit [Campus Carry](#).

Active Shooter

The safety and security of our campus is the responsibility of everyone in our community. Each of us has an obligation to be prepared to appropriately respond to threats to our campus, such as an active aggressor. Please review the information provided by MSU Police Department regarding the options and strategies we can all use to stay safe during difficult situations. For more information, visit [MSUREady – Active Shooter](#). Students are encouraged to watch the video entitled "Run. Hide. Fight." which may be electronically accessed via the University police department's webpage: ["Run. Hide. Fight."](#)

Grade Appeal Process

Update as needed. Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [MSU Catalog](#)

***Notice:** Changes in the course syllabus, procedure, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Schedule:

Modules	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date <i>All Assignments due by the dates/times indicated below</i>
<u>Module 1</u> January 19- February 15	Ch. 1 The Nursing Process & Drug Therapy Ch. 2 Pharmacologic Principles Ch. 5 Medication Errors: Preventing and Responding Ch. 10 Analgesic Drugs Ch. 38 Antibiotics part 1 Ch. 39 Antibiotics part 2 Ch. 49 Immunizing Drugs Ch. 54 Anemia Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 1 Lessons due Feb 15 by 2359 pm <input type="checkbox"/> Module 1 Adaptive Quizzing due Feb 15 by 2359 pm <input type="checkbox"/> Dosage Quiz 1: February 23 at 9 am <input type="checkbox"/> Exam 1 Monday, February 16 @9 am
<u>Module 2</u> February 16- March 15	Ch. 30 Pituitary Drugs Ch. 31 Thyroid and Antithyroid Ch. 32 Diabetes Drugs Ch. 36 Antihistamines etc. Ch. 37 Respiratory Drugs Ch. 50 Acid-controlling drugs Ch. 51 Bowel Disorder Drugs Ch. 52 Antiemetic and Antinausea	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 2 Lessons due March 15 by 2359 pm <input type="checkbox"/> Module 2 Adaptive Quizzing due March 15 by 2359 pm <input type="checkbox"/> Dosage Quiz 2: March 23 at 9 am <input type="checkbox"/> Exam 2 Monday, March 16 @ 9am
<u>Module 3</u> March 16- April 5	Ch. 22 Antihypertensive Drugs Ch. 23 Antianginal Drugs Ch. 24 Heart Failure Drugs Ch. 25 Antidysrhythmic Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 3 Lessons due April 5 by 2359 pm

Modules	Activities/Assignments/Exams	Due Date <i>All Assignments due by the dates/times indicated below</i>
	Ch. 26 Coagulation Modifiers Ch. 27 Antilipemic Drugs Ch. 28 Diuretic Drugs Ch. 29 Fluid & Electrolytes	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 3 Adaptive Quizzing due April 5 by 2359 pm <input type="checkbox"/> Dosage Quiz 3: April 13 at 9 am <input type="checkbox"/> Exam 3 Monday, April 6 @ 9 am
<u>Module 4</u> April 6-April 26	Ch. 12 CNS Depressants and Muscle Relaxants Ch. 13 CNS Stimulants Ch. 14 Antiepileptic Drugs Ch. 15 Antiparkinson Drugs Ch. 16 Psychotherapeutics Drugs	<input type="checkbox"/> Module 4 Lessons due April 26 by 2359 pm <input type="checkbox"/> Module 4 Adaptive Quizzing due April 26 by 2359 pm <input type="checkbox"/> Dosage Quiz 4: April 20 at 9 am <input type="checkbox"/> Exam 4 Monday, April 27 @ 9 am
<u>Finals</u> December 6-12	Comprehensive Final Exam	<input type="checkbox"/> Final Exam Monday, May 11 @ 8 am

*Please note, the schedule is subject to change and students will be notified through D2L news.

Supplemental Readings by topic/drugs:

Antidysrhythmics:

Class 1a: p. 390-391, 394, 399-400
 Class 1b: p. 390-391, 394
 Class 1c: p. 394-395
 Class II: p. 395
 Class III: p. 390-391, 396-397, 400
 Class IV: p. 397-398, 363, 390-391, 400
 Unclassified: p. 397-398

Anticoagulants:

p. 408-414, 423-425

Antiplatelets:

p. 409, 411, 414-417
 clopidogrel

Thrombolytics:

p. 409, 419-420
alteplase
tenecteplase

Antifibrinolytics:

p. 409, 419-420
aminocaproic acid

Decreasing Blood Viscosity:

p. 409
pentoxifyline

Reversal Agents:

p. 409-410
protamine sulfate
vitamin K
idraruclizumab
coagfactor Xa

Dopamine: p. 296, 299, 236-239

Epinephrine: 296, 518-519, 574

Norepinephrine: 297, 518-519

Phenylephrine: p. 297

Bethanechol: p. 318-319

Donepezil: p. 319-320

Atropine: p. 167, 240, 328-330

Scopolamine: p. 240, 330, 819-820, 824