



**Course Syllabus: Pharmacology in Nursing Practice**  
**Wilson School of Nursing**  
**Spring 2025**  
NURS 3313

*Location: Centennial Hall 101 Monday 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.

**Pre-requisites**

NURS 3103: Introduction to Nursing; NURS 3202/3312 Pathophysiology; NURS 3212/3211: Family Health Assessment & Clinical

**Credit Hours**

Three (3) credit hours

**Course Objectives**

AACN Essentials: For further information regarding the AACN Essentials identified for each course objective, refer to [AACN BSN Essentials 2021](#)

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 DEC's 2021](#)

Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:	AACN	DEC
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**

#### Required Materials

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

#### Sherpath Advantage

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](#).

## **Learning Experiences**

Students are expected to be self-directed in the acquisition of basic nursing knowledge. Learning activities available to the students include but are not limited to:

1. Reading assignments
2. Class assignments/quizzes
3. Group work/class participation
4. Online learning assignments

## **Student Handbook**

Refer to: [BSN Student Handbook](#) and [MSU 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.

### Grading

Table 2: Course Grade

*Assignments	Percentage
**Exams (5 total)	60%
***Adaptive Quizzing	10%
***Sherpath Lessons	5%
***Dosage Quizzes	15%
***ATI (practice, remediation, and proctored test)	10%
Total	100

Table 3: 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 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.

Table 4: Grading Scale

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

## Midterm Progress

In order to help students keep track of their progress toward course objectives, the instructor for this course will provide a Midterm Progress Report through each student's WebWorld account. Midterm grades will not be reported on the student's transcript; nor will they be calculated in the cumulative GPA. They simply give students an idea of where they stand at midpoint of the semester. Students earning below a C at the midway point should schedule a meeting with the professor and seek out tutoring through the Tutoring & Academic Support Programs (link to the website <https://msutexas.edu/academics/tasp/>).

## Exams

1. There are four unit exams covering the content in the textbook, assigned readings, and assigned activities. Each unit exam will take 75 minutes.
2. Unit objectives are found at the beginning of each assigned chapter. These objectives will help you focus on what to study for each exam. Required readings are found on the course calendar.
3. One comprehensive Final exam will be given. It will include 100 questions covering the course content and medication calculations
4. All exams are required. If notice of missing an exam is not given prior to the start of the scheduled exam, a zero (0) will be given.

## Exam Policy

1. Exam Soft requires loading Exemplify application for taking course exams. Exam Soft is purchased online each semester.
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 having a compatible computer or tablet on which to take the exams.
4. Module exams will be comprised of 50 objective questions. The testing period is the 75 minutes of assigned class time. 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 Exemplify. 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.

### **ATI Activities**

1. Each student is required to enroll into ATI.
2. Maximum grade possible is 10/10 = 100%
3. Grade represents no more than 10% of the overall course grade
4. Grading is calculated as such:
  - a. Practice Assessment A score  $\geq$  to 90%: 1 point
  - b. Practice Assessment B score  $\geq$  to 90%: 1 point
  - c. Standardized proctored assessment:
    - i. Level 3 = 4 points
    - ii. Level 2 = 3 points
    - iii. Level 1 = 1 point
    - iv. Below level 1 = 0 points
  - d. Standardized proctored assessment remediation:
    - i. Earned level 3: Three Critical Points worksheet on three missed topics. All columns must be complete for credit = 4 points
    - ii. Earned level 2: Three Critical Points worksheet on six missed topics. All columns must be complete for credit = 4 points

- iii. Earned level 1: Three Critical Points worksheet on every topic missed. All columns must be complete for credit = 4 points
  - iv. Earned less than a level 1: Three Critical Points worksheet on every topic missed. All columns must be complete for credit = 4 points
5. ATI points will be added to final grade once the student has met the minimal exam average requirement.
  6. Late work policies do not pertain to ATI.
  7. An iPad cannot be used to take the ATI tests.

### **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 the make-up exam session as documented on the course calendar.

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.

### **Withdrawal Deadlines**

Last Day to drop with a grade of "W:" April 30, 2025

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 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 hours 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>.

### **Computer Requirements**

Assignments and exams in this course are administered electronically. It is the student's responsibility to 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).

### **Disability Support Services**

Midwestern State University is committed to providing equal access for qualified students with disabilities to all university courses and programs, and by law all students with disabilities are guaranteed a learning environment that provides reasonable accommodation of their disability. This guarantee is provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The ADA reads: "No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity, or be subject to discrimination

by any such entity.” The Director of Disability Support Services serves as the ADA Coordinator and may be contacted at (940) 397.4140, TDD (940) 397.4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center 168.

## **College 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.

### Campus Carry Rules/Policies

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

### 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.

## **Grade Appeal Process**

Students who wish to appeal a grade should consult the Midwestern State University [Undergraduate Catalog](#)

## **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 [Safety / Emergency Procedures](#). 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."](#)

*Notice*

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