



Course Syllabus: Advanced Health Assessment
College of Health Sciences and Human Services
RESP 4453 Section 101
Fall 2025

Contact Information

Instructor: Randy Case, Ph.D., RRT-NPS
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Course Description

Course Meetings will be Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 8:00am to 9:40am in Centennial Hall 250. The focus of this lecture course is to provide the students with advanced physical assessment skills. The assessments of the major organ systems commonly affected by or associated with pulmonary diseases are explored. Topics include detailed assessment of the chest and lungs, heart and great vessels, skin, head and neck, nose and throat, and emergency and life-threatening situations.

Course Objectives

Course objectives include: Describe the components of the Physical Examination (P.E.), Perform head to toe assessments on simulation man and in the clinical setting, Identify abnormalities seen during P.E., Describe the functional anatomy of the nervous system, Explain relationship between vital signs and neurologic status, Identify the importance of ICP monitoring, Identify normal values and significance of abnormalities for hematology and chemistry lab tests, Appraise chest radiographic findings, Describe how chest radiograph is produced, Identify the value in assessing chest radiograph, Review assessment of pediatric and older adult patients, Identify methods, normal values, and significance of measuring lung volumes in the ICU, List the components involved in the clinical evaluation of oxygenation and their significance, Review assessment of CO, Describe relationship of CVP to left and right ventricular function, Interpret PA waveforms, Describe relationships between PA diastolic pressure and PCWP, Describe basic terms used with endoscopy, Identify the indications & contraindications for bronchoscopy, and Describe the role of the respiratory therapist in the assessment of patients for potential sleep-disordered breathing.

Textbook & Instructional Materials

No textbook required

Assignment Grading

Assignments	Percentage of Total Grade
Lecture Examinations	55%
Advanced Assessment Portfolio	10%
TMC/SIM Prep Assignment	10%
Final Exam	25%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage Grade
A	90-100%
B	80-89%
C	75-79%
D	60-74%
F	Less than 60%

A minimum grade of 75, or a C, is required in all respiratory courses. All assignments must be completed by 11:59pm on the due date.

Attendance and Participation

Punctuality to class is imperative. Exams will be given during the first part of class with an allotted amount of time. If the student is late, they will be given the remaining portion of the allotted time to finish the exam. At the end of the allotted time, all exams must be turned in, complete or not. Regular class attendance is required. No distinction is made between excused and unexcused absences unless absence has been cleared through the office of the Dean of Students, Athletic Department, or Academic Affairs. Two late arrivals equal one absence. The following policy will be enforced: Greater than 5 absences will result in instructor initiated drop from the class. Prior absence approval may be granted after review by the professor. If you have a documented disability that will impact your work in this class, please contact me to discuss your needs.

Lecture Exams

Lecture Examinations may consist of multiple-choice, definitions, true/false, short answer, fill-in the blank, labeling diagrams, or essay type questions. The material for the examinations will come from the text as well as lectures and notes. You will be given 60 minutes for each exam. Exams will start at the beginning of class and must be turned in by the end of class time.

Advanced Assessment Portfolio

For this assignment, you will perform a COMPLETE Head to Toe Assessment on 3 patients during your clinical time utilizing the Online Assessment Workbook, which is strictly a guide for you. You do not have to follow this exactly. Provide a summary page for each of your 3 patients (minimum 250 words each). Include your findings on the assessment, vital signs, vent settings, labs, medications, and history of present illness as well as past medical history for each patient. Each patient assessment should be organized, typed, and well-documented. Write a final summary about the entire assignment (minimum 250 words) and include: What you learned from doing the head to toe assessments?, Do you think this will improve your critical thinking skills as a respiratory therapist?, How did the therapists or nurses respond to you doing a complete head to toe assessment? Make a cover sheet with your name on it. Due date is listed below in the course schedule. A grading rubric for the portfolio can be found in D2L. Due Monday, December 1, by 8:00am.

TMC/SIM Assignment

Towards the end of the semester, we will have an assignment that will hopefully begin to prepare you for the Therapist Multiple Choice Exam Clinical Simulation component of your upcoming board exams. This activity will occur during two class periods and this assignment will account for 10% of your final grade for this course.

Final Exam

The Final comprehensive exam may consist of multiple-choice, definitions, true/false, short answer, fill-in the blank, labeling diagrams, or essay type questions. The material for the examinations will come from the text as well as lectures and notes.

Missed Exam and Assignment Policy

If a student is going to miss an examination or assignment, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor prior to the exam or assignment deadline. A 10% reduction will be taken for each day (weekends and holidays included) after the scheduled exam or assignment due date. The professor reserves the right to make unscheduled or delayed exams essay in nature and considerably more challenging.

KaHoot

KaHoot is a game-based learning platform I will be utilizing to help you prepare for your lecture exams and TMC board exams. This is an interactive learning tool

that requires a computer, tablet or mobile device with internet access. You can either log in to the KaHoot website or use the KaHoot app. Each students' points will be added up throughout the semester and will be used to determine a number of bonus points that will be added to your final exam.

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.

Services for Students With Disabilities

It is the policy of Midwestern State University that no otherwise qualified person, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program, activity, or employment of the University. It is MSU's policy to provide equal access and opportunity to individuals with disabilities in compliance with federal law to include sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the American with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008.

Disability Support Services provides information and assistance, arranges accommodations, and serves as a liaison for students, instructors, and staff. A student who seeks accommodations on the basis of disability must register with Disability Support Services, Clark Student Center Room 168. Documentation of disability from a relevant, licensed professional is required.

Individuals with grievances related to discrimination or lack of accommodation on the basis of a disability are encouraged to resolve the problem directly with the area involved. If the matter remains unresolved, advice and assistance will be provided by Disability Support Services. Specific information on filing a grievance is available in Disability Support Services and at <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/disability/disability-grievance-procedures.php>.

The Director of Disability Support Services serves as the ADA Coordinator and may be contacted by email at disabilityservices@msutexas.edu, by phone at (940) 397-4140, TDD (940) 397-4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center Room 168. The web address is <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/disability>.

The Section 508 Coordinator may be contacted by email at disabilityservices@msutexas.edu, by phone at (940) 397-4140, TDD (940) 397-4515, or 3410 Taft Blvd., Clark Student Center Room 168. The web address is <https://msutexas.edu/student-life/disability>.

Student Handbook

Refer to: [Student Handbook](#)

College Policies

Academic Misconduct Policy & Procedures

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

Students are encouraged to take full advantage of many resources available including Internet sites, handouts, other textbooks & journals, faculty, and peers. This interactive collegial learning environment is conducive to lifelong learning.

The components of this course are designed to represent the efforts of each student individually and are NOT to be shared. Submitting someone else's work as your own or improperly cited work constitutes plagiarism. Please see the Midwestern State University Catalog for further discussion of plagiarism. Plagiarism will constitute in an F for the course and the student will be referred to administration for further action. When students submit their efforts for grading, they are attesting they abided by this rule.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to: (1) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, or examinations; (2) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the instructor in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or completing other assignments; or (3) the acquisition of tests or other academic materials belonging to the university faculty or staff without permission.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to: the use of, by paraphrase or direct quotation without correct citation in the text and on the reference list, the published or unpublished works of another person. Students may not submit papers and assignments that they have previously submitted for this or other courses. The use of materials generated by agencies engaged in "selling" term papers is also plagiarism. The use of AI-generated works is also considered plagiarism. Students are encouraged to review the tutorials and suggested websites for more information about plagiarism.

By enrolling in this course, the student expressly grants MSU a limited right in all intellectual property created by the student for the purpose of this course. The limited right shall include but shall not be limited to the right to reproduce the students' work product in order to verify originality and authenticity, and for educational purposes.

Campus Carry Rules/Policies

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

Smoking/Tobacco Policy

Refer to: [Smoking and Tobacco Policy](#)

Alcohol and Drug Policy

Refer to: [Alcohol and Drug Policy](#)

Drops

Refer to: [Drops, Withdrawals & Void](#)

Grade Appeal Process

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

Course Schedule:

On the next page, you will find the course schedule. I suggest printing a copy of the course schedule to help you stay organized and meet all deadlines.

Please note that changes in the course syllabus, assignments, and schedule may be made at the discretion of the professor.

Course Schedule

Date	Lecture	Exams/Assignments
Mon, Aug 25		Syllabus/Pedi Health Fair
Tues, Aug 26		TMC Prep
Thurs, Aug 28		TMC Prep
Mon, Sept 29	Physical Examination	
Tues, Sept 30	Neuro Assessment	
Thurs, Oct 2	Lab Studies	
Mon, Oct 6		KaHoot & Review
Tues, Oct 7		Exam 1
Thurs, Oct 9	Chest Imaging	
Mon, Oct 13	Neo/Pedi/Geriatric	
Tues, Oct 14	Specialty Gases	
Thurs, Oct 16		KaHoot & Review
Mon, Oct 20		Exam 2
Tues, Oct 21	Bronchs	
Thurs, Oct 23	Sleep	
Mon, Nov 10	Lung Ultrasound	
Tues, Nov 11		KaHoot & Review
Thurs, Nov 13		Exam 3
Mon, Nov 17	Resp Monitoring in ICU	
Tues, Nov 18	Vascular Pressure Monitoring	
Thurs, Nov 20	Cardiac Output Measurement	
Mon, Nov 24		KaHoot & Review
Tues, Nov 25		Exam 4
Mon, Dec 1		Can You Assess It? Portfolio Projects Due
Tues, Dec 2		Sim Prep
Thurs, Dec 4		TMC/SIM Prep Assignment
Tues, Dec 9		Final Exam