



Integrated Advanced Health Assessment, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology
NURS 5355
FALL 2025

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online.

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Virtual Office Hours: Online.

Note: *If you do not receive a response from me within 48 business hours, please reattempt your communication via email, text, or phone. Avoid emailing me through Canvas, as I will not receive your message.*

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed for master's students who are not planning to pursue a nurse practitioner certification. Students will integrate advanced pathophysiology and pharmacology concepts to apply advanced health assessment principles and skills to examine clients comprehensively. The focus will be on common deviations from normal, and populations across the lifespan will be included.

PREREQUISITES: Admission to the MSN Nursing Education program or enrollment in the Ph.D. in Nursing program.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES: Building upon basic health (physical & mental) assessment, pathophysiology, and pharmacology (3Ps) knowledge, this course focuses on the application and synthesis of this knowledge for clinical decision-making. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Master and apply advanced concepts in health assessment, including interviewing for holistic health history, advanced health examination, documentation strategies, and frameworks for diagnostic reasoning.
2. Master and apply advanced concepts in pharmacology, including pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetic properties of drugs, pharmacogenetic concepts influencing drug therapy, legal prescription writing techniques for controlled substances, and advances in safe medication administration.
3. Master and apply advanced concepts in pathophysiology, including genetics and epigenetics, the influence of neurobiology on daily functioning and mental health, inflammation and its role in disease and all major body systems.
4. Appraise current topics impacting pharmacologic treatment (novel treatments for cancer, antimicrobial resistance, opioid overuse, abuse, etc.).
5. Synthesize clinical diagnoses from information from multiple sources (patient history, health assessment, review of systems, lab reports, and medication history).
6. Integrate pathophysiologic concepts of disease in assessing and treating patients across lifespan.

7. Integrate pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic concepts into a patient-centered care plan.
8. Collaborate with team members to develop an effective, evidence-based, safe, individualized care plan for the patient that considers life circumstances, cultural, ethnic, and developmental variations.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND READINGS:

Required

- Available in Canvas as assigned throughout the course.

Recommended

- Physical Examination text of your choice.
- Pharmacology text of your choice.
- UpToDate (freely accessible through the UTT Library).
- American Psychological Association. (2020). Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (7th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1037/0000165-000>.

ASSIGNMENTS AND WEIGHTS/PERCENTAGE/POINT VALUES

Professionalism and Participation (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 8)	15%
Unit Quiz Attestations (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)	10%
Nurse Educator Physical Examination Presentation (SLOs 1, 5, 8)	15%
Nurse Educator Teaching Plan(s) (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8)	30%
Nurse Educator Teaching Plan & Presentations (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)	30%

GRADING SCALE: Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the Modules. Final grades for the course will be determined based on the following point assignments:

- A - 90-100
- B - 80-89
- C - 70-79
- D - 60-69
- F - Below 60

Grades will **NOT** be rounded when calculating the average (79.5 is not rounded to 80, & 89.5 is not rounded to 90). Students must achieve an **average of 80% (B)** to complete the course successfully.

LATE POLICY: 5% will be deducted each day that an assignment is past due unless prior arrangements have been made with your course faculty. Extenuating circumstances may apply. You **MUST** contact the professor beforehand, or as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE AND MAKE-UP POLICY: In this online course, you must review all course content and complete all required assignments. Attendance is based on your weekly participation.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Cheating of any kind, as defined in Section 8 of the UT Tyler Manual of Policies and Procedures (MOPP) for Student Affairs (<https://www.uttyler.edu/mopp/>), will not be tolerated. Consequences may include:

- Reprimand
- Exam failure
- Course failure
- Expulsion from the Nursing Program
- Expulsion from the University
- Other consequences as assigned

Exam and homework materials, questions, and problems are the intellectual property of faculty, UT Tyler, or publishers.

- These materials may not be distributed without permission.
- Distributing or uploading them to online resources destroys the integrity of the assignment and the course, allowing others an unfair advantage by letting them view the materials.
- Uploading these materials to online resources violates UT Tyler's academic misconduct policies and may result in formal conduct charges.
- Sanctions for uploading or otherwise divulging the contents of these materials can include:
 - A reduced or failed grade on an assignment
 - A reduced or failed grade for the course
 - Removal from the nursing program
 - Removal from UT Tyler

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials while using any AI tool(s).

Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit.

Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, AI is permitted only for specific assignments or situations, and appropriate acknowledgment is required. When AI use is permissible, it will be clearly stated in the assignment directions, and all use of AI must be appropriately ***acknowledged and cited***. Otherwise, the default is that AI is not allowed during any stage of an assignment.

When using AI tools for assignments, add an appendix showing (a) the entire exchange (e.g., prompts used), highlighting the most relevant sections; (b) a description of precisely which AI tools were used, (c) an explanation of how the AI tools were used (e.g. to generate ideas, elements of text, etc.); and (d) an

account of why AI tools were used (e.g., to save time, to surmount writer's block, to stimulate thinking, to experiment for fun, etc.).

Students **shall only use AI tools during in-class examinations or assignments if** explicitly permitted and instructed. <https://www.uttyler.edu/digital-learning/ai/>

REPEATING A COURSE: Students repeating this course may not use previously submitted assignments nor utilize the same patients for an assignment. Submitting the same or slightly modified assignments from previous semesters is considered self-plagiarism and is subject to academic discipline, including failing the assignment or the course.

GRADED COURSE REQUIREMENTS INFORMATION: The major assignments are as follows:
Participation/Professionalism (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 8): Students will communicate professionally throughout the learning community and on their active participation in two discussion board topics, including course introductions and reflections. Students will review and submit the NSG Stu Forms-Grad per the graduate nursing handbook.

Unit Quiz Attestations (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5): Students will attest to having reviewed the course material in each unit.

Nurse Educator Physical Examination Presentation (SLOs 1, 5, 8): Students will present teaching the complete physical examination to undergraduate nursing students.

Nurse Educator Teaching Plans (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8): Students will review unit lectures and submit a teaching plan outline of how they would present the information to undergraduate nursing students and/or patients and families.

Nurse Educator Teaching Plan/Presentation (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8): Students will select a body system based on one of their completed teaching plans, 1) from units 3-6, and 2) from units 8-12. Students will self-record a presentation in Zoom and provide a recording link to the learning community. The presentations will include the following components: a) Physical Exam, b. Pathophysiology, c. Pharmacology/Treatment, and d. Patient Education.

Non-Graded Course Requirements Information:

Practice Hours (if applicable): If Fall 2025 marks your first enrollment in the UT Tyler SON master's program, to graduate you are required to complete a total of 750 practice hours if you are enrolled in an APRN program or 500 hours if enrolled in a non-APRN program. Here is the good news: we have a plan to help you accumulate these hours as you progress through the program. In this course, you will complete 10 practice hours, which will contribute towards the total requirement. You may not resubmit hours approved for this course in another course. We have created a list of ideas for you to choose from that will enhance your skills and competencies as a master's-prepared nurse! These practice hours are mandated by our accreditation agency, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

PLEASE NOTE: Detailed information for course assignments and evaluation rubrics are be provided in Canvas.

IMPORTANT COURSE DATES:

- Classes Begin: 08/28/2025
- Census Date (withdrawal without penalty): 09/04/2025
- Last Date to Withdraw: 10/01/2025 (*notify your advisor and instructor*)

CALENDAR OF TOPICS, READINGS, AND DUE DATES/TIMES
(All assignments are due on Sundays at midnight Central Time EXCEPT in Week/Unit 13):*

Week/Unit 1 Tues, 09/02	Course Orientation/Introduction	o Unit 1 Quiz Attestation o Discussion Board 1	Sun, 09/07
Week/Unit 2 Mon, 09/08	Interview and History Taking, Physical Examination, Documentation	o Unit 2 Quiz Attestation	Sun, 09/14
Week/Unit 3 Mon, 09/15	Cultural and Spiritual Assessment, Nutritional Assessment, Mental Health	o Unit 3 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Physical Examination Presentation	Sun, 09/21
Week/Unit 4 Mon, 09/22	Nose, Sinus, Mouth, Throat, Respiratory	o Peer Review – NEPEP o Unit 4 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan	Sun, 09/28
Week/Unit 5 Mon, 09/29	Integumentary, Eye, Ear	o Unit 5 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan	Sun, 10/05
Week/Unit 6 Mon, 10/06	Musculoskeletal	o Unit 6 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan	Sun, 10/12
Week/Unit 7 Mon, 10/13	Midterm Evaluation	o Unit 7 Quiz o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan & Presentation #1	Sun, 10/19
Week/Unit 8 Mon, 10/20	Neurological	o Peer Review - NETPP#1 o Unit 8 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan	Sun, 10/26
Week/Unit 9 Mon, 10/27	Cardiovascular	o Unit 9 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan	Sun, 11/02
Week/Unit 10 Mon, 11/03	Endocrine / Metabolic	o Unit 10 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan	Sun, 11/09
Week/Unit 11 Mon, 11/10	Gastrointestinal/Abdominal	o Unit 11 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan	Sun, 11/16
Week/Unit 12 Mon, 11/17	Male Genitourinary / Female Genitourinary and Breast	o Unit 12 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan	Sun, 11/23
Week/Unit 13 Mon, 11/24	Final Evaluation	o Unit 13 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan & Presentation #2	Mon, 12/01*
Week/Unit 14 Mon, 12/01	Course Reflection	o Peer Review - NETPP#2 o Discussion Board 2	Sun, 12/07

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information:

https://www.utt Tyler.edu/nursing/college/student_guide_and_policies.php

Student Resources and University Policies are provided in Canvas.