



Community and Population Focused Nursing
RNBS 4601.P060 & P060L
Fall 2025 Flex 2

Didactic & Clinical Course

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

All sections are combined in main canvas course

Instructor's Name: Meredith Ashley, MSN, RN

Office: Virtual

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Office Hours: Available via email, conference call and zoom.

Course Description: This course introduces the RN to concepts of community health utilizing the population-focused nursing process. Includes levels of disease prevention, principles of epidemiology, community assessment, environmental health, disaster preparedness, and professional nursing roles and interprofessional collaboration in various community settings. Emphasis is on health promotion, risk reduction, and disease management across the lifespan in selected community settings.

Prerequisites: Admission to the RN-BSN track. Successful completion of RNBS 3303 and RNBS 3312 and RNBS 3415 and RNBS 3333 and RNBS 4312 and RNBS 4631. Special permission required from the School of Nursing to take out of sequence.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. **Professionalism:** Explore principles of public health science and population-focused care as they relate to the role of the community health nurse.
2. **Patient-Centered Care:** Describe how to coordinate and plan evidence-based nursing interventions for communities based on the nursing process.
3. **Evidence-Based Practice (EBP):** Discuss research findings from evidence-based literature and research-based interventions to the practice of the community health nurse.
4. **Informatics & Technology:** Interpret data collected through technology and information systems to improve population health outcomes

5. **Quality Improvement:** Discuss basic knowledge of healthcare policy, finance, and regulatory environments that affect the health of diverse populations.
6. **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Explain the process of effective communication among healthcare professionals that reflects human caring for diverse populations through multidisciplinary collaborations.
7. **Wellness and Prevention:** Discuss the impact of the social determinants of health on diverse populations. Discuss prevention initiatives to improve health outcomes in the community.
8. **Leadership:** Examine community-based activities to promote advocacy, collaboration, and social justice.
9. **Safety:** Explain the importance of promoting quality and safe environments and their impact on communities and populations.
10. **Strengths:** Determine how Strengths (signature talent themes) influence the role of the nurse and clinical decision-making.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

1. RNBS 4601 Course Syllabus and Schedule.
2. Stanhope, M., & Lancaster, J. (2022). *Foundations for Population Health in Community/Public Health Nursing* (6th Edition). St. Louis: Mosby. ISBN: 9780323776882
3. Purdue Owl for information regarding American Psychological Association (APA) 7th edition requirements for formatting, grammar, and punctuation.
owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_style_introduction.html

Special Course Notes:

- a. Students are responsible for all course assignments and content, including announcements posted in Canvas learning management system. All work submitted must include the student's full name and date. All work must be typed on templates provided or as Word, Excel, or PowerPoint documents.
- b. Weekly module content, including video lectures and interactive learning activities (ILAs) are posted in Canvas by module. Students are responsible for viewing the lecture video and any other required videos then completing the Interactive learning activities. Completion of ALL components of the interactive learning activities results in a percentage of completion grade in the grade center. Completion of the course work for each module is recommended for successful completion of the course.
- c. All submitted written material (papers, assignments, examinations, etc.) are the property of the School of Nursing.
- d. Late assignments are discouraged and will be accepted at the discretion of faculty. A five (5) percent penalty for each day the assignment is late may be applied to the final grade at faculty discretion.
- e. Communication with faculty will be via canvas, phone, scheduled Zoom meetings, UTT

Patriot email or scheduled appointment. Students are required to use their student Patriot or Canvas email accounts for all correspondence. **Email communication should include RNBS-4601 in the subject line.** Students are expected to check their university email at least every two business days. Faculty will respond to email correspondence within two business days.

- a. Students must communicate with course faculty all potential/late assignments/exams and discuss options for making up and submitting late course work. Students will contact course faculty as soon as possible to discuss the situation. Students are subject to failing the course assignment/exam if they do not communicate with course faculty.
- b. **All clinical activities and exams are required** to be completed to pass this course.

Computer Requirements: Access to a current, working computer or laptop with internet access using Firefox or Chrome browser is required for this internet-based course. The Canvas learning system works best using Firefox or Chrome browsers. It is essential to have access to a reliable PC/laptop and internet access for this course.

Internet Instructions: Course modules are online in Canvas (see course calendar). UT Tyler online canvas courses use Java, JavaScript, browser plug-ins, helper applications, and cookies. Canvas works best using Chrome or Firefox browser. You must have these elements installed and enabled in your web browser for optimal viewing of the content and functions of your online course content. Lecture videos are optimally viewed in high definition.

- Adobe Reader allows you to view, save, and print Portable Document Format (PDF) files. <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>
- Java Runtime Environment (JRE) allows you to use interactive tools on the web. <http://www.java.com/en/download/>
- QuickTime allows users to play back audio and video files. <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>

This is the possible grade distribution for this course.

Criteria for Evaluation:	Percentage of Grade:
Getting Started Quizzes (Syllabus Quiz, Clinical Expectations Quiz, and APA Quiz)	15%
Interactive Learning Activities and Discussion Boards	35%
<u>Clinical Grade:</u> <u>Required Clinical Activities:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windshield Survey • Virtual Community Assessment • Disaster & Infectious Disease Preparedness • Clinical Self Evaluation 	50%
Total	100%

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 - 75-79
- D - 60-74
- F - Below 60

Final course grades less than 75% are not rounded up. The combined weighted calculation of all course assignments, quizzes, exams, and clinical activities must be at least 75% to pass the course.

Grade Appeals: Although the university policy allows 60 days for grade appeals, the School of Nursing follows a stricter

timeline of 10 days to facilitate students' timely progression through the curriculum. In the case of extenuating circumstances, please consult the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for guidance.

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 is a violation of 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 failing grade on an assignment
 - a reduced or failing grade for the course
 - removal from the Nursing program
 - removal from UT Tyler

Late Policy: 5% will be deducted each day an assignment is past due unless prior arrangements have been made with your course faculty. Extenuating circumstances may apply.

Clinical Activities: These activities are required in order to pass this course. Each clinical activity must be scored at 75% or greater. Students may resubmit all or portions of a clinical activity to demonstrate clinical learning outcomes and competencies.

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.

Attendance and Make-up Policy: Attendance/participation is expected. Make-up for exams, quizzes, assignments, and missed clinical time/activities is at the instructor's discretion.

Grade Replacement: Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.utt Tyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar.

Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the Modules. Detailed instructions and, in some cases, examples are provided.

- a. Meet with course instructor for any **clinical activity** with a grade of less than 75%.
All clinical activities must be passed with a score of 75% or greater to meet the student learning outcomes. Extenuating circumstances may apply.
- b. Please review any additional course addendums for specific clinical information for this course. Passing the clinical component for this course is required to pass the entire course.

Weekly Open Office Hours: There are scheduled weekly office hours as noted in the Getting Started Module in Canvas. These meetings offer an opportunity where students can meet with the instructor to get questions answered and discuss course work and student success strategies. Students are encouraged to attend these sessions. Each session is recorded for viewing by students who may not be able to attend.

Artificial Intelligence in course work: This course has specific assignments where artificial intelligence (AI) tools (such as ChatGPT or Copilot) are permitted and encouraged. 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.

Graded Course Requirement Information:

- **Syllabus Quiz:** Students will take a brief quiz over the syllabus which will be open during the first week of the course. No extensions are given for this quiz. This is required for validation of initial course attendance.
- **APA Quiz:** Students will take a brief quiz about APA which will be open during the start of the course. The quiz will cover content from the APA resources included in the Start Here Module and the APA Manual which is a required text for this course. No extensions are given without prior faculty approval for the quiz.
- **Clinical Expectations Quiz:** Students will take a brief quiz on the clinical expectations for the course which will be open during the first week of the course. No extensions are given without prior faculty approval for the quiz.

Interactive Learning Activities: This grade will be comprised of the interactive activities included within each module.

Exams: There are three exams to be taken using Canvas throughout the semester. All exams in this course are online and are scheduled to be completed by a designated date and time. You are to take the exam alone but may use your books and/or notes. Exams will be available from 8:00 AM on Wednesday until 11:59 PM on the following Wednesday as posted in the course calendar. No extensions are given without communication with the faculty 24 hours in advance of the exam opening. An extension may be granted by the course faculty under extenuating circumstances per faculty discretion. The faculty may give an alternate format exam at the faculty's discretion for exam extension.

Clinical Activities: Three major clinical activities will be due throughout the course, including The Windshield Survey, The Virtual Community Assessment, and The Disaster & Infectious Disease Preparedness Clinical Activity.

- **Windshield Survey:** For Community Health Nurses to be able to knowledgeably plan services for a community, it is essential to know a specific community, identify health-related resources that may be helpful to members, and learn about gaps in services. A windshield survey is conducted from a car and provides a visual overview of a community. Conditions and trends in the community that could affect the health of the population are noted. This data provides

background and context for working in the community or for conducting a community assessment. More thorough instructions will be available on Canvas.

- **Virtual Community Assessment:** The purpose of this clinical activity is to conduct a virtual community assessment by using secondary assessment data to identify a priority health promotion intervention. As part of this activity, you will prepare a PowerPoint presentation to be submitted through the assignment link. More thorough instructions will be made available on Canvas.
- **Disaster & Infectious Disease Preparedness Clinical Activity:** This clinical activity helps meet the clinical objective to utilize the teaching/learning process to provide appropriate educational support to patients, care providers, and the public and to help you understand the importance of being individually disaster-prepared and aware of emerging infectious diseases. This activity consists of viewing disasters and emerging infectious disease-related material and starting an individual disaster plan/kit. You will also write a journal about this experience. More instructions will be made available on Canvas.

Important Course Dates:

Date Criteria	7N1 (Second 7-week term)
Classes Begin	October 20, 2025
Census Date (withdraw without penalty)	October 24, 2025
Last Date to Withdraw: Please contact your advisor to discuss withdrawing from the course and notify your instructor.	November 21, 2025
Classes End	December 13, 2025
Final Grades Posted	

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:

Students, we HIGHLY recommend that you link the course notifications and assignments to the Canvas calendar to your phones.

Course Schedule				
Week #	Date	Class Topic	Readings	Assignments Due
Week 1	M 10/20/25 ZOOM Clinical Orientation Recording	Module 1: Factors Influencing Nursing in Community and Population Health	Syllabus; Stanhope & Lancaster textbook: Chapter 1, Chapter 3 (pg. 38-48, 51), Chapter 13 (pg. 245-248)	Student Forms, Student Information, and Syllabus Quiz due Thursday October 23, 2025 by 2359 PM CST Clinical Expectations Quiz

				Thursday October 23, 2025 by 2359 Interactive Learning Activities Module (M)1; APA Quiz Sunday October 26, 2025 by 2359
	F 10/24/25	Course Census Day	Late Date to Withdraw Without Penalty	
Week 2	M 10/27/25	Module 2: Forces Affecting Nurses in Community and Population Healthcare Delivery	Stanhope & Lancaster textbook: Chapter 5, Chapter 7 (pg. 121-125), Chapter 8	Windshield Survey Interactive Learning Activities M1 Sunday November 2, 2025 by 2359
Week 3	M 11/3/25	Module 3: Conceptual Frameworks Applied to Nursing Practice in the Community	Stanhope & Lancaster textbook: Chapter 10 (pg. 169-182), Chapter 14 (pg. 251-264 and Box 14.6 on pg. 268)	Windshield Survey Initial Discussion Post Wednesday November 5, 2025 by 2359 Windshield Survey Peer Reply Discussion Post Sunday November 9, 2025 by 2359
				Interactive Learning Activities M3 Sunday November 9, 2025 by 2359
Week 4	M 11/10/25	Module 4: Issues and Approaches in Health Care Populations	Stanhope & Lancaster textbook: Chapter 13, Chapter 16, & Chapter 17	Midterm Check-in Zoom Meeting Time during regular office hours (OPTIONAL)
				Virtual Community Assessment Interactive Learning Activities M4

				Sunday November 16, 2025 by 2359
Week 5	M 11/17/25	Module 5: Issues and Approaches in Family and Individual Health Care	Stanhope & Lancaster textbook: Chapter 21 (pg. 359-370), Chapter 22	Virtual Community Assessment Initial Discussion Post Wednesday November 19, 2025 by 2359 Virtual Community Assessment Peer Reply Discussion Post Sunday November 23, 2025 due by 2359 Interactive Learning Activities M5 Sunday November 23, 2025 due by 2359
	Th 11/21/25	Last Day to Withdraw from Course		
Thanksgiving Holiday 11/24/25-11/28/25				
Week 6	M 12/1/25	Module 6: Vulnerability: Predisposing Factors	Stanhope & Lancaster textbook: Chapter 23, Chapter 11	Disaster & Infectious Disease Preparedness Interactive Learning Activities M6 Sunday December 7, 2025 due 2359
Week 7	M 12/8/25	Module 7: Nursing Practice in the Community: Roles and Functions	Stanhope & Lancaster textbook: Chapter 28	Clinical Activity Log Disaster & Infectious Disease Preparedness Initial Discussion Post Wednesday December 10, 2025 by 2359
				Disaster & Infectious Disease Preparedness Peer Discussion Post Saturday December 13, 2025 by 2359 Interactive Learning Activities M1-M7

				Saturday December 13, 2025 by 2359
		Course Ends December 13, 2025 at 2359	All assignments close December 13, 2025 at 2359	Final Grades Post December 17, 2025

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.

Artificial Intelligence in course work:

Allowable Use

Microsoft

- [Microsoft Bing Copilot \(formerly Bing Chat Enterprise\)](#), and Azure Open AI (AOAI) are available AI tools with contractual agreements for use by UT Tyler.
- While these Microsoft products have some data protections, we highly recommend against using Bing Copilot on sensitive data sets when it is not necessary to fulfill official University duties or research projects (see [UT Tyler Data Classification](#)).
- In all cases, use of Microsoft AI tools should be consistent with the [Information Resources Acceptable Use Policy](#).

ChatGPT and Similar AI Tools – We highly encourage use of the Microsoft products specified above exclusively to fulfill official University duties. However, if that is not possible, use of ChatGPT and similar AI tools is allowed as follows:

- Only data that is publicly available or defined as Published Data (see [UT Tyler Data Classification](#)) can be used freely in AI Tools.
- In all cases, use should be consistent with the [Information Resources Acceptable Use Policy](#).
- Students should always adhere to the [UT Tyler Policy on Student Conduct](#) when using any AI tool.

- Researchers should always adhere to the UT Tyler Policy [3.2.8 Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activity](#).

Prohibited Use

- At present, any use of ChatGPT or similar AI Tools cannot include any personal, confidential, proprietary, or otherwise sensitive information. In general, student records subject to FERPA, health information (HIPAA), proprietary information, and any other information classified as [UT Tyler Data Classification](#) must not be used with ChatGPT or similar AI Tools.
- Similarly, ChatGPT or similar AI Tools, including the Microsoft products listed above, must not be used to generate output that would not be considered authorized for public or fair use. Examples include but are not limited to generating someone else's proprietary or unpublished research; legal analysis or advice; recruitment, personnel or disciplinary decision making; completion of academic work in a manner not allowed by the instructor; creation of someone else's proprietary instructional materials without authorized use or proper citations; and grading.
- Please also note that the companies that own ChatGPT and Bing Chat Enterprise/Copilot, OpenAI and Microsoft, respectively, explicitly forbid their use for certain categories of activity, including fraud and illegal activities. This list of items can be found in their usage policies below. AI Tools of any sort may not be used for any activity that would be illegal, fraudulent or a violation of any state or federal law, or UT Tyler or UT System policies.
 - [OpenAI usage policy](#)
 - [Microsoft acceptable use policy](#)

Important Information

- No Agreement, No Privacy and Security Terms for ChatGPT and other AI tools: All content entered into with, or generated by, ChatGPT is available to ChatGPT, its parent company, OpenAI, and their employees. There is currently no agreement between UT Tyler and OpenAI or other AI Tools that would provide data security and privacy protections required by UT policy regarding ChatGPT, OpenAI's, or other AI Tools' programming interface. Consequently, the use of ChatGPT or other AI Tools at this time could expose individual users and UT Tyler to the potential loss and/or abuse of sensitive data and information. Some data protections are provided through our agreement with Microsoft, but they are limited.
- ***Personal Liability: ChatGPT and other AI Tools use click-through agreements. Click-through agreements, including OpenAI and ChatGPT and other AI Tools' terms of use, are contracts. Individuals who accept click-through agreements without delegated signature authority may face personal consequences, including responsibility for compliance with terms and conditions.***

Further Guidance on Appropriate Use

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For questions regarding the appropriate use of Microsoft Bing Chat Enterprise/Copilot, Azure Open AI, ChatGPT and other AI Tools, please contact the Information Security Office at utt-infosec@uttyler.edu.

Enforcement

Violation of any UT Tyler policies may result in disciplinary action that may include termination for employees and temporaries; a termination of employment relations in the case of contractors or consultants; dismissal for interns and volunteers; or suspension or expulsion in the case of a student. Additionally, individuals are subject to loss of University Information Resources access privileges, civil, and criminal prosecution.

Fair Use

Fair use is a legal doctrine that promotes freedom of expression by permitting the unlicensed use of copyright-protected works in certain circumstances¹.

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