



Caring for the Adult ICU Patient

NURS 4349

Spring 2026

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Hybrid Blended

Instructor's Name: Carrie Judd, FNP-C

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Office Hours: Wed 11:45am - 2:45 pm and by appointment; email, conference call, and/or Zoom options available

*Preferred method of contact

Instructor's Name: Lindsey Smith, MSN, RN, SCRN, CCRN

Office: BRB 1032/Virtual

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Office Hours: Tuesday 1100-1200 in BRB 1032; Tuesday 2:00 pm – 4 pm via Zoom, and by appointment; email, conference call, and/or Zoom options available

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Course Description: Topics are designed to provide additional theory and/or opportunity to practice nursing skills in selected clinical areas. This course expands on previously learned knowledge and skills acquired in adult medical-surgical courses. Students will gain advanced skills and demonstrate critical thinking in applying evidence-based practice to care for clients with life-threatening disorders.

Prerequisites: NURS-4626 (Caring for the Acutely Ill)

Note: Successful completion of NURS-4626 is **REQUIRED PRIOR** to taking this course.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Professionalism: Demonstrate and apply professional and ethical behavior including professional accountability and responsibility in the care of the critically ill patient.
2. Patient-Centered Care: Apply a plan of care that is patient-centered and holistic, reflecting on the specialized needs of patients with critical health conditions and on social determinants of health with cultural competence and cultural humility.
3. Evidenced-Based Practice (EBP): Synthesize and apply evidence-based practice to evaluate and improve patient outcomes for the critically ill patient.
4. Informatics & Technology: Examine the importance and use of informatics and technology in delivering quality care and developing astute clinical decision-making skills in the critical care environment.
5. Quality Improvement: Compare the effectiveness of quality improvement initiatives and its relation to the improvement of patient outcomes and healthcare delivery systems using a systematic data-guided approach in the critical care setting.
6. Teamwork and Collaboration: Demonstrate effective inter-professional communication skills to achieve quality patient care through collaborative efforts focused on critical care considerations.
7. Wellness and Prevention: Recognize the benefits of health and wellness-based initiatives, and prevention of further complications in promoting healthy outcomes for patients with critically ill conditions.
8. Leadership: Examine the effect of leadership and patient advocacy on nursing practice directed to the critically ill patient.
9. Safety: Apply appropriate safety measures that reduce patient safety risks and foster a safe working environment in the critical care setting.
10. Strengths: Analyze how Strengths (signature talent themes) influence the role of the student nurse and clinical decision-making in the critical care environment.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

Delgado, S. (2023). AACN Essentials of Critical Care Nursing (5th ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill, Medical Pub. Division. ISBN: 978-1-264-26988-4 **Note: A shared online version of textbook is available through Muntz Library for students to use.**

Special Course Notes:

1. Proctoring Notice: N/A

2. Alternate Locations of Class: This class may have occasional Zoom meetings which are optional. This class may also offer hands on certifications requiring face to face format which are optional. There are no in-person requirements.

3. This course may require you to use external websites as a resource to enhance your learning and such resources will be outlined specifically within each module.

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values:

Assignment:	Percentage of Grade:
Interactive Assignments- 5 (equally weighted)	50%
Quizzes-7 (equally weighted)	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 upon 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.

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.

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: Online participation is expected. Make-up for quizzes or assignments missed 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.uttyler.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:

- 1) Quizzes will cover the reading content and any PowerPoint/videos assigned for that week. Quizzes are open-book, open-note format and will not be proctored. However, you are expected to complete each quiz independently.

2) Interactive Assignments will be composed of a variety of formats including but not limited to discussion board postings, development of patient and/or staff educational materials. Assignments may require peer to peer interaction and responses.

Artificial Intelligence in Course Work: Refer to the UT Tyler website for more details at <https://www.uttyler.edu/digital-learning/ai/>

Important Course Dates:

Classes Begin: Monday, January 12, 2026—Canvas opens Thursday, January 8, 2026

Census Date (withdraw without penalty): Wednesday, 1/21/26

Last Date to Withdraw: Tuesday, 3/24/26 **Please contact your advisor to discuss withdrawing from the course and notify your course instructor.

Last day of class: 4/24/26

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:

Week & Class Dates	Module/Title	Text Chapters	Quizzes, Assignments & Activities
Week 1	Module 1: <i>Intro to the ICU Room & Patient Overview of Lines/Equipment</i> <i>Assessment of the Critically Ill Pt</i> <i>Planning Care for the Critically Ill Pt</i> <i>Interprofessional Care</i>	1-2	Interactive Assignment due 1/18/26
Week 2	Module 2: <i>Review of Basic Cardiac Dysrhythmia Interpretation & Management</i>	3	Cardiac Part 1 Quiz due 1/25/26
Week 3	Module 3: <i>Intro to 12-Lead ECG</i> <i>ACLS Concepts</i> <i>Targeted Temp Management</i>	18 (pp. 475-512, stop at Cardiac pacemaker(s) & additional resource handouts on Canvas)	Cardiac Part 2 Quiz due 2/1/26
Week 4	Module 4: <i>Care of the Post-op Cath/CABG Pt</i> <i>Intro to Hemodynamic Monitoring</i>	4, 9	Interactive Assignment due 2/8/26

Week 5	Module 5: Cardiac Pacemaker Devices Advanced Cardiovascular Concepts Circulatory Assist Devices	18 (pp. 512-522), 19	Cardiac Part 4 Quiz due 2/15/26
Week 6	Module 6: Pharmacology of Critical Care	7	Interactive Assignment due 2/22/26
Week 7	Module 7: Overview of O2 Delivery Devices Ventilator Management	5	NO ASSIGNMENTS DUE THIS WEEK!! This week's content will be covered on next week's quiz.
Week 8	Module 8: Management of Respiratory Conditions in Critical Care	10	Respiratory Quiz due 3/8/26
Week 9	Module 9: Ethical & Legal Considerations in the ICU Emotional Care of the ICU Nurse	8	Interactive Assignment due 3/22/26
Week 10	Module 10: Overview of Multisystem Problems Care of the Trauma Patient	11, 17	Trauma Quiz due 3/29/26
Week 11	Module 11: Pain, Sedation & NM Blockade Management Overview of Conscious Sedation	6	Interactive Assignment due 4/5/26
Week 12	Module 12: Management of Neuro Conditions in Critical Care	12	Neuro Quiz due 4/12/26
Week 13	Module 13: Management of Renal & GI Conditions in Critical Care	14, 15	Renal/GI Quiz due 4/19/26 Note: No late assignments accepted this week due to grade posting deadline.
Week 14	CONGRATULATIONS....YOU'RE DONE!!		

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information can be found at the website below.

https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/student_guide_and_policies.php

Student Resources and University Policies and Information are provided in Canvas.