



Special Populations Syllabus

Course: NURS 4628

Spring 2026

Scheduled Class Days and Times:

Tyler Campus: Wednesdays 8:00-10:45

Longview Campus: Wednesdays 1:00-3:45,

Palestine Campus: Mondays 9:00-11:45

Instructor's Name: Tammy Jernigan, MSN, MBA, RN, ACUE, CNEcl

Course: NURS 4628.001

Section: 001

Office: BRB - TBD

Phone: 903.241.5489

Email*: tammyjernigan@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: Wednesday 11 am – 2 pm, and by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.

*Best way to contact me

Instructor's Name: Kelli Rial, MSN, RN, CNEcl

Course: NURS 4628.002

Section: 002

Office: BRB - TBD

Phone: 903.456.2907

Email*: krial@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: Wednesday 11 am – 2 pm, and by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.

*Best way to contact me

Instructor's Name: Deirdre Leung MSN, APRN, FNP-BC

Section: NURS 4628.003

Office: BRB - TBD

Phone: 903.343.2857

Email*: dleung@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: Wednesday 11am-2pm and by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.

*Best way to contact me.

Instructor's Name: Ryleigh Smith, MSN, APRN, PPCNP-BC

Section: NURS 4628 Clinical only in Tyler

Office: BRB - TBD

Phone: 903.565.5954

Email*: ryleighsmith@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.

*Best way to contact me.

Instructor's Name: Kayla Kelly MSN, RN, CPN

Course: NURS 4628.070 Syllabus

Section: 070

Office: PMH 113

Phone: 903.727.2304

Email*:kkelly@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays 10am-1pm and by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.

*Best way to contact me.

Instructor's Name: Shirley Ballard, MSN, RN

Course: NURS 4628.090 Syllabus

Section: 090

Office: LUC 224

Phone: 903.738.9000

Email*:shirleyballard@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: Mondays 9am-12pm and by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.

*Best way to contact me.

Course Description: This course introduces holistic nursing care for special populations across the lifespan. Emphasis is on using evidence-based practice for professional collaborative management of vulnerable populations. A variety of clinical experiences will be used to apply caring, evidence-based, professional nursing care for special populations. The focus will be professional collaborative management of vulnerable populations emphasizing patient safety and quality care.

Prerequisites: NURS 3615 & NURS 3617

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Professionalism: Demonstrate and apply professional and ethical behavior in both clinical and didactic settings.
2. Patient-Centered Care: Develop or review an individualized plan of care for patients from the following special populations: pregnancy, birth, postpartum, newborn, cognitive or developmental disabilities, and children with psychiatric conditions.
3. Evidenced-Based Practice (EBP): Analyze and apply evidence-based best practices to evaluate and improve patient outcomes.
4. Informatics & Technology: Apply informatics and technology in environments using ATI, Elsevier, Canvas, or other websites/software programs as instructed.
5. Quality Improvement: Determine the effectiveness of quality improvement using a systematic data-guided approach.
6. Teamwork and Collaboration: Maximize the effectiveness of teamwork and mutual respect with teams serving diverse patient populations.

7. Wellness and Prevention: Examine health, wellness, and prevention programs and their impact in a variety of communities regarding Maternal Child and Cognitive & Intellectually Disabled populations.
8. Leadership: Differentiate between leadership styles and how each impact professional practice.
9. Safety: Discuss and evaluate safety and quality measures implemented in the work environment.
10. Strengths: Analyze how strengths (signature talent themes) influence the role of the student nurse and clinical decision-making.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

Hockenberry, M. J., Olshansky, E. F., & Perry, S. E. (2023). Maternal child nursing care (7th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. **ISBN:** 9780323825856
 Purchase ATI Products as outlined per course requirements.

Special Course Notes:

ATI assignments required.

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

1. ATI Weekly Quizzes	5%
2. ATI Self-Study Preparation	5%
3. Proctored Assessments	10%
4. Exams (4)	64%
5. Final Exam	16%
6. Medication Calculation Exam (Must score 100%)	P/F
7. EHR Tutor Clinical Assignment (1 adult or 1 newborn/pediatric)	P/F
8. Clinical Evaluation	P/F

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.

The simple average of all exam grades, including a final, must first be at or above 75% in order to pass the course. Once the student has achieved a simple exam average of 75% or higher, course grades will be determined based on the weighted calculation of exams and other required course work.

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: Attendance/participation is expected. Make-up for exams, quizzes, assignments, and missed clinical time 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:

See Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Value Section above.

Important Course Dates:

Classes Begin: 1/8/26

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

Last Date to Withdraw: 3/24/26

Please contact your advisor to discuss withdrawing from the course and notify your course instructor.

Last day of class: 4/23/26

Spring 2026 Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates (Tyler):

Course Schedule				
Date	Activity	Lecture Topics	Readings	See Canvas for Due Dates
Week 1	Week of 1/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classes begin Medication Calculation Review on Canvas 	Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ATI weekly quiz
	Wed 1/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture (BRB 1032) Course Orientation Intro to Special Populations Reproductive Years/STI's/ Contraception Pediatric Assessment/ Hospitalization 11am: Level 3 Orientation (BRB 1032) 3-5pm Dose Calc Workshop (BRB 1032) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 1-5 Chapter 26 Chapter 38 (see canvas for specific pages) 	
	Thurs 1/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head-to-Toe Checkoff (SIM Hospital) (REQUIRED) Medication Administration Skills Checkoff (REQUIRED) 	Sign up for times in signup genius	
	Fri 1/16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dosage Calculation Exam (11am) (REQUIRED) Remediation (following the exam if you are unsuccessful you are 		

		required to stay and remediate)		
Week 2	Mon 1/19	MLK Holiday		
	Tues 1/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 3 Welcome SIM 0900-1100 SIM hospital (REQUIRED) • Level 3 Clinical Orientation 1200-1400 (REQUIRED) • Dose Calc Retake 1400 Location TBD (following the exam if you are unsuccessful you are required to stay and remediate) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz
	Wed 1/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: Pregnancy • Med Calc attempt #3 1100 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 6-12 • (see canvas for specific pages) 	
Week 3	Tues 1/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 1 Exam (0800) 		
	Wed 1/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: Childbirth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 13 • Chapter 14 • Chapter 15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz
Week 4	Tues 2/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIM 1: Antepartum 	Times Assigned by clinical faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-sim quiz • Post-Simulation Quiz & Reflection
	Wed 2/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: Childbirth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 16 • Chapter 17 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz
Week 5	Wed 2/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: Postpartum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 5 • Chapter 18 • Chapter 19 • Chapter 20 • Chapter 21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz • ATI M/N Version A
Week 6	Tues 2/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIM 2: Postpartum 	Times Assigned by clinical faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-sim quiz • Post-Simulation Quiz & Reflection
	Wed 2/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: Newborn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 22 • Chapter 23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz • ATI M/N Version B

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 24 • Chapter 25 	
Week 7	Tues 2/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 2 Exam (0800) 		
	Wed 2/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: • Pediatric Development • Pediatric Chronic Illness • Pediatric Pain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 30 • Chapter 36 <p><u>ATI Pediatric Nursing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 3 • Chapter 4 • Chapter 5 • Chapter 6 • Chapter 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz
Week 8	Tues 3/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI MN Proctored Exam (0900) 		
	Wed 3/4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: • Pediatric Special Needs/Genetics • Pediatric Cardiac Dysfunction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 37 • Chapter 42 <p><u>ATI Pediatric Nursing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 44 • Chapter 15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz • ATI Pedi A
	Week of 3/9	Spring Break 3/9 – 3/13		
Week 9	Tues 3/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIM 3: Respiratory 	Times Assigned by clinical faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI MN proctored remediation • Pre-Simulation Quiz • Post-Simulation Quiz & Reflection
	Wed 3/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: • Pedi Respiratory Dysfunction • Pedi Hematology/ Oncology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 40 • Chapter 43 • Chapter 44 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz • ATI Pedi B
Week 10	Tues 3/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module 3 Exam (0800) 		
	Wed 3/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture: • Pediatric Gastrointestinal Dysfunction • Pediatric Genitourinary Dysfunction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 41 • Chapter 45 • Chapter 47 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ATI weekly quiz

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pediatric Endocrine Dysfunction 		
Week 11	Tues 3/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ATI Pediatric Nursing Proctored Assessment (1000) 		
	Wed 4/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture: Pedi Neuromuscular or Muscular Dysfunction Pediatric Cerebral Dysfunction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 46 Chapter 49 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ATI weekly quiz
Week 12	Tues 4/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIM 4: GI/GU 	Times Assigned by clinical faculty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-Simulation Quiz Post-Simulation Quiz & Reflection ATI PN proctored remediation
	Wed 4/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture: Pedi Neuro (content continued) Pediatric Musculoskeletal or Articular Dysfunction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 48 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ATI weekly quiz
Week 13	Tues 4/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 4 Exam (0800) Following Exam 4 you have the option to take one or both ATI Proctored Retakes 1000-1300 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ATI weekly quiz
	Wed 4/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No lecture; no new content this week! ATI Proctored Assessment Retake 0800 Bring your own device for the proctored assessment retakes; You will have the option to take either or both Maternal Newborn/Pediatric Nursing as well as the ATI Proctored Retake for CAI if you are also in that course. 		
Final Exam	Thurs 4/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final exam (0800) 		

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.

Technical resources: Laptops/electronic devices are required for testing with ATI. Notebooks and tablets are not compatible for ATI Products.

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.

Refer to the UT Website for more details <https://www.uttyler.edu/offices/digital-learning/ai/> - digital learning AI.