



**Integrated Advanced Health Assessment, Pathophysiology, and Pharmacology
NURS 5355
FALL 2026**

Scheduled Class Days and Times: TBA.

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Virtual Office Hours/Location: Remote/Virtual

Note: The best way to contact me is from your UT Tyler Patriot email account. Please allow at least 24 hours for a response. If you do not receive a response from me within 48 business hours, please try again by email, text, or phone. Avoid messaging me on Canvas, as I will likely not receive it. I am not in the office on weekends, holidays, or breaks. Additionally, I am in clinical practice weekly on rotating Fridays/Mondays.

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 the 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:

- Available in Canvas as assigned throughout the course.
- 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

Unit Quiz Attestations (SLOs 1, 2, 3)	7.5%
Unit Discussion Boards (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 8)	15%
Nurse Educator Presentations (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)	37.5%
Nurse Educator Teaching Plan (SLOs 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)	10%
Peer Review and RISE Feedback (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)	15%
Self-Review and Reflection (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 8)	15%
Practice Hours Documentation (50 hours)	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 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.

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.

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

Artificial Intelligence Tools: 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 when using any AI tool. 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.**

During some class assignments, we may leverage AI tools to support your learning, allow you to explore how AI tools can be used, and/or better understand their benefits and limitations. Learning how to use AI is an emerging skill, and we will work through the limitations of these evolving systems together. However, AI will be limited to assignments where AI is a critical component of the learning activity. I will always indicate when and where the use of AI tools for this course is appropriate.

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

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:

Unit Quiz Attestations (SLOs 1, 2, 3): Students will review and submit the NSG Stu Forms-Grad per the graduate nursing handbook. In each unit, students will review the content and indicate whether they have completed the unit's course material.

Unit Discussion Boards (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 8): Students will communicate professionally throughout the learning community and through their active participation in two discussion boards.

Nurse Educator Presentations (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8): Students will present subjective and objective advanced health assessments to a target audience (e.g., undergraduate nursing students and/or patients and families).

Nurse Educator Teaching Plans (SLOs 4, 5, 6, 7, 8): Students will review course materials and submit an outline of how they would present the information to a target audience (e.g., undergraduate nursing students and/or patients and families).

Peer Review and RISE Feedback (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8): Students will post their work for peer review and contribute to the academic community.

Self-Review and Reflection (SLOs 1, 2, 3, 8): Students will complete a self-analysis of their strengths and challenges based on work completed throughout the course.

Non-Graded Course Requirements Information:

Practice Hours (if applicable): If Fall 2025 or thereafter marks your first enrollment in the UT Tyler School of Nursing master's or certificate program, you are required to complete 50 practice/practicum hours for this course. If you are in the Nursing Education master's program, these hours will count toward the total required 500 hours. You may not resubmit hours approved for this course in another course. These practice hours are mandated by our accreditation agency, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). Completion of 50 practice/practicum hours approved through Exxat are required to pass the course.

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

IMPORTANT COURSE DATES:

- Classes Begin: 08/27/2026
- Census Date (withdrawal without penalty): 09/10/2026
- Last Date to Withdraw: 11/02/2026 (*notify your advisor and instructor*)

CALENDAR OF TOPICS, READINGS, AND DUE DATES/TIMES
(All assignments are due on Sundays at midnight Central Time):

Week/Unit 1 Mon, 08/31	Getting Started Course Overview and Orientation	o Unit 1 Quiz Attestation o Discussion Board 1	Sun, 09/06
Week/Unit 2 Tues, 09/08	Subjective Assessment Part 1: Interview & History Taking, Documentation	o Unit 2 Quiz Attestation	Sun, 09/13
Week/Unit 3 Mon, 09/14	Subjective Assessment Part 2: Cultural and Spiritual Assessment, Nutritional Assessment	o Unit 3 Quiz Attestation	Sun, 09/20
Week/Unit 4 Mon, 09/21	Nurse Educator Presentation 1	o Unit 4 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Presentation 1 (Units 2-3)	Sun, 09/27
Week/Unit 5 Mon, 09/28	Objective Assessment: Advanced Physical Examination	o Unit 5 Quiz Attestation	Sun, 10/04
Week/Unit 6 Mon, 10/05	Nurse Educator Presentation 2	o Unit 6 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Presentation 2 (Unit 5)	Sun, 10/11
Week/Unit 7 Mon, 10/12	Peer Review and evaluation	o Unit 7 Quiz Attestation o Peer Review + RISE Feedback (NEP1-2)	Sun, 10/18
Week/Unit 8 Mon, 10/19	Mental Health/Neurological/Headache	o Unit 8 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan 1 (Unit 8)	Sun, 10/25
Week/Unit 9 Mon, 10/26	Eyes, Ear, Nose, Sinus, Mouth, Throat, and Respiratory	o Unit 9 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan 2 (Unit 9)	Sun, 11/01
Week/Unit 10 Mon, 11/02	Integumentary/Musculoskeletal	o Unit 10 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan 3 (Unit 10)	Sun, 11/08
Week/Unit 11 Mon, 11/09	Cardiovascular	o Unit 11 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan 4 (Unit 11)	Sun, 11/15
Week/Unit 12 Mon, 11/16	Endocrine/Metabolic/Abdominal/Gastrointestinal Thanksgiving Break	o Unit 12 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Teaching Plan 5 (Unit 12)	Sun, 11/22
Week/Unit 13 Mon, 11/23	Thanksgiving Break	o No Assignments Due	Sun, 11/29
Week/Unit 14 Mon, 11/30	Nurse Educator Presentation 3 Self-Review and Reflection	o Unit 14 Quiz Attestation o Nurse Educator Presentation 3 (Unit 14) o Discussion Board 2 o Self-Review and Reflection (Units 1-14)	Sun, 12/06
Week/Unit 15 Mon, 12/07	Last Day of Course		Fri, 12/11

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.

IMPORTANT: This syllabus may be updated by the instructor during the semester. Stay tuned to the course announcements in Canvas.