



UT Tyler SCHOOL OF
NURSING

Pathophysiology of Acute Care
RNBS 3303.P060 and RNBS 3303.P062
Fall 2026 Flex 1 and Flex 2
Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

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

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Office Hours: Mondays 11am-1pm CST. Please email for a Zoom link. Other times available by appointment.

Course Description: This online course focuses on the etiologic, symptomatologic, and pathological aspects of selected human diseases across the life span. Concepts of health promotion, disease prevention, disease progression, and treatment are approached from a cellular and multi-system perspective. Influences of genetic, ethnic, and cultural variables on human diseases are analyzed. Content aims to stimulate critical thinking for application to nursing practice.

Prerequisites: Registered nurse, Admission to the RN-BSN track

Corequisites: Registered nurse, Admission to the RN-BSN track

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Discuss the influence of genetic, ethnic, and cultural factors on health promotion and disease prevention, progression, and treatment.
2. Integrate knowledge from the biological sciences into the study of the pathophysiology of human diseases.
3. Employ select nursing and biomedical research studies in the application of pathophysiologic principles to nursing practice.
4. Correlate the effects of internal and external environmental risk factors with disease development and progression.
5. Discuss the impact of the current body of knowledge in pathophysiology on evidence-based nursing practice.
6. Relate diagnostic test findings to both objective and subjective disease symptoms.

Required Textbooks and Readings: VanMeter, K.C. & Hubert, R. (2023) Gould's Pathophysiology for the Health Professions (7th Ed.). Elsevier.

- The textbook is available from the UT Tyler Bookstore (online @ <https://uttyler.bncollege.com/>) or @ Elsevier <https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/>
- You may choose whichever of the 3 textbook options you prefer:
 - Paperback ISBN: 9780323792882
 - Binder Ready ISBN: 9780323829809

- Ebook ISBN: 9780323792905

Special Course Notes: Other than the textbook noted above, no other resources are required for this course. The course does not require an access code to access additional online textbook resources. The course does not require a proctoring service for exams.

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 application and cookies. Canvas works best using Chrome or Firefox browser. It is essential that you 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/>

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

1. Course Exams (5)	70%
2. Interactive Learning Activities	25%
3. Forms & Course Reflection Activity	<u>5%</u>
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. The combined weighted calculation of all course assignments, quizzes, exams, and clinical activities must be at least 75% in order 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.utt Tyler.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.

Artificial Intelligence in course work: Refer to the UT Website for more details @ uttyler.edu - digital learning AI.

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:

Exams: Exams will be given in Canvas only within the dates and timeframes indicated on the Course Calendar. Exams do not require a proctoring service. Failure to complete an exam within the scheduled day and timeframe will result in "0" points for that exam. Make-up time for an exam will be given at the discretion of faculty. It is recommended that the student take exams on a laptop or PC (not a phone or other device) to avoid technical difficulties. The UTT IT department recommends using Firefox or Chrome for Canvas applications. Class notes and textbooks may be used while completing exams. Students will be able to review questions missed at the completion of the exam. Further exam reviews may be scheduled with faculty within 10 days of an exam, if needed.

Interactive Learning Activities: Interactive Learning Activities (ILAs) will be completed in Canvas and will be available during the dates and timeframes indicated on the Course Calendar. ILAs should be completed while studying each module's topics and before taking the exam for those topics. ILAs can be repeated as many times as desired, prior to the close date and time noted on the Course Calendar, to achieve the maximum score, but they will close at the same time as the exam on those topics. Class notes and textbooks may be used while completing ILAs.

Forms & Course Reflection Activity: Required School of Nursing Forms will be completed at the beginning of the semester, and a brief Course Reflection Activity will be completed at the end of the semester.

Important Course Dates:

Date Criteria	7N1 (First 7-week term)	7N2 (Second 7-week term)
Classes Begin	August 27, 2026	October 19, 2026
Census Date (withdraw without penalty)	September 2, 2026	October 23, 2026
Last Date to Withdraw: Please contact your advisor to discuss withdrawing from the course and notify your instructor.	September 30, 2026	November 18, 2026
Classes End	October 17, 2026	December 12, 2026
Final Grades Posted	October 20, 2026	December 15, 2026

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:

Week begins:	Lecture Topics & Chapters from Gould's Textbook (Lectures are available throughout the course dates)	Interactive Learning Activities (ILAs) & Other Assignments (ILAs may be repeated multiple times before the closing dates/times noted)	Exams (Taken only once and only during dates/times noted)
Monday F1: 8/31 F2: 10/19	Module 1: 1-Introduction to Pathophysiology 2-Fluid, Electrolyte, & Acid-Base Imbalances 24-Complications of Aging	REQUIRED School of Nursing Forms: Located in the "Start Here" Module-Complete by Wed. F1: 9/2, F2: 10/21 @ 2359 Module 1 ILAs: Complete before taking Exam 1 Available only until Mon., F1: 9/7, F2: 10/26 @ 2359	Exam 1 (Module 1 content) Opens Mon. F1: 8/3, F2: 10/19 @ 0800 Closes Mon., F1: 9/7, F2: 10/26 @ 2359
Monday F1: 9/7 F2: 10/26	Module 2: 4-Pain 5-Inflammation and Healing 6-Infection 7-Immunity	Module 2 ILAs: Complete before taking Exam 2 Available only until Mon., F1: 9/14, F2: 11/12 @ 2359	Exam 2 (Module 2 content) Opens Mon., F1: 9/7, F2: 10/26 @ 0800 Closes Mon., F1: 9/14, F2: 11/2 @ 2359
Monday F1: 9/14 F2: 11/2	Module 3: 10-Blood and Circulatory System Disorders 11-Lymphatic System Disorders 12-Cardiovascular System Disorders	Module 3 ILAs: Complete before taking Exam 3 Available only until Mon., F1: 9/21, F2: 11/9 @ 2359	Exam 3 (Module 3 content) - Opens Mon., F1: 9/14, F2: 11/12 @ 0800 - Closes Mon., F1: 9/21, F2: 11/9 @ 2359
Monday F1: 9/21 F2: 11/9	Module 4: 13-Respiratory System Disorders 14-Nervous System Disorders 9-Musculoskeletal System Disorders	Module 4 ILAs: Complete before taking Exam 4 Available only until Mon., F1: 9/28, F2: 11/16 @ 2359	Exam 4 (Module 4 content) - Opens Mon., F1: 9/21, F2: 11/9 @ 0800 - Closes Mon., F1: 9/28, F2: 11/16 @ 2359
Monday F1: 9/27 F2: 11/16	Module 5: 16-Endocrine System Disorders 17-Digestive System Disorders 18-Urinary System Disorders	Module 5 ILAs: Complete before taking Exam 5 Available only until Mon., F1: 10/12, F2: 12/7 @ 2359	
Monday F1: 10/5 F2: 11/30	Module 6: 20-Neoplasms and Cancer 21-Congenital and Genetic Disorders	Module 6 ILAs: Complete before taking Exam 5 Available only until Mon., F1: 10/12, F2: 12/7 @ 2359	Exam 5 (Modules 5 & 6 content) - Opens Mon., F1: 10/5, F2: 11/30 @ 0800 - Closes Mon., F1: 10/12, F2: 12/7 @ 2359
Monday F1: 10/12 F2: 12/7	Module 7: Course Reflection Canvas closes Fri., F1: 10/16, F2: 12/11 @ 2359	Course Reflection Activity: Due Thurs., F1: 10/15, F2: 12/10 @ 2359	

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information:

[Student Guide and Policies: Nursing Student Guide](#)

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.

- Users should always validate the results and verify the sources of information provided by AI tools.
- ***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

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 circumstances.¹

More information about UT Tyler's recommendations for AI usage can be found at the [AI Usage Guide](#).

¹ [U.S. Copyright Office Fair Use Index](#)

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