



**Diagnostic Methods and Procedures
NURS 5339 (All Sections)
Summer 2026**

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Online

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Office Hours: TBD

Contacting me: The best way to contact me is via email. Please allow at least a **24 hour response time** (I take holidays and weekends off from email and have clinic on Mondays).

Instructor's Name: Jenise Hampton, DNP, APRN, FNP-C

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Contacting me: The best way to contact me is via email. Please allow at least a **24 hour response time** (I take holidays and weekends off from email and have clinic on Fridays/Mondays).

Course Description: Selected clinical procedures, diagnostic laboratory, and imaging tests utilized by Advanced Practice Nurses (APN) are explored. Evidence-based clinical decision-making for selecting appropriate tests or procedures and interpreting diagnostic tests are evaluated.

Prerequisites: NURS 5352, Pre-Requisite or Co-Requisite of NURS 5354 AND Admission to MSN NP or NURS 5352, Pre-Requisite or Co-Requisite of NURS 5354 AND Admission to the NP Cert program.

Corequisites: Pre-Requisite or Co-Requisite of NURS 5354 AND Admission to MSN NP or Pre-Requisite or Co-Requisite of NURS 5354 AND Admission to the NP Cert program.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Integrate diagnostic test selection and interpretation to support clinical decision-making in advanced practice nursing.
2. Apply ethical, legal, financial, and regulatory principles when selecting, performing, and evaluating diagnostic tests and procedures to ensure safe, high-quality, person-centered care.
3. Incorporate scientific evidence, theories, and knowledge from nursing and related disciplines into diagnostic reasoning and procedural decision-making.
4. Utilize healthcare technologies to enhance diagnostic accuracy, improve communication, and support coordination of care across teams and settings.
5. Incorporate population health principles into diagnostic decision-making to support prevention, early detection, and management of conditions across diverse patient populations.

Required and Recommended Textbooks and Readings:

Author	Title	Edition	Publisher/ISBN	Status
*Campo et al. (2021)	Essential Procedures for Emergency, Urgent, and Primary Care Settings	3rd	Springer/ 978-0826141048	Required
Pagana et al. (2021)	Mosby's: A Manual of Diagnostic & Laboratory Tests	7th	Mosby/ 978-0323697033	Required
Farrell (2019)	Radiology 101: The Basics and Fundamentals of Imaging	5th	LWW/ 978-1496392985	Required
*Slater (2021)	Pocketbook of Differential Diagnosis	5th	Elsevier/ 978-0702077777	Required
Mastenbjork & Meloni (2024)	EKG/ECG Interpretation: Everything You Need to Know About 12-Lead EKG/ECG Interpretation and How to Diagnose and Treat Arrhythmias	2nd	Medical Creations/ 978-1734741353	Required
Muniz (2019)	Sparkson's Illustrated Guide to ECG Interpretation	2nd	Medcomic/ 978-0996651370	Recommended

**Available as electronic textbooks through the library.*

Special Course Notes:

1) Proctoring Notice

The content exams in this course may be proctored using the **Respondus Lockdown Browser** and **Respondus Monitor** proctoring service. There is no cost to the student for utilizing the

proctoring service however, students are required to have an external webcam and a microphone on their computer. The microphone is not required to be external and can be the one embedded within your computer or laptop.

The external webcam should be a high definition (1080p) webcam with a tripod. An external webcam with a tripod is required to allow you to meet the requirements of the video monitoring for each test. An external webcam is one which is separate from your computer or laptop. Logitech tends to be a good brand, but any high-definition external webcam is acceptable. Retail cost: \$30.00 to \$160.00.

If you are not able to provide these items, you must contact faculty by the second week of the course so we can arrange for you to take your exam on campus or another secure location. Details on utilizing the proctoring service and setting up your webcam can be found in the Canvas course.

2) Mandatory Intensive Dates – July 9 & 10, 2026

Intensive days will be held on campus once during the semester. **Intensive dates are required for successful completion of this course. There are no make up dates for intensives. Students missing the intensive days will be required to complete multiple additional assignments covering the information related to the two 8-hour days of intensives that were missed. These additional assignments will be required for completion of the course. Not completing the assignments will result in a failure in the course.**

3) Electronic Subscriptions

Derm for Primary Care (Required): Derm for Primary Care (DFPC) is a large body of modules, questions, and exams related to derm issues, expanding on derm presentations in acute and chronic diseases. You will use this across your courses. This is generally purchased in a prior course, but purchasing information will be available if needed. There is a graded assignment based on the successful completion of the Derm modules.

UpToDate (Recommended): This is **free** through the school library. It is a great resource for drugs, labs, and disease processes that you can use across the program.

Epocrates (Not required): This is an app that can be downloaded onto your mobile devices. It is a valuable resource for drugs, dosage calculations (especially pediatric dosing), labs, and disease processes. This app is not provided through the school, and usage requires a subscription. They do offer student discounts with a school email.

4) Weekly Course Zoom Meetings/Office Hours

Office hours are provided weekly via zoom and allow you to interact with faculty and other students. Each week we will be discussing topics pertinent to the modules and intensive days.

All weekly zoom sessions will be recorded and it is highly recommended you view the sessions if you are unable to attend them live.

During the weekly course zoom sessions please be professional and in a quiet private location so as to give undivided attention to the class. Consideration for classmates is expected so please limit distractions in the camera view. Please have laptops on a table or desk to limit the camera shaking. Please sign in with first and last names in the name line and turn the camera on and mute your microphone.

5) Email Responses

To expedite email responses to course questions please put “**NURS 5339**” in the subject line in the email. This alerts faculty that the email is course related. Faculty will strive to answer course questions in a 24hr time period. If the email question is something that can help the entire class, the answer may be posted as an announcement. Please have all announcements roll to your phone. All faculty in the course have a practice day during the week. Please note this may delay responses if you email them while they are in clinic. Please bring course questions to the weekly zoom meetings. (Many other students may have the same questions.)

Assignments and Weights/Percentages

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION:	Percentage of Grade:
MODULE EXAMS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam I • Exam II • Exam III 	20%
	20%
	20%
PAPERS	
Procedure Paper	15%
ASSIGNMENTS	
Radiology Modules	10%
Quizzes as Assigned	5%
Syllabus Quiz	Pass/Fail
DERM FOR PRIMARY CARE	
Module/Quiz (must be over 80 average)	10%
INTENSIVES	
Intensive Days Attendance	Pass/Fail

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 - 70-79
- D - 60-69
- F - Below 60

Grades will not be rounded when calculating the average (79.5 is not rounded to 80, and 89.5 is not rounded to 90). **The simple average of all exam grades, including a final, must be at or above 80% to pass the course.** Once the student has achieved a simple unit exam average of 80% or higher, course grades will be determined based on the weighted calculation of exams and other required coursework. **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.

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 (AI):

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.

Some assignments in this course will permit using artificial intelligence (AI) tools, such as ChatGPT or Copilot. **When AI use is permissible, it will be documented in the assignment description, and all use of AI must be appropriately acknowledged and cited.** When using AI tools for assignments, add an appendix showing (a) the entire exchange (e.g., prompts used), highlighting the most relevant sections; (b) a description of precisely which AI tools were used, (c) an explanation of how the AI tools were used (e.g. to generate ideas, elements of text, etc.); and (d) an account of why AI tools were used (e.g. to save time, to surmount writer's block, to stimulate thinking, to experiment for fun, etc.). **Students shall not use AI tools during examinations or assignments unless explicitly permitted and instructed to do so.**

<https://www.uttyler.edu/digital-learning/ai/>

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 and at the discretion of faculty. Late assignments will not be accepted after one week unless previously approved by faculty.

Missed Assignments Policy: All course assignments are required components of this course and must be completed to receive a passing grade. If an assignment is missed, a grade of zero will be recorded and will remain as the final grade for that assignment. However, the assignment must still be completed and submitted, regardless of the grade penalty, to satisfy course completion requirements. Failure to submit all required coursework may result in a course failure, regardless of the final grade average.

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.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

A student's achievement of the course objectives is evaluated based on the following activities. To achieve the total possible points available in the course, students will be required to complete multiple assignments.

Module Exams

There are three exams aligned with the module contents in Canvas. Blueprints for each exam will be posted a minimum of one week prior to the exam. Exams may be proctored using the Respondus Lockdown Browser at the discretion of the faculty. Exams are timed and must be completed within a specific four-hour testing period TBD on the scheduled date. Exceptions are made for extenuating circumstances only and are at the discretion of the faculty. Faculty must be notified immediately for exceptions to be made. Failure to notify faculty promptly will result in a zero for the missed exam.

Papers

A Procedure Write-up Paper will include utilizing information you have learned through your text and during Intensives on how to write up a patient injury and the type of repair you would perform. A grading rubric and explanation for the paper will be provided in the Canvas module assignments.

Assignments

Students will be assigned multiple radiology modules that are in a self-paced lecture series with post-tests that cover a wide variety of radiology material. Not all modules have a post-test. Instructions regarding the modules and post-tests required to complete will be provided in the Canvas modules.

A syllabus quiz testing your knowledge of the syllabus and resources available to students will be available the first week of the course. It is an open-book quiz. Additional quizzes as assigned will be over module topics and intensive day materials and will also be open book.

Derm for Primary Care

Using their current electronic subscription to DFPC, students will be required to complete the *Derm for Primary Care* modules on common office procedures. Instructions for obtaining a subscription to the application will be provided for those students who do not already have access to the application.

Intensive Days

Intensive On-Campus days are mandatory and are usually considered fun. These consist of interactive lectures and performing clinical procedures. See “Mandatory Intensive Dates” in this syllabus for further information about these days.

Please Note: Detailed information and grading rubrics for all course assignments will be provided in Canvas.

Important Course Dates:

First Day of Course: May 11th

Census Date: May 26th

Intensive Days #1 & 2: July 9-10th

Last Date to Withdraw: July 20th

Last Day of Course: August 8th

Course Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates/Times:

Week/Module	Assignments	Due Date
	Weekly Zoom meetings Tuesday at 4:00pm	
Module 1	Laboratory & Diagnostic Testing	
Weeks 1 5/11	Course opens Zoom Course Orientation (Tuesday 4-5pm) Syllabus Quiz Professionalism, Late Assignments, Missed Test Attestation Grad Student Affirmation; Introductions on Padlet	5/12 5/15
Week 2- 3 5/18 & 5/25	Intro to laboratory & diagnostics Quiz Memorial Day Holiday 5/25 – School Closed Census Date 5/26	5/22
Module 2	Exam #1 & Intro to Differential Diagnoses	
Week 4 6/1	Exam 1 (Exam open 6pm-11pm)	6/5
Week 5 6/8	Intro to Differential Diagnoses Quiz	6/12
Module 3	Intro to Radiology	
Week 6-7 6/15 & 6/22	Intro to Radiology Quiz Juneteenth 6/19 – School Closed	6/26
Module 4	Exam #2 & Intensives	
Week 8 6/29	Exam 2 (Exam open 6pm-11pm)	7/3
Week 9 7/6	INTENSIVE DAYS (On-Campus Thursday & Friday 8-6pm)	7/9 & 7/10
Module 5	Intro to Procedures / Procedure Paper/ EKGs/ Derm	
Week 10 7/13	Intro to Procedures Quiz	7/17
Week 11 7/20	Last Day to Withdraw from a Course Procedure Paper Derm for Primary Care: Common Office Procedures Modules Quiz	7/24
Week 12- 13 7/27	EKGS No Quiz	7/31
Module 6	Course Wrap-Up	
Week 14 8/3	Exam 3 (Exam open 6pm-11pm)	8/7
Week 15	ALL assignments must be submitted prior to 8/7 Commencement	8/15

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.