THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AT TYLER
COLLEGE OF NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES

N5354 SYLLABUS
ADVANCED NURSING PHARMACOTHERAPEUTICS
Spring 2017
BETHANY STARKS, RN, MSN, FNP-C
Welcome

Welcome to **NURS 5354 – Nursing Pharmacotherapeutics**! Your instructor for this course is Bethany Starks, RN, MSN, FNP-C. I look forward to meeting with you in our online classroom. In this course, we will focus on the knowledge and application of advanced pharmacotherapeutic principles related to the health needs of patients through the lifespan.

Please refer to the information contained in this Syllabus any time you have a question regarding the basic course information. You can access a printable version of course material by clicking the Printable Version link. You will need to download a free Adobe Reader to view PDFs.
One final note: if you are unfamiliar with accessing the Internet or have questions regarding technical requirements, you may want to look at the services available at The University of Texas at Tyler Blackboard website. The basic technical requirements are also listed in this Syllabus for your convenience. In addition, you can access the UT Tyler website for general information about UT Tyler and its student services, which will be reviewed briefly later in this Syllabus.

**Course Instructor**

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Course Description

The course focuses on the knowledge and application of advanced pharmacotherapeutic principles related to the health needs of clients. Focus will be on pharmacotherapeutic modalities utilized by advanced practice nurses.

Course Credit

Three (3) semester hours

Course Overview:

The course focuses on the knowledge and application of advanced pharmacotherapeutic principles related to the health needs of clients. Focus will be on pharmacotherapeutic modalities utilized by advanced practice nurses.

Course Goals and Objectives

Upon successful completion of NURS 5354, the student will be able to:

1. Explore the influence of government regulation on the development of selected drugs.
2. Describe legal prescription writing techniques including the scheduling of controlled substances.
3. Analyze the pharmacological properties and general pharmacokinetic parameters of the most commonly used drugs in advanced nursing practice.
4. Compare the differences of drugs within categories including pharmacokinetic action, indication, dosages and side effects.
5. Evaluate indication for drug therapy for specific health problems.
6. Appraise appropriate monitoring parameters for drug effectiveness.
7. Evaluate special needs of obstetric, pediatric, adult, or gerontologic clients receiving drug therapy based on the needs of the individual.
Instructional Methods

This course is taught in an online format.

Teaching Strategies

Textbook readings
Assigned readings and journal reviews
Case studies/discussion board post
Quizzes**
Exams

Required Textbooks


UpToDate subscription (Available from Linsey Heaton at lheaton@uttyler.edu Student discounts usually available).

American Academy of Family Practice subscription at AAFP.org (great resource for studying and for discussion board post)

Epocrates subscription (offers student subscription)

Optional Text


Helpful Tools from Advanced Practice Education Associates www.apea.com

- Amelie’s Antibiotic Cards $16.00
- Pharm in a Flash – $29.95
- Topical Steroid Dispensing $6.00
Course Requirements

Grades and Grading

Evaluation/Grading Methods is as follows:
Course Grading Scale:
- A = 90 to 100%
- B = 80 to 89%
- C = 70 to 79%
- D = 60 to 69%
- F = Below 60%

A letter grade will be deducted for each day an assignment or Exam is late.

The work you will perform for this course is weighted as follows:

Exams (65% of course grade):

There will be three (3) exams plus a final worth 65% of your grade. Each exam is worth 15% of your total course grade. The content of the first three exams is related to the chapter(s) being studied as well as additional readings. The final exam is comprehensive worth 20% of your total grade and will include 100 questions. The exams will consist of both multiple choice and case study type questions. The exams will be timed.
You must use Proctoru.com as your online testing proctor. You will sign up via Proctoru.com prior to the exam. See additional file related to specific instructions.
Discussion Board Questions:

Students will respond in a specific discussion board question each week. The discussion board is comprised of 10 post as well as 10 peer responses worth 20% of your total course grade. The question is listed in the discussion board and under the module tab. The question is designed to facilitate learning and research. See the guidelines listed below.

Guidelines for Discussion Board Questions:

1. Each student must provide a substantive answer (narrative response with citation from scholarly source). Note: Substantive answers to questions must be at least 300 words, but no more than 800 words in length with at least one citation from a scholarly source (nursing journal, pharmacy journal, medical journal, valid website, etc.)
2. Each student must read other student’s responses in the discussion board and respond to a peer’s post as specified in the module instructions. The responses must be more than “I agree” or “Nice job.” Responses should be no more than 300 words in length, excluding citation. A scholarly reference should be cited at the end of the response. Students may respectfully disagree with a peer and offer a citation to support disagreement, make a comment and add an additional resource (citation), or ask a question, citing a reference.
3. Responses to the discussion board questions are due by midnight Sunday when the module ends. Responses to peer discussion board posts are due one week after the module ends. For example module 1 will be due Sunday night. A response to module 1 is due by the week’s end of module 2.
Grading Criteria for Powerpoint: 15% of total course grade
1. Complete a powerpoint on a selected drug. Each student must select a different drug. A list will be posted on the discussion board and you may sign up. See specific due date based upon drug selection.
2. Include drug pharmacology, name brand, generic, dosing.
3. Include indications for use, side effects, contraindications, pregnancy class.
4. Perform a cost analysis on the drug. Include references on cost from at least 3 sources.
5. Provide a patient case study on a patient in which you would utilize your drug of choice.
6. Provide information related to at least two evidenced based studies related to the drug.
7. Include at least 3 scholarly references.
8. Powerpoint must be a minimum of 10 slides and no more than 20 slides.

COURSE GRADE:
EXAM 1: 15%
EXAM 2: 15%
EXAM 3: 15%
FINAL EXAM 4: 20%
Discussion Board: 20%
Powerpoint Presentation 15%

Quizzes are not graded but just for personal benefit.
Email and Course Discussions

Email

To communicate by email within the course with other participants or all participants, click the Communications link on the left. Click Send E-mail to send a message. You are able to send messages to All Users or Select Users in the course, including the instructors. If you need more instructions on how to send email messages with Blackboard please read the student manual located in the Resources area of the course.

Questions or problems other than technical problems (see Technical Requirements in this Syllabus) may be submitted to the email address above. You will receive quick responses to any emails you send during our office hours. Generally speaking, we check our email inbox several times a day during the workweek, less frequently on the weekend, and rarely after 6 p.m. any day. If our schedules will make us unavailable to answer emails for a day or two, we will send an announcement out so that you can plan accordingly. One caveat: technical problems in email systems may slow down responses!!

Discussions

The Discussions feature in Blackboard is an online discussion forum in which students and faculty can communicate asynchronously (anytime) via message postings.

When you click the Communications link on the left, then the Discussion Board area, a listing of general subject categories will appear in a table format. Each general subject category is represented by a file folder icon.

All threads (topics) pertinent to a general subject category will appear as links under that subject category folder. The instructor has control of what general subject categories are available for discussion in the course. At the instructor's discretion, students may or may not have the option of starting a new thread under the general subject categories and may or may not be able to edit their comments after they have been posted.

Students can respond to threads in the course discussion. To respond to a thread:
In the Discussion Board area, you will see a list of forums
- Click on a forum link to open it and view the contents within
- Open a message
- Click Reply to respond to the message

Your response will now appear in the table, along with your name as author and date/time of posting. Icons will appear to the right that allows either a response or perhaps editing and deletion options. If the edit icon or the trash can (delete icon) doesn't appear, the student doesn't have editing or deletion privileges.

**Accessing Library Resources**

Students enrolled in this course have several options to access library resources. You may visit your home campus library or the Robert R. Muntz Library at the University of Texas at Tyler. Follow this link, and then complete the instructions at those sites for accessing information from a distant site.

**TESTING:**

You will be using the online proctoring service Proctor U. It is your responsibility to set up an account and schedule testing.

**Proctor U:**

Proctor U is the proctoring company used at UTT. Students will need to try all connections with Proctor U before the first examination. Testing can only be done in the testing window and in a quiet undistracted environment. When your test is completed you must disconnect from the test in blackboard prior to disconnecting from proctor U for test security purposes. Any attempts to copy the examination will be viewed as cheating. If you want to challenge a question this can be done in discussion board at the posted time.

Please see PDF file under Course Documents regarding how to use Proctor U service.
Course Evaluation:

UT Tyler may ask you to complete a voluntary evaluation to help them make improvements and adjustments in their overall online learning forums.

Also, an end of semester evaluation specifically for this course will be made available for you to complete in the last week of instruction. Your comments and recommendations will be considered seriously as the course is updated. Your input throughout the semester contributes to my commitment to improve continually the quality and relevance of this course.

Technical Information

This is a centralized listing of important technical information and assistance.

If you experience technical problems or have a technical question about this course you can obtain assistance by accessing The UT Tyler Campus Computing Center.

- **Computer Requirements**-Minimum hardware requirements and recommended software configurations
  - Ensuring you have the proper hardware and software is imperative to your success in an online course. The requirements chart below is based on those results of testing conducted by Blackboard. Additional information is available at Blackboard Client Browser Configurations guidelines (.pdf).
**Audio**

16 bit or better sound card and speakers (if your course contains audio content)

**Internet Connection**

56.6 KBPS modem, cable modem, DSL, or intranet (T-1)

Note: Corporate or academic security firewalls may block some course content, such as chat or streaming media

**Email Address**

Email is a vital communication medium in online learning. It is important that you have a working email address to receive communications from your advisor, instructors, and classmates. You are responsible for keeping your email address and other personal information up to date in the Tools Area, Personal Information section.
○ **Virus Protection**
  It is recommended that you protect your computer from viruses. Keep your antivirus software up to date with the latest virus updates. Antivirus and Personal Firewall products may be available to you for free or at a reduced price through the [Campus Computing Center](#). Check with your ISP, network help desk, or search the Internet for more information and product resources.

○ **Spyware & Adware Protection**
  Spyware and Adware are fast-growing threats that represent a major security and privacy risk. Spyware is a program that is installed, with or without the user's permission, and can monitor computer activity while broadcasting the information back to an outside party that controls the program. Adware displays unwanted advertising to your computer, can track your Web surfing habits and report it back to a central advertising server. It can slow your PC to a crawl by bombarding it with unwanted ads. Spyware and Adware removal tools and protection may be obtained through the [Campus Computing Center](#) or online resources.

**• Browsers**

○ UT Tyler courses use Java, JavaScript, browser plug-ins, helper applications and cookies. 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.

○ **Unsupported Browsers**-America Online (AOL), Prodigy, Juno, MSN, Yahoo and other Internet Service Providers (ISPs), provide their own internal and proprietary web browsers. These browsers may not be compatible with UT Tyler courses. We strongly recommend downloading and installing one of the Blackboard supported browsers listed above to ensure optimal functionality with the elements of your online course. **Note:** It's not recommended to use IE on Macintosh since it is no longer supported by Microsoft.

**• Plug-ins and Helper Applications**
Macromedia Flash Player allows you to view content created with Macromedia Flash such as interactive web applications and animations.

Shockwave Player allows you to view content created with Macromedia Director such as games and interactive 3D simulations.

RealPlayer allows you to view and listen to streaming video and audio.

QuickTime Player allows Mac and Windows users to play back audio and video files.

Windows Media Player allows you to view, listen and download streaming video and audio.

Adobe Reader allows you to view, save, and print Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) files.

Sun Java Runtime Engine (JRE) allows you to use interactive tools on the web.

PowerPoint Viewer 2003 lets you view full-featured presentations created in PowerPoint 97 and later versions.

• **Tools**

  - *Blackboard Academic Suite User Manual*
  
  Resource detailing the tools and functions included as part of the Blackboard Academic Suite from the Student or general user perspective

• **Getting Help** - If you are having technical problems, please contact the Campus Computing Center:
FAQ - Frequently Asked Technical Questions
  - UT Tyler Student Frequently Asked Technical Questions

Getting Help - If you are having technical problems, please contact the Campus Computing Center:
  - Campus Computing Center
    Business 101
    3900 University Blvd
    Tyler, TX 75799
    (903) 566-7367
    bbadmin@uttyler.edu

FAQ - Frequently Asked Technical Questions
  - UT Tyler Student Frequently Asked Technical Questions

IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY POLICIES

The following University policies: student rights, absence for religious observance, absence for university-supported trips, services to students with disabilities, grade replacement, state-mandated course drop policy, emergency exit strategy, and Social Security and Privacy. A pdf of these policies can be found at: http://www.uttyler.edu/academicaffairs/syllabuspolicies.pdf
Grade Replacement/Forgiveness
If you are repeating this course for a grade replacement, you must file intent to receive grade forgiveness with the registrar by the 12th day of class. Failure to do so will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates will receive grade forgiveness (grade replacement) for only three course repeats; graduates, for two course repeats during his/her career at UT Tyler.

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy
Texas law prohibits a student who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the 12th day of class (See Schedule of Classes for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule include, but are not limited to, the following: totally withdrawing from the university; being administratively dropped from a course; dropping a course for a personal emergency; dropping a course for documented change of work schedule; or dropping a course for active duty service with the U.S. armed forces or Texas National Guard.

Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Registrar’s Office if you have any questions.

Disability Services
In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodation must provide documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Support Services counselor. If you have a disability, including a learning disability, for which you request an accommodation, please contact Ida MacDonald in the Disability Support Services office in UC 282, or call (903) 566-7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance
Students who anticipate being absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement:
It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.