Special Populations  
NURS 4628  
Spring 2024

Scheduled Class Days and Times:

Tyler Campus- Wednesdays 8:00-10:50, Longview Campus- Wednesdays 1:00-3:50,  
Palestine Campus- Tuesdays 9:00-11:50

Instructor’s Name: Shirley Ballard, MSN, RN  
Office: LUC 224  
Phone: 903-738-9000  
Email: shirleyballard@uttyler.edu*  
Office Hours: Tuesdays 9am-12pm and by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.  
*Best way to contact me.

Instructor’s Name: Courtney Day, MSN, RN, CPN  
Office: BRB 2355  
Phone: 602-400-3289  
Email*: cday@uttyler.edu  
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 2pm-4pm by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.  
*Best way to contact me

Instructor’s Name: Brandi Jones MSN, APRN, FNP-C  
Office: BRB 2345  
Phone: 903-681-7257  
Email*: bjones@uttyler.edu  
Office Hours: Wednesdays 11am-2pm by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.  
*Best way to contact me

Instructor’s Name: Kayla Kelly, MSN, RN, CPN  
Office: PMH 113  
Phone: 903-727-2304  
Email*: kkelly@uttyler.edu  
Office Hours: Mondays 11am-2pm and by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.  
*Best way to contact me.
Instructor’s Name: Deirdre Leung, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC  
Office: TBD  
Phone: 903-343-2857  
Email: dleung@uttyler.edu  
Office Hours: Wednesday 2pm-5pm, and by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.  
*Best way to contact me.

Instructor’s Name: Ryleigh Smith, MSN, APRN, PPCNP-BC  
Office: BRB 2325A  
Phone: 903-565-5954  
Email*: ryleighsmith@uttyler.edu  
Office Hours: TBD 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.
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:
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 60%
5. Final Exam 20%
6. Medication Calculation Exam (Must score 100%) P/F
7. EHR Tutor Clinical Assignment (1 adult, 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.ttyler.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.uttler.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:** 01/11/2024  
**Census Date (withdraw without penalty):** 01/24/2024  
**Last Date to Withdraw:** 03/23/2024  
Please contact your advisor to discuss withdrawing from the course and notify your course instructor.  
**Last day of class:** 05/03/2024

**Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:**

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<tr>
<th>Course Schedule</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week #</strong></td>
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| Week 1 | Tue 1/16 | • Classes begin  
• Medication Calculation Review on Canvas  
• Course Orientation | Syllabus | • ATI weekly quiz |
| | Wed 1/17 | • Intro to Special Populations  
• Reproductive Years/STI’s  
• Pediatric Assessment/Hospitalization | • Chapter 1  
• Chapter 2  
• Chapter 26  
• Chapter 38  
(see canvas for specific pages) | |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Additional Activities</th>
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<td>TBD</td>
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<td>• Dosage Calculation Exam</td>
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<td>• Head-to-Toe Checkoff</td>
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<td>• Medication Administration Skills Checkoff</td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Wed 1/24</td>
<td>• Contraception, Pregnancy</td>
<td>• Chapter 3-12</td>
<td>• ATI weekly quiz</td>
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<td>• Pre-Simulation Quiz</td>
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<td>• 1/24 – census date</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Tues 1/30</td>
<td>• <strong>Module 1 Exam</strong></td>
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<td>Wed 1/31</td>
<td>• Childbirth</td>
<td>• Chapter 13</td>
<td>• ATI weekly quiz</td>
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<td>• Chapter 14</td>
<td>• Post-Simulation Quiz</td>
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<td>• Chapter 15</td>
<td>&amp; Reflection</td>
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<td>• ATI M/N 1 opens</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Wed 2/07</td>
<td>• Childbirth</td>
<td>• Chapter 16</td>
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<td>• Chapter 17</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Wed 2/14</td>
<td>• Postpartum</td>
<td>• Chapter 5</td>
<td>• ATI weekly quiz</td>
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<td>• Chapter 18</td>
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<td>• Chapter 21</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>Wed 2/21</td>
<td>• Newborn</td>
<td>• Chapter 22</td>
<td>• ATI weekly quiz</td>
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<td>• Chapter 24</td>
<td>• Pre-Simulation Quiz</td>
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<td>• Chapter 25</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>Tues 2/27</td>
<td>• <strong>Module 2 Exam</strong></td>
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<td>Wed 2/28</td>
<td>• Pediatric Development</td>
<td>• Chapter 30</td>
<td>• ATI weekly quiz</td>
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<td>• Pediatric Chronic Illness</td>
<td>• Chapter 36</td>
<td>• ATI M/N 2 opens</td>
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<td>• Pediatric Pain</td>
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<td>• Post-Simulation Quiz</td>
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<td>• ATI Care of Children</td>
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| Week 8 | Wed 3/06 | • Pediatric Special Needs/Genetics  
• Pediatric Cardiac Dysfunction  
• Chapter 37  
• Chapter 42  
ATI Care of Children  
• Chapter 44  
• Chapter 15 | • ATI weekly quiz  
• ATI M/N 2 closes  
• ATI COC 1 opens |  |
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<td>• Spring Break</td>
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| Week 9 | Wed 3/20 | • Pedi Respiratory Dysfunction  
• Pedi Hematology/Oncology  
• Chapter 40  
• Chapter 43  
• Chapter 44 | • ATI weekly quiz  
• Pre-Simulation Quiz  
• ATI COC 1 closes |  |
| Week 10 | Tues 3/26  | • **Module 3 Exam** |  |
| | Wed 3/27 | • Pediatric Endocrine Dysfunction  
• Chapter 47 | • ATI weekly quiz  
• Post-Simulation Quiz & Reflection  
• ATI COC 2 opens  
• 3/23- last day to withdraw |  |
| Week 11 | Wed 4/3 | • Pediatric Gastrointestinal Dysfunction  
• Pediatric Genitourinary Dysfunction  
• Chapter 41  
• Chapter 45 | • ATI weekly quiz  
• ATI COC 2 closes  
• ATI proctored assessment (Date TBD) |  |
| Week 12 | Wed 4/10 | • Pedi Neuromuscular or Muscular Dysfunction  
• Pediatric Cerebral Dysfunction  
• Chapter 46  
• Chapter 49 | • ATI weekly quiz  
• Pre-Simulation Quiz |  |
| Week 13 | Wed 4/17 | • Pediatric Musculoskeletal or Articular Dysfunction  
• Chapter 48 | • ATI weekly quiz  
• Post-Simulation Quiz & Reflection  
• ATI proctored Assessment Retake (Date TBD) |  |
| **Final** | Thurs 4/25 |  | **TBD**  |  |

**UT Tyler School of Nursing Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Statement**
The University of Texas at Tyler School of Nursing aspires to create, foster, and sustain a culture of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion irrespective of one's identity. We value and embrace all backgrounds, experiences, and identities, realizing that no one group, person or perspective has all the answers. We are richer when our individual skills, knowledge, experiences, cultures, backgrounds, and identities are combined in an accepting community. We strive to ensure that every individual gets a fair and equal chance to participate and thrive in a nurturing environment where all feel a sense of belonging. We are committed to intentionally and deliberately creating a diverse community that instills a sense of equitable justice and belonging for everyone affiliated with our school.

**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](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:** Refer to the UT Website for more details @ uttyler.edu - digital learning AI.