### Course:
- **RNSG 1301**, Pharmacology in Nursing

### Class days:
- MTWRF

### Prerequisites:
- None

### Location/Room:
- Online.

### Hours:
- Each online week will begin on Monday at 8 am and end Sunday 11:59 pm.

### Class hours per week:
- Determined by individual student; average 10-20 hours per week.

### Credit hours:
- 3

### Course Description:
This course will familiarize the participant with principles of pharmacology, including pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. Mechanism of action, adverse drugs reactions, drug interactions, contraindications, and nursing care, with the focus on patient safety, will be discussed for each classification of drug studied.

### Important Note:
This course is considered a **full online course** taught in the DCCCD Blackboard site. You will be required to read chapters each week, review online course and resource materials, take practice exams, review case studies related to the readings and periodically complete quizzes. Your instructor **highly suggests** you participate to the fullest to get the most out of this course.

Some students believe that online classes are easier, require less time, and allow the student time at the end to “catch up.” Please understand that online courses may require more time initially, as there is a learning curve for the new online student. Also, an online class is never easier, as assignments match those of a traditional course. Finally, this course is set up on a weekly basis – therefore, you must complete the assignments each week. **There is no ability to catch up with course work at the end.** This is to keep you engaged during the semester and prevent you from rushing to “finish” a course. Students who try to catch up at the end never master content, and never get their monies worth from the course. We care about your learning and will not allow you to get behind.

### Course Outcomes:
By the end of the course, the learner should be able to:

1. Identify the roles and responsibilities of the professional nurse in administering pharmacological agents.
2. Verbalize the action and effect of specific drug classifications.
3. Predict adverse drug reactions based on the mechanisms of action for specific drug classifications.
4. Assess and plan nursing care based on the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic properties of specific drugs and drug classifications.
5. Deliver safe and proactive nursing interventions for patients receiving pharmacological therapy.
6. Communicate with nursing colleagues, healthcare providers and pharmacists to promote patient safety related to pharmacological therapy.

**Required textbooks:**


- Text only – ISBN 978-1-4377-3582-6
- Access Code (card) only: ISBN: 9781455725465

These books can be purchased through either the El Centro bookstore, Majors Bookstore or through [www.medbookdirect.com](http://www.medbookdirect.com). **For this course, the book and access code may also be purchased from the Elsevier website** [https://evolve.elsevier.com/html/shop-promo.html](https://evolve.elsevier.com/html/shop-promo.html)

**Recommended textbook:**

ISBN: 9781437735819

**Course Content and Required Reading:**

1. Chapters 1-8 Pharmacology Basics
2. Chapters 9-11 Drug therapy across the lifespan
3. Chapters 12-19 Drugs affecting the peripheral nervous system
4. Chapters 20-40 Drugs affecting the central nervous system
5. Chapters 41-42 Drugs affecting fluid and electrolyte balance
6. Chapters 43-56 Drugs affecting the heart, blood vessels, and blood
7. Chapters 57-60 Drugs affecting the endocrine system
8. Chapters 67-72 Anti-inflammatory, antiallergic and immunologic drugs
9. Chapters 73-75 Drugs for bone and joint disorders
10. Chapters 76-77 Respiratory tract drugs
11. Chapters 78-80 Gastrointestinal drugs
12. Chapters 83-87 Chemotherapy of infectious diseases

**Other requirements:**

Each student must have access to a computer with reliable internet access, as there are weekly assignments, which must be completed, online. Downloading course documents may require that you have [PowerPoint viewer](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=5235) or Microsoft
Word. If you don’t have PowerPoint viewer, you can download it free of charge at www.microsoft.com.

It is highly recommended that students use either Internet explorer, Firefox, or Netscape Navigator as their browser, as AOL and other browsers are incompatible with the course platform, which could result in the inability of the student to complete assignments. Students can download free browsers at either www.microsoft.com or www.netscape.org. Quicktime and Adobe Reader may also be required to download some of the online material. You will be prompted to do so in a window. The downloads are free.

There may be times when dial-up service will give the student time-out errors due to slower connection speeds. To prevent this from occurring, it is recommended the student use either cable or DSL connection for this course. If you don’t have access to DSL or cable connection, there is high-speed internet access available through several El Centro computer labs. Also, public libraries also allow free access.

Methods of Instruction and Examination

1. Self-paced online modules in Blackboard, as outlined in course schedule.
2. Practice quizzes and learning resources
3. Chapter practice NCLEX-RN questions for a grade.

Evaluation/Grading Methods: A passing grade in this course is a 70.

1. Students enrolled in the continuing education sections will not receive a course grade; however, to receive a certificate, they must complete all required coursework, as outlined below in #2, letters a-c. The final score must be at least a 70 to receive the certificate from the Continuing Education Department at ECC.
2. Your grade will be based on the following required assignments:

   NCLEX Practice quizzes: Quizzes contain 10-15 questions. The number of questions will be displayed at the beginning of each quiz. The scores on these quizzes will comprise 100% of the course grade. You may each quiz up to three times. The highest grade will be recorded in the gradebook.

   a. Practice NCLEX quiz for each assigned chapter.
   b. Your grade will be based on the number of points accumulated by the end of the course.
   c. All course exams must be completed by midnight December 10, 2013.

   A - 90-100
   B - 80-89
   C - 70-79
**Rounding Policy:**

Only final grades will be rounded. If your final grade is 0.5 or higher from the next grade, you will be rounded up. No rounding down will be done. Example: Student #1 has a final grade of 79.5 (C grade); this will be rounded to 80.0 for a B grade). If student #2 has a grade of 69.5 (a failing grade), this will be rounded to 70, for a passing grade.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Evaluations</th>
<th>Scans</th>
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<tr>
<td>Identify the roles and responsibilities of the professional nurse in administering pharmacological agents.</td>
<td>Unit resources</td>
<td>1.a, 1.c, 1.d, 1.e, 4.a, 8.a, 8.d, 8.e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbalize the action and effect of specific drug classifications.</td>
<td>Unit resources</td>
<td>3.a, 3.b, 3.c, 7.b, 7.f</td>
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<tr>
<td>Predict adverse drug reactions based on the mechanisms of action for specific drug classifications.</td>
<td>Unit resources</td>
<td>3.a, 3.b, 7.b, 7.c, 7.d, 7.f</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assess and plan nursing care based on the pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic properties of specific drugs and drug classifications.</td>
<td>Unit resources</td>
<td>1.a, 1.d, 7.b, 7.c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliver safe and proactive nursing interventions for patients receiving pharmacological therapy.</td>
<td>Unit resources</td>
<td>2.c, 7.b, 7.c, 7.d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicate with nursing colleagues, healthcare providers and pharmacists to promote patient safety related to pharmacological therapy.</td>
<td>Unit resources</td>
<td>2.a, 2.d, 3.c</td>
</tr>
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**Quiz and Exam Policy:**
Online multiple-choice quizzes are required for each assigned chapter. It is the responsibility of the student to know when the exams are scheduled. You can find out due dates in the course schedule. Quizzes/exams are available for the entire semester with no closing date. There is flexibility in taking the quizzes/exams. However, please do not wait until the end of the semester to try to complete this course.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO TAKE THE EXAMS, as something will always happen when you least expect it. My suggestion is to be prepared to take the exam as soon as it is offered.

Every student is on the honor system with exams. You are not to discuss the exams with other students, and you are not to help other students with the exams. While you may use your books or notes for the exams, you will probably not find this helpful, as the questions are scenario based, and require you to have mastered the information prior to the exams. Do not print exams and share with other students who might not have taken the exam. The above is considered academic dishonesty and can be grounds for removal from the class.

Expectations:

Whether you are a classroom or online student, you will be interacting with both the faculty and other students enrolled in the course. I encourage you to actively participate in the course both in the classroom and in online communications such as emails. Netiquette is the use of proper etiquette while communicating on the Internet. This may be your first experience with an online course, or you may have taken online courses before. An online course is a very different way of interacting with faculty and peers. It has its own rules. The following suggestions are intended to be an overview of appropriate etiquette for interaction in this new environment.

1. Think carefully about the content of your message before sending it. Did you say just what you meant to say? How will the person on the other end interpret your words? Once sent to the group, there is no taking it back. Be sure to check your grammar and spelling of a message since your audience might not be able to decode misspelled words or poorly constructed sentences. Remember that poor grammar and spelling is a negative reflection on you.
2. Remember there’s a person on the other side. Ask for feedback if you’re not sure how your ideas and comments will be taken. If you disagree with what someone has said, please express your opinions respectfully to professors and to students. Always give positive feedback first, and then disagree respectfully.
3. Tone down your language. Given the absence of face-to-face clues, written text can easily be misinterpreted. Avoid the use of strong or offensive
language and the excessive use of exclamation points. If you feel particularly strongly about a point, it may be best to write it first as a draft and then to review it, before posting it, in order to remove any strong language.

4. **DO NOT USE CAPITAL LETTERS ROUTINELY, AS THIS LOOKS LIKE YOU ARE YELLING AT SOMEONE.** It is also very difficult to read.

5. Inappropriate or derogatory comments are unacceptable and subject to the same disciplinary action that they would receive if they occurred in the physical classroom.

6. Be persistent. If you run into any difficulties, don't wait! Send an email immediately to the instructor of the course listed on the syllabus. Most problems are easily solved, but we have to hear from you before we can help.

7. Share tips, suggestions, and questions. Taking online courses is a new frontier. There are no dumb questions, and even if you think your solution is obvious, please share it! Someone in the course will thank you for it.

**Course Website Discussion Etiquette:**

We are committed to open, frank, and insightful dialogue in all of our courses. Diversity has many manifestations, including diversity of thought, opinion, and values. We encourage all learners to be respectful of that diversity and to refrain from inappropriate commentary. Should such inappropriate comments occur, faculty will intervene as they monitor the dialogue in the courses. Learners as well as faculty should be guided by common sense and basic etiquette. Never post, transmit, promote, or distribute content that is known to be illegal. Never post harassing, threatening, or embarrassing comments. Never post content that is harmful, abusive; racially ethnically, or religiously offensive, vulgar; sexually explicit; or otherwise potentially offensive.

All students are required to practice courteous, respectful, cooperative behavior at all times, as this would be the norm in any higher education or work setting.

**Course website student expectations:**

1. You must have basic **computer skills** and knowledge of basic computer operations.
2. You should be accessing the course website to check announcements, discussion boards, and your personal email at least five times per week.
3. Purchase **books** and **necessary software** (if needed) early. Classes start discussing material the first day of the course. It is very easy to fall behind if you don’t have your text or other materials.
4. **Login** to your online courses the first day of class to ensure you have access. You will need to purchase an access code to unlock the course material in Blackboard. Details about how to purchase the access code is in the Textbook section of the syllabus.
5. **Keep current in the class.** Learners who fall behind are less likely to complete a course successfully. If something happens that is going to cause you to fall behind, contact your instructor immediately.
Disclaimer statement regarding syllabus adjustment:

The provisions contained in this syllabus do not constitute a contract between the student and El Centro College. These provisions may be changed at the discretion of the Coordinator/Instructor. When necessary, appropriate notice of such changes will be given to the student.

The instructor-of-record may provide additional information to enhance the course to meet the needs of the enrolled students, provided that the enhancements do not conflict with the official course syllabus.

Institutional Policies

Stop Before You Drop (6Drop)
For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W”. Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access https://www1.dcccd.edu/6drop

Repeating a Course
Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. All third and subsequent attempts of the majority of credit and Continuing Education/Workforce Training courses will result in additional tuition to be charged. Developmental Studies and some other courses will not be charged a higher tuition rate. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 Semester. See Third Attempt to Enroll in a Course at http://www.dcccd.edu/thirdcourseattempt/

Withdrawal Policy
If you are unable to complete this course, it is your responsibility to withdraw formally. The withdrawal request must be received in the Registrar’s Office by the official drop date for this course. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an “F.” If you drop a class or withdraw from the college before the official drop/withdrawal deadline, you will receive a “W” (Withdraw) in each class dropped. For more information about drop deadlines, refer to the current printed Credit Class Schedule, contact the Admissions office at 214-860-2484 (A169), or contact the division office.
Financial Aid
If you are receiving any form of financial aid, you should check with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from classes. Withdrawals may affect your eligibility to receive further aid and could cause you to be in a position of repayment for the current semester. Students who fail to attend or participate after the drop date are also subject to this policy.

ADA Statement
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office at 214.860.2411 (Voice/TTY), visit A110, or go to http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/Student_Services/Disability/

Religions Holidays Statement
A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence if, not later than the fifteenth day after the first day of the semester, the student notified the instructor of each class scheduled on the date that the student would be absent for a religious holy day. A “religious holy day” means a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20, Tax Code. The notice shall be in writing and shall be delivered by the student personally to the instructor, with receipt acknowledged and dated by the instructor or by certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the instructor. A student who is excused under this section may not be penalized for the absence, but the instructor may appropriately respond if the student fails to satisfactorily complete the assignment or examination.

Children on Campus
El Centro College strives to protect an environment most conducive to teaching and learning for all enrolled students. Minor children may not be brought to classrooms, labs, testing areas or study areas of the college. This practice is disruptive to the learning process. Children who are taking part in organized scheduled activities, or who are enrolled in specific classes, are welcomed. For reasons of security and child welfare, the college will not permit unattended children to be left anywhere on the premises. Students/Parents who have problems with childcare should visit the advisement/counseling center or the Adult Resource Center to receive referrals to childcare services in the area.

Campus Emergency Operation Plan
El Centro College and the Dallas County Community College District have developed policies and procedures for dealing with emergencies that may occur on campus. To familiarize yourself with these procedures, review the ECC web site information and take time to watch the overview video: http://www.video.dcccd.edu/rtv/D0/emergency_dcccd.wmv
MANDATORY ID BADGE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
Although this course is 100% online, there may be times when you are on DCCCD college campuses. All students must wear their ECC Picture ID Badge. It should be worn on the upper part of the body where it is clearly seen. Program uniforms do not replace the college ID requirement. Students who do not have a college ID will not be permitted in class, after the 12th class day.

Grievance Procedures
Students are expected to follow established procedures of the appropriate division in handling academic issues, such as grade appeals. El Centro College requires that other complaints and disputes (that cannot be resolved by the persons directly involved) be referred initially to the Ombudsman Office for informal, confidential resolution. Additional grievance procedures and the Student Code of conduct are outlined in the El Centro College Catalog, available in hard copy in advisement or on the web at ECC web-site area to be created.

Computer Use Policy
For classes requiring the utilization of campus computers, review the computer use policy for the district under the student code of conduct at http://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0406/ss/computer.cfm

Software Copying Policy
Copying computer software without the expressed written permission of the copyright holder may be unlawful and subject to civil and criminal penalties. To protect you, the college and the copyright holder, no software used to complete any lab exercises may be copied by students.

Accessing eCampus
(Accessing your course on the internet - Students)
To Login
- Start your internet browser (you need Firefox 3.5 (preferred) or Internet Explorer 7 or 8(in compatibility mode)
- Go to http://ecampus.dcccd.edu/
- Input your student ID number with an “e” in front of student ID number. This is the Username. (ie. e1253407)
- Tab over to the Password slot
- Input your student ID number with an “e” in front of the student ID number. This is used for the Password also (ie. e1253407).
- Click on the Login button

This will get you to your Homepage tab on eCampus called "My DCCCD". Under the Tools area, you can check your grades for your eCampus courses, read the course announcements, send email to your instructor, change your password, input your email address and your personal information on eCampus.
To Access Your Course:
- Click on the Courses Tab or
- Click on the underlined title of your course

You may then click on the tabs on the left side of your screen to access specific areas within your course.

To Input Your E-mail Address
- Click on the Personal Information (in the Tools area)
- Input your E-mail address
- Scroll down to the bottom and click Submit (on the bottom left side of your screen)

To Change Your Password
- Click on the Personal Information (in the Tools area)
- Click on Change Password
- Input your new password
- Input the new password again to confirm it
- Click Submit (on the bottom left side of your screen)

Once you change your password, you will have to use your new password to login in the future.

To Check Your Grades
- Click on My Grades (in the Tools area)
- Then click on underlined title of the course

To E-mail Your Instructor (or Classmate)
- Click Send E-mail (in the Tools area)
- Select the appropriate course
- Select one of the options that are listed (e.g. All Instructors, Select Users, All Groups, etc.)
- Type in the Subject and the message
- Select Add if you want to add alternates, Click Browser button, Locate file to be attached.
- Scroll down and click Submit

If you have any questions or need assistance, you may contact Tech Support at (972) 669-6402.

El Centro College Scans Statement
In 1989, the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education jointly surveyed U.S. employers to find out the most important skills and competencies needed by workers. The results of the survey identified SCANS (Secretary’s Commission on

All El Centro College technical education courses provide learning outcomes which result in the mastery of SCANS skills. Although each course will not include every SCANS skill, each course syllabus will identify the specific SCANS skills and competencies taught in that course.

Throughout a formal program of study (Certificate, Degree or Transfer Program) a student will have the opportunity to master all SCANS skills and competencies.

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<td>1 Managing Resources</td>
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<td>1.b. Manage Money</td>
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<td>1.e. Manage Human Resources</td>
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<td>2.f. Work with Diversity</td>
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<td>6.e. Listening</td>
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