NURSING PHARMACOLOGY
RNSG.1301.63403

Spring 2020
January 21, 2020 – May 14, 2020

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Office Hours: Online/Virtual Hours
Class Days & Time: Online

Division: Nursing
Nursing Office Phone Number 214-860-8593
Nursing Office Location H-25

Course Description
Introduction to the science of pharmacology with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of each drug classification. Topics include the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in safe administration of medications within a legal/ethical framework.

Credit Hours 3
Course Prerequisites Anatomy and Physiology 1, BIOL 2401 or SCIT 1407
Co-Requisites None. Must be successfully completed, with a minimum grade of ‘C’, prior to starting Semester III of the MVC Nursing Program.

Textbooks

End of Program Student Learning Outcomes can be found in the 2018-2020 Nursing Student Handbook

Course Learning Objectives
All course objectives align with the MVC Nursing End-of-Program Student Learning Outcomes (EOP/SLO), as outlined in the MVC Nursing Student Handbook.

- Define terms as specified in relationship to medications and pharmacology (Safety ELO/SLO)
- Identify and differentiate between major drug classifications and commonly used agents within these classifications (Safety ELO/SLO)
- Identify the scope of nursing responsibility related to pharmacology (Nursing Process EOP/SLO)
- Discuss the implications of medication administration associated with the nursing process. (Nursing Process EOP/SLO)
- Identify pharmacologic information from reputable drug resources, including critical thinking and evaluation of sources for validity and usefulness. (Evidence-Based Practice ELO/SLO)
- Discuss concepts related to the pharmacology related topics covered in the course (Evidence-Based Practice ELO/SLO)
Topical Outline of Course
After successful completion of this course, the student should be able to discuss concepts related to the following pharmacology related topics:

- Basic Principles
  - Pharmacokinetics
  - Pharmacodynamics
  - Drug interactions
  - Adverse drug reactions and medication errors
- Drug Therapy Across the Life Span
  - During pregnancy & breastfeeding
  - Pediatric
  - Geriatric
- Peripheral Nervous System Drugs
- Central Nervous System Drugs
- Drugs that affect Fluid and Electrolyte Balance
- Drugs that affect the Heart, Blood Vessels, and Blood
- Drugs for Endocrine Disorders
- Women’s Health
- Men’s Health
- Anti-inflammatory, Anti-allergic, and Immunologic Drugs
- Drugs for Bone and Joint Disorders
- Respiratory Tract Drugs
- Gastrointestinal Drugs
- Nutrition
- Chemotherapy
  - Infectious diseases
  - Parasitic diseases
  - Cancer
- Miscellaneous Drugs and Therapies
  - Eye
  - Skin
  - Ear
  - Complementary and alternative therapy
- Toxicology

Methods of Evaluation
Faculty will determine the specific assignments and exams for their courses. There are no make-up assignments or exams. No late assignments or exams will be accepted. A grade of “0” will automatically be assigned in gradebook if an exam or assignment is not completed by the due date. There will be discussion board assignments, as well as 10 formal exams in this course and a final exam. The exams and assignments are to be completed online.

The grades will be weighted as follows:

- Exams x 10 4% each (40% total)
- Discussion Boards x 6 6.5% each (39% total)
- Final Exam 21%

Grading Scale
Students are responsible for their own academic performance. The Mountain View College Nursing Program faculty has determined that a grade of “C” is the minimum acceptable grade for enabling a student to proceed to the next nursing course. The student must earn a grade of “C” or higher in every course required for a given semester or group of related courses in order to progress to the next semester. The faculty believes that students “earn” their academic grades rather than faculty “giving” grades to students. All policies as stated in the Student Handbook are binding. Students are encouraged to review these regulations on a regular basis.
The requirements for a particular letter grade in this course are listed below.

A = 92 – 100
B = 84 – 91
C = 75 – 83
D = 68 - 75
F = Below 67

The grading scale in this course is consistent with the grading scale of all courses in the nursing program. Throughout the nursing program, no grades including the final grades will be rounded up. For example: if the student makes a 74.99 on any test, assignment or as a final course grade, the grade computes to a ‘D’ or if a student has an 83.99, the grade computes as ‘C’.

RNSG 1301 must be completed with a ‘C’ grade or higher by the 2nd attempt for a student to be eligible to apply to the Mountain View College nursing program. Students not admitted to the MVC nursing program are only allowed two attempts to take RNSG 1301 through Mountain View College. If a student is accepted to the Mountain View College nursing program or is currently a student in the Mountain View College nursing program, they must successfully complete RNSG 1301 with a ‘C’ grade or higher to remain in the program. If they do not earn a ‘C’ or higher by the 2nd attempt, they will be withdrawn from the program or forfeit their admission to the program. RNSG 1301 must be completed successfully with a ‘C’ grade or higher prior to entering Semester III of the MVC nursing program.

In compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the following procedure will be observed by the nursing faculty: No grade will be given over the telephone to a student or any other person under any circumstances. Grades will be available via E-campus and in person.

**Discussion Board Assignments**

There will be 6 discussion board assignments. Your answer to the discussion question should be supported with research, examples or references to the literature, and personal experiences in order to be considered substantive. In order to earn the assigned participation points, you must:

1. Answer the required discussion questions for the assigned module individually by posting to the Discussion Board within the Blackboard platform for this course. Points are awarded for your individual entries. (See grading rubric)
2. Respond to at least 2 postings of a classmate each week. Use the “reply” prompt to the entry in order to keep the discussion "threaded". Points are also awarded for your substantive response to each peer (See grading rubric for point calculation).
3. All initial postings must be a minimum of 150 words. All peer responses must be a minimum of 125 words. Postings less than the required minimum will not earn any points. Greetings, signatures, and references are not part of the word count.
4. APA format must be used appropriately, citing a minimum of 2 references per initial posting and 1 reference per peer response.

The online course week begins on Monday morning and ends on the following Sunday at 11:59 PM. Each week, post your initial response to the discussion board assignment by Wednesday at 11:59 PM (on Week 1 ONLY, the course week starts on Tuesday and the initial response is due by Thursday at 11:59 PM). In addition, you must reply to 2 different peers’ initial responses. The 2 replies are due by Sunday at 11:59 PM. Do not wait until the last day to submit your assignments. LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

**Exams**

There will be 6 exams and a final exam in this course. Each exam will be online and secured. You must have internet access in order to complete the exams. If you do not have internet access, then you should use the available resources at Mountain View College to complete the exams and assignments.

**Instructor and Nursing Program Attendance Policies**

You should go online daily to check for updates and announcements for the course as well as to see if others have responded so that you can stay ahead on your postings. The online course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 am and ends on the following Sunday at 11:59 PM. Each week when there is a discussion board assignment, post your initial response to the discussion board assignment by
Wednesday at 11:59 PM (on Week 1 ONLY, the course week starts on Tuesday and the initial response is due by Thursday at 11:59 PM). In addition, you must reply to 2 different peers’ initial responses. The 2 replies are due by Sunday at 11:59 PM. Do not wait until the last day to submit your assignments. LATE ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED. Any discussion or reply posted after the due dates each week will result in a grade of zero (0).

On weeks where there is an assigned exam, the exam will open on Monday morning at 12:00 am and will close at Thursday at 11:59 pm. Any exam not completed during the posted time frames will result in a grade of zero (0).

THERE ARE NO MAKEUPS FOR DISCUSSION BOARDS OR EXAMS. The discussion boards and exams will open and close automatically.

A student taking a course through the Mountain View College Nursing Program must assume responsibility for individual learning and be a self-directed adult learner. Nursing faculty have carefully scheduled and constructed course content and learning activities. Students should make every effort to check in online for assignments and communications throughout the duration of the course. Attendance and participation will be monitored by the instructor online.

Some class content and discussion may be of a sensitive nature. Confidentiality is of key importance and must absolutely be honored.

Only the course instructor can excuse a student from course responsibilities. If the instructor cannot be reached via email, the student should leave a message with the nursing program administrative assistant or the instructor via voice mail. Any extenuating circumstance will be handled by the instructor. Students are expected to adhere to and follow the policies as listed in the student handbook, the college handbook, the college web site, and the attendance policies as listed above.

Attendance Certification
Although this is an online course, an initial attendance for certification day must be obtained from each student. Therefore, every student must send an email to the course professor through the course email tab in this course by Sunday, 1/26/2020. Simply state your name and the word “present” after your name so that your attendance can be recorded. This step only needs to be done one time for the whole semester by the due date list above.

It is also required for each student to return, via dropbox on Blackboard, a signed copy of the Syllabus Contract found at the end of this syllabus & the Faculty Expectations Contract by Sunday, 1/26/2020.

Late Work Policy
Late work will not be accepted. Any work turned in late or incomplete will receive a 0% grade.

Make-Up Policy
There are no make-up exams or assignments. If a student does not complete an assigned exam or assignment during the open window and prior to the exam or assignment deadline (see course calendar), the student will receive a 0%. Extenuating circumstances must be documented, and the instructor must be notified ahead of the scheduled deadline for the exam or assignment. The instructor will make a decision regarding a students' individual situation. Any exam or assignment not accepted for make-up will receive a grade of 0%.

Educational Resources
Students should use all of the resources necessary in order to understand the material and to achieve the best grades possible. These include, but are not limited to: participating in a study group, utilizing the materials which are on the EVOLVE website, utilizing the MVC learning center and the programs on learning which it provides, meeting with the instructor as needed, getting a tutor, and researching any topics which may be unfamiliar or difficult. The student should become familiar with Blackboard and
check it several times weekly for announcements, grades, and other pertinent information. In order to use the Blackboard e-mail system, the student’s e-mail address must be kept up to date with the college. Problems with Blackboard should be referred to the Blackboard telephone help desk, 972-669-6402.

**Evaluation of Course and Instructor**
All students will evaluate the course and instructor at the completion of the course.

**Procedures for Students who are Unsuccessful**
RNSG 1301 Nursing Pharmacology may be taken at two different points as part of the nursing curriculum. The student who takes it prior to entering nursing and is successful will receive extra point(s) when being considered for entry into the nursing program. Success in pharmacology is highly recommended prior to entering the nursing program. If the student who takes it prior to entering the nursing program fails the course, there will be no credit for taking it on the entry application paperwork.

If pharmacology is taken along with the other Semester I or II courses and the student is unsuccessful, or if the student withdraws from the course, the policy is the same as for failing any other course in Semester I or II of the MVC nursing program. RNSG 1301 must be completed successfully with a ‘C’ grade or higher prior to entry into Semester III of the nursing program.

**Plagiarism**
There are different types of plagiarism and all are serious violations of academic honesty. The most common types are defined below:

- **Direct Plagiarism**
  Direct plagiarism is the word-for-word transcription of a section of someone else’s work, without attribution and without quotation marks. The deliberate plagiarism of someone else’s work is unethical, academically dishonest, and grounds for disciplinary actions, including expulsion.

- **Self-Plagiarism**
  Self-plagiarism occurs when a student submits his or her own previous work, or mixes parts of previous works, without permission from all professors involved. For example, it would be unacceptable to incorporate part of a term paper you wrote in high school into a paper assigned in a college course. Self-plagiarism also applies to submitting the same piece of work for assignments in different classes without previous permission from both professors.

- **Mosaic Plagiarism**
  Mosaic Plagiarism occurs when a student borrows phrases from a source without using quotation marks or finds synonyms for the author’s language while keeping to the same general structure and meaning of the original. Sometimes called “patch writing,” this kind of paraphrasing, whether intentional or not, is academically dishonest and punishable – even if you footnote your source!

- **Accidental Plagiarism**
  Accidental plagiarism occurs when a person neglects to cite their sources, or misquotes their sources, or unintentionally paraphrases a source by using similar words, groups of words, and/or sentence structure without attribution. (See example for mosaic plagiarism.) Students must learn how to cite their sources and to take careful and accurate notes when doing research. Lack of intent does not absolve the student of responsibility for plagiarism. Cases of accidental plagiarism are taken as seriously as any other plagiarism and are subject to the same range of consequences as other types of plagiarism.

**Grade Appeals**
A student who wishes to appeal a grade should follow these guidelines:
1. Make a phone appointment immediately with your instructor to discuss your performance. Ask why you received the grade you did.
2. If you are unable to resolve the situation at that level, make an appointment to speak to the Executive Dean of Allied Health and Nursing.
3. If you are still dissatisfied, you may request an appointment with the MVC Vice President for Instruction.
4. Students may also discuss the situation with the Mountain View College counselors, especially the nursing counselor, but this does not take the place of formal appeals via the chain of
Withdrawal Policy (with drop date)
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 ___4-16-20___. Failure to do so will result in your receiving a performance grade, usually an “F”. Students often drop courses when help is available that would enable them to continue. Please discuss your plans with your instructor if you feel the need to withdraw. 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. Keep in mind that the official drop date changes each semester and with each course.

Institution Policies
Institutional Policies relating to this course can be accessed from the following link: www.mountainviewcollege.edu/syllabipolicies

Disclaimer Reserving Right to Change Syllabus
The instructor reserves the right to revise or amend this syllabus as necessary to manage and conduct this course. The intent of the instructor is to promote the best education possible within prevailing conditions affecting this class. You are responsible for contacting the instructor and seeking clarification of any requirement that is not understood.

Course Calendar
Please see separate SP2020-RNSG-1301-63403 calendar document.
RNSG 1301 Nursing Pharmacology  
Student Contract and Acknowledgement

Initial each statement, sign this form, and post it via the contract drop box in Blackboard. The contract must be printed and signed with your REAL SIGNATURE. Computerized signatures will not be accepted and will result in being dropped from the course.

In recognition of the professional nature of nursing and the nursing program and my personal responsibilities as a student, I attest to the following:

_____ I have read and reviewed the syllabus, course description, learning outcomes & objectives. I have had time and opportunity to clarify any unclear areas.

_____ I understand the importance of preparing for this course before class, clarifying unclear areas in class, and participating in group discussions. I understand that I earn a grade; that just meeting minimal requirements does not earn an A.

_____ I understand the importance of being on time, being prepared and not missing class online (discussion postings & replies). I will not wait until the last minute to turn in assignments or turn them in late.

_____ I understand the withdrawal date in this semester is 4-16-20.

_____ I understand the Academic Honesty Policy and the Student Code of Conduct. I understand that not reporting cheating makes me culpable. Nurses are held to a higher degree of honesty and must protect the profession and the patients under our care.

_____ I have read and understand the testing schedule and will complete each exam during the allotted time period, as outline on the course calendar and in Blackboard.

_____ I understand how the course is graded, including exams, discussion boards, and any extra assignments.

_____ I understand the “drop”, exit interview, & Grievance Policies.

_____ I know how to reach my instructor if I have any inquiries regarding assignments, exams, or need help with the course

_____ I understand that it is my responsibility to maintain my grades.

_____ I understand that a final grade below “C” will not be rounded up.

______________________________ __________________________________ __________
Print Name    Signature     Date