Nursing Pathophysiology  
RNSG-1311-63301  
Spring 2020  
January 21, 2020 – May 14, 2020

Professor: Emilie Allen, MSN, BSN, RNC-NIC  
Email: emilieallen@dcccd.edu  
Office Hours: Online/Virtual Hours  
Class Days & Time: Online Course – Students should expect to spend 10-15 hours per week in this course.  
Class Room Number: Online  
Division: Nursing  
Nursing Office Phone Number: 214-860-8622  
Nursing Office Location: H-25

Course Description:  
This course places emphasis on the nursing application of basic principles of pathophysiology. Content includes principles of homeostasis related to body systems. This will include the cell, mechanisms of defense and cancer. The aforementioned principles will then be used to present the most common pathophysiologic alterations in the human body.

Credit Hours: 3  
Course Prerequisites: SCIT 1407 or BIOL 2401  
Co-Requisites: SCIT 1408 or BIOL 2402


Recommended Optional Materials and Resources: The textbooks listed above are primary reference sources for the student. However, in order for the learner to achieve mastery of particular nursing principles and skills, the faculty may use and/or recommend additional materials. The student has the responsibility to utilize this material for optimum development. Students are invited and encouraged to explore additional learning resources, including the Internet. 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: working 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.

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

Student Learning Outcomes: Successful completions of RNSG 1311 will allow the student to complete the following specific student learning outcomes (SLO’s) for this course:
1. Discuss normal physiologic functions, which maintain dynamic equilibrium of the human body.
2. Discuss selected concepts of disordered function or form which leads to health disruptions and discomfort in the human organism’s relationship with the environment.
3. Discuss concepts of positive and negative feedback as related to human functioning.
4. Describe compensation within the human body.
5. Describe pathophysiology, tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for common types of cancer.
6. Describe the causes, pathophysiology, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for several common infectious diseases.
7. Describe the pathophysiology, signs and symptoms, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for various immune disorders.
8. Describe the pathophysiology, signs and symptoms, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for several endocrine disorders.
9. Describe the pathophysiology, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for several respiratory diseases.
10. Describe the causes, pathophysiology, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for several common cardiovascular disorders.
11. Describe the causes, pathophysiology, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for several common neurologic disorders.
12. Describe the pathophysiology, signs and symptoms, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for common blood disorders.
13. Describe the pathophysiology, signs and symptoms, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for common digestive disorders.
14. Describe the pathophysiology, signs and symptoms, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for several common renal system disorders.
15. Describe the pathophysiology, diagnostic tests, and treatments amenable to nursing care for certain musculoskeletal disorders.

Content Outline:
1. Introduction to concepts of pathophysiology in nursing
2. Lifespan effects on disease processes
3. Concepts related to body systems and selected alterations in function
4. Concepts related to cellular biology and alterations in function
5. Fluids & electrolytes, acids & bases
6. Immunity
7. Inflammation
8. Hypersensitivity and Immune deficiencies
9. Cellular Proliferation: Cancer
10. Concepts related to neurological function and dysfunction
11. Mechanisms of endocrine regulation and alterations in regulation
12. Concepts related to function and dysfunction of the digestive system
13. Concepts related to function and dysfunction of the renal and urologic systems
14. Function and alterations of the reproductive system
15. Concepts related to the hematologic and cardiac system
16. Function and alterations of the cardiovascular and lymphatic systems
17. Concepts related to function and dysfunction of the pulmonary system
18. Concepts related to function and dysfunction of the musculoskeletal and integumentary systems

Attendance and Classroom 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. In addition, you must reply to 2 different peer’s 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 Wednesday morning at 12:00 am and will close at Sunday at 11:59 pm. Any exam not completed during the posted time frames will result in a grade of zero (0). The only exception is the final exam. Please review the course calendar for the date and time of the online exam.

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, 1/26/20. 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, 1/26/20.

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.

Exams and Assignments
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 5 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 5 9 % each
- Discussion Boards x 7 5 % each
- Final Exam 20 %

**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’.

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 7 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 postings (initial & peer responses) must be a minimum of 100 words. Postings less than 100 words will not earn any points.
4. APA format must be used appropriately, citing a minimum of 1 reference per posting.
The online course week begins on Monday morning at 7:00 AM 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. 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 5 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.

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 1311 Nursing Pathophysiology 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 pathophysiology 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 pathophysiology 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 an 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, speak with the Executive Dean of Allied Health & 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 command as listed above.

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 04/16/2020. 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 2019SP- RNSG-1311-63402 calendar document.
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 04/16/2020.

_____ 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
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 written 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.

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________________________________________  __________________________________ __________
Print Name    Signature     Date