



**BSN Program**  
**NURS 3312 Principles of Pharmacology**  
**Syllabus**

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**Office Hours: Open**  
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**COURSE INFORMATION**

Welcome to the Principles of Pharmacology! You are about to embark on a fascinating journey! Pharmacology is more than 'passing a pill'. You are going to learn about medications' action, classification, dosages, nursing implications, side effects, and more. Once you learn some basic pharmacology principles, you will recognize the ability of medications to cure a disease or improve the quality of life for your patient. Learning about medications and the nursing process will help you to become a much safer nurse when it comes to administering medications.

This course is designed for self-motivated adult learners. The majority of the course content will be located on ecollege and in your textbooks. The other portion of the course will be periodic class meetings to actively engage in activities to reinforce the assigned course content.

**Materials- Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:**

**Textbook(s) Required:**

Kee, Joyce, Hayes, E., and McCuiston, L.E. (2012) *Pharmacology: A Nursing Process Approach*.

(7<sup>th</sup> Ed.) Saunders Elsevier. (ISBN: 9781437717112)

Ogden, Sheila (2012) *Calculation of Drug Dosages*. (9<sup>th</sup> Ed.) St. Louis: Mosby. (ISBN-10: 0323077536)

**Recommended Textbooks:**

Hogan, Linda (2012). *Rationales and Reviews for Pharmacology* (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed). Boston: Pearson

(ISBN: 978-0133045994).

Skidmore-Roth, Linda (latest edition) *Mosby's Drug Guide for Nurses*. St. Louis: Mosby

**Prerequisites:** BSC 2401 and 2402. By approval of the Director of the Nursing Program.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION: (3 credit hours)**

Focuses on the basic drug classification, concepts and principles of pharmacology with special consideration for the nursing role in developing a comprehensive approach to the clinical application of drug therapy through the use of the nursing process. Nursing implications relative to the utilization of drug therapy are examined. Dosage calculations are evaluated for competency.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Define basic pharmacological terminology.
2. Apply general concepts of pharmacokinetic and pharmacodynamic processes and their application in drug therapy and the nursing process.
3. Recognize significant adverse drug reactions, drug-drug, and drug-nutrient interactions.
4. Describe major classifications of drugs used in modern treatment of disease.
5. Describe the professional responsibility and standards of practice for the professional nurse as related to the medication administration process.
6. Provide, through case study, appropriate cultural and developmental stage client education regarding complementary and alternative drug therapy.
7. Describe strategies employed for patient safety during the preparation and administration of medications.
8. Demonstrate competency in performing clinical drug and dosage calculations.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments**

Course objectives may be met through self-paced online assignments using recommended resources, participation in face to face activities, and exchange of ideas with classmates regarding specific topics utilizing critical thinking skills. Teaching methods include interactive activities, small group discussion, and case study analysis as assigned, independent study of texts and library resources, audio-visual aids, information provided on online, and assignments. While the professor will provide guidance and consultation, the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-direction, seeking consultation and help as needed to achieve course objectives. In other words, you must take responsibility for your own learning, which largely occurs via self-study outside of class. Class time is used for application and clarification of what you have already learned outside of class.

## Grading

Grades will be determined as follows:

Assessment	Percentage for Each	Total Percentage
Quizzes (9)	3% each	27%
Exams (7)	10% each	70%
Class Meeting Activities (9)	0.333%	3%
Total	Comprehensive	100%

## Grading Scale:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 75-79

D = 67-74

F = 66 and Below

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

This course will be enhanced using ecollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To login to the course, go to: <http://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu)

The following hardware and software are necessary to use ecollege.

*-Internet access/connection-high speed recommended (not dial up)*

*-Word Processor (MS Word, or Word Perfect)*

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP, Vista, or 7) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, or 9.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X or better along with a recent version of Safari (5.1 is now available). Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, ecollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows, and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to ecollege, click on the “my Courses” tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

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## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

**Interaction with Instructor Statement:**

Communication between faculty and students is primary and taken seriously. Preferred communication methods are individualized office hours, email, or via office phone. If a phone call is not answered please leave a message and send an e-mail using the direct e-mail link on the course home page. You will be treated with collegial respect and I expect you to communicate likewise in a professional manner using the principles of communication learned in this class.

**COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES****CLASS**

1. Class Cancellation: In the event that a class is canceled, the student is expected to do the readings and complete the objectives for that day. The content will still be included on examinations. The material in this syllabus and dates identified in the Course Calendar are subject to change.
2. Class attendance is expected. The students should notify course faculty in advance of any absence.
3. Exam dates are listed in each course syllabus, and the student is expected to be present for exams. In the event that the student will be absent, the course instructor must be notified in advance. Failure to do so will result in the student receiving a zero for the missed exam or quiz.
4. As an adult learner and responsible professional, the student is responsible for reading and completing assignments prior to class and for being prepared to participate in discussions over the assigned material. It should not be expected that all material will be covered in class. Students are expected to come to class prepared.
5. Assignments must be handed in on time. Assignments submitted late without prior arrangement with the classroom instructor will receive a zero.

**University Specific Procedures****ADA Statement**

The Americans with Disability Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

**Texas A&M University-Commerce**

**Gee Library 132**

**Phone (903) 468-8148**

**Fax (903) 468-8148**

[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)

**Student Conduct Code – Refer to the BSN Student Guide**

Students must adhere to standards of professional and academic conduct. Academic misconduct involves any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student or the attempt to commit such an act. Students are responsible for their own academic honesty and for reporting violations of academic honesty by others.

