BSN Program
NURS 3312 Principles of Pharmacology
Syllabus

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Barbara Tucker, PhD, RN, FAANP  Barbara.Tucker@tamuc.edu  

Office Location: Nursing Building  
Office Hours:  As posted and by appointment  
Nursing Department: 903-886-5315  
Office Fax: 903-886-5729

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.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: (3 credit hours)

This course 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.

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 engage in activities to reinforce the assigned course content.

Materials- Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:  
Recommended Textbooks:


Prerequisites: BSC 2401 and 2402. Approval of the Director of the Nursing Program.

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.
4. Describe major classifications of drugs used in current treatment of disease.
5. Identify the various herbal therapies and their role in health care.
6. Describe the professional responsibility and standards of practice for the professional nurse as related to the medication administration process.
7. Provide appropriate patient teaching, through case study, regarding drug therapy that reflects rural access, developmental stage, age, culture, and spirituality.
8. Describe strategies employed for patient safety during the preparation and administration of medications.
9. 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:** Students must achieve a minimum average of 75 on all exams in order to pass the course. Other graded assignments (including quizzes) will not be added to the final grade unless exam grade average is 75% or higher.

Grades will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Percentage for Each</th>
<th>Total Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (9)</td>
<td>3% each</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (7)</td>
<td>10% each</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adaptive learning (9)</td>
<td>0.333%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**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](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

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.
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 participation and 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
Student Conduct Code – Refer to the BSN Student Guide online for information:

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.

Non-Discriminatory Statement: A&M-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Textbook Chapters</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Quiz</th>
<th>Adaptive</th>
<th>Exam</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Intro, Drug Action &amp; Approval Process</td>
<td>Kee 1,2</td>
<td>1/22</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Culture,Pedi, Adult, Geriatric</td>
<td>Kee 3,7,8</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Drug Interactions &amp; Nsg Process, Safety</td>
<td>Kee 4,11,12</td>
<td>2/5</td>
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<td>2/4</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Medication Administration &amp; Medication Calculation</td>
<td>Kee 13,14</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Herbal (CAM), Analgesics</td>
<td>Kee 6,25,26,</td>
<td>2/19</td>
<td>2/18</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Antibacterial, Antiinfective, Sulfa</td>
<td>Kee 29,30, 31</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2/18</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Cardiac I</td>
<td>Kee 42,43</td>
<td>3/5</td>
<td>3/4</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Cardiac II</td>
<td>Kee 44, 45, 46</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Respiratory Agents</td>
<td>Kee 40,41</td>
<td>3/26</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3/25</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Endocrine, Vaccines, Immunological (Anemia, Cancer)</td>
<td>Kee</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Autonomic, Neurological, &amp; Neuromuscular</td>
<td>Kee</td>
<td>4/9</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Vitamins, Fluid &amp; Electrolytes (TPN,Labs)</td>
<td>Kee</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>GI, Anti-ulcer,</td>
<td>Kee</td>
<td>4/23</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Kee</td>
<td>5/7</td>
<td>4/29</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Final</td>
<td>Kee</td>
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<td>Monday 5/11 0915-1015</td>
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