

Department of Practical Nursing & Health Care Aide

COURSE OUTLINE – Spring 2026

NP1700 (3): Introduction to Pharmacology – 3 (3-1-0) 60 Hours for 15 Weeks

Northwestern Polytechnic acknowledges that our campuses are located on Treaty 8 territory, the ancestral and present-day home to many diverse First Nations, Metis, and Inuit people. We are grateful to work, live and learn on the traditional territory of Duncan's First Nation, Horse Lake First Nation and Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, who are the original caretakers of this land.

We acknowledge the history of this land and we are thankful for the opportunity to walk together in friendship, where we will encourage and promote positive change for present and future generations.

INSTRUCTOR:	Nicki Rosentreter, LPN	PHONE:	780-539-2716
OFFICE:	HEC 363	E-MAIL:	nrosentreter@nwpolytech.ca
OFFICE HOURS:	By appointment		

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This study involves investigating the impact of drugs on the human body, encompassing their therapeutic effects, side effects, adverse reactions and potential interactions with other drugs. It also delves into familiar drug classifications and specific medications, including herbal preparations within each classification.

Note: Available only to Practical Nursing students.

PREREQUISITE(S): NP1205, NP1250, NP1280, NP1500

COREQUISITE(S): NP1400, NP1410, NP1450, NP1480, NP1600

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Sealock, K., Seneviratne, C., Lilley, L. L., Collins, S. R., & Snyder, J. S. (2025). *Lilley's pharmacology for Canadian health care practice* (5th ed.). Elsevier.

DELIVERY MODE(S): Lecture/Seminar – in-person



LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of NP1700, learners will be able to:

1. Apply concepts from anatomy and physiology to pathophysiological processes and pharmacotherapy.
2. Understand the fundamental principles of pharmacology, including drug classifications, mechanisms of action, and routes of administration.
3. Identify pathophysiological processes and pharmacotherapy interventions.
4. Comprehend the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drugs, including absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion.
5. Recognize the common drug-drug interactions, adverse drug reactions, and their implications for patient care.
6. Understand the importance of patient education regarding medication use, including instructions, side effects, and potential risks.
7. Understand the concepts of evidence-based practice and research in pharmacology to make informed clinical decisions.

TRANSFERABILITY:

Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check the transferability of this course at the Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.alberta.ca>.

**** For courses with alpha (letter) grading, a grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability.**

EVALUATIONS:

To obtain credit in the course ALL assignments, examinations, and components of student evaluations need to be submitted. There are no additional assignments or marks provided in the class.

Assignment	Weight	Date	Related Course Learning Outcome
Seminar In-class Activity	10%	Once a week for 10 of the weeks (1% ea.)	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Pharmacology Assignment	20%	Week 12	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Exam #1	20%	Week 5	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Exam #2	20%	Week 11	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Exam #3	30%	Scheduled by Registrar's office	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

1. Seminar In-class Activity

The objective of this portion of grading is to encourage consistent attendance, active participation, and engagement with course content through an in-class activity, reinforcing material covered in current and previous weeks.

Ex. Mini quiz or case study related to previous weeks learning.

You must be present in seminar to participate and receive a mark. If you are not present when the activity takes place, it cannot be made up.

There are 10 activities, each worth 1% of your final grade.

2. Pharmacology Assignment

This assignment aims to enhance students' understanding of pharmacological treatments for common diseases, including the drugs used, their mechanisms of action, potential side effects, and management of those side effects. You will create a scholarly paper that addresses all categories listed on the assignment instructions/rubric.

Rubric posted on D2L.

3. Exam #1

The first exam includes all content covered up to and including Week 4. Question format includes a variety of styles including, but not limited to multiple-choice, short answer, long answer, matching, and select all that apply.

4. Exam #2

The second exam includes all content covered from Week 5 up to and including Week 10. Question format includes a variety of styles including, but not limited to multiple-choice, short answer, long answer, matching, and select all that apply.

5. Exam #3

The third exam is cumulative and includes all content covered from Week 1 up to and including Week 15. Question format includes a variety of styles including, but not limited to multiple-choice, short answer, long answer, matching, and select all that apply.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Please note that most institutions will not accept your course for transfer credit IF your grade is **less than C-**.

Grading Chart for courses with Alpha Grading:

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	95-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-94		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week	Pharmacology Chapters to Read
1	Chapter 43 Antibiotics: Part 1 Chapter 44 Antibiotics: Part 2 Chapter 45 Antiviral Drugs
2	Chapter 46 Antitubercular Drugs Chapter 47 Antifungal Drugs Chapter 49 Anti-inflammatory and Antigout Drugs
3	Chapter 23 – Antihypertensives Chapter 24 – Antianginal Drugs Chapter 25 – Heart Failure Chapter 27 – Antidysrhythmics
4	Chapter 28 – Coagulation Modifiers Chapter 29 – Antilipemic Drugs Chapter 26 – Diuretics Chapter 30 – Fluid and Electrolytes
5	Tuesday – Midterm #1



	Thursday – Chapter 52 Antineoplastic Drugs Part 1 Chapter 53 Antineoplastic Drugs Part 2
6	Chapter 50 Immunosuppressant Drugs Chapter 54 Biological response anti-rheumatic Chapter 55 Anemia
7	Chapter 37 Antihistamines, Decongestants and Antitussives (include Fever) Chapter 38 Drugs affecting the Respiratory System
8	Chapter 39 – Acid-Controlling Drugs Chapter 40 – Antidiarrheals and Laxatives Chapter 41 – Antiemetic and Antinausea Drugs Chapter 42 – Nutritional Supplements
9	Spring Break
10	Chapter 31 – Pituitary Drugs Chapter 32 – Thyroid and Antithyroid drugs Chapter 34 – Adrenal Drugs Chapter 33 – Antidiabetic Drugs
11	Tuesday – Midterm #2 Thursday – Chapter 21 – Cholinergic Drugs Chapter 22 – Cholinergic blocking Drugs
12	Chapter 19 – Adrenergic Drugs Chapter 20 – Adrenergic Blocking Drugs Chapter 15 – Antiepileptic Drugs Chapter 16 – Antiparkinsonian Drugs
13	Chapter 11 – Analgesic Drugs Chapter 12 – General and Local Anaesthetics Chapter 13 – CNS Depressants and muscle relaxants Chapter 14 – CNS Stimulants and related drugs
14	Chapter 17 – Psychotherapeutics Chapter 57 – Ophthalmic Drugs Chapter 58 – Otic Drugs
15	Tuesday – Chapter 36 Men's Health Drugs Chapter 35 Women's Health Drugs Final Exam Week August 13–20

As a student at NWP, you have rights and responsibilities. It is your responsibility to be familiar with the information contained in this Course Outline and the PN student handbook and to clarify any areas of concern with the instructor. It is also your responsibility to be familiar with NWP policies. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with the policies that might impact you while you are here:

Refer to NWP Academic Policies

<https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/>

Refer to PN Student Handbook

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rC9OZjozQmSUDuEdrgUaiC0g5_8GtIJYx6y7PAtkHyA/edit?usp=sharing

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:

Academic Misconduct will not be tolerated. For a more precise definition of academic misconduct and its consequences, refer to the Student Rights and Responsibilities policy available <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/polytechnic-leadership/policies-directory>.

****Note:** all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

Additional Information:

TURNITIN SOFTWARE

As part of NWP's commitment to academic integrity, all written assignments submitted by students will be reviewed using Turnitin software, an online plagiarism detection tool, to verify originality and ensure academic integrity. Turnitin compares student work to a vast database of academic sources, publications, and previously submitted assignments to identify potential instances of plagiarism or improper citation(s). By enrolling in this course, students acknowledge and consent to the use of Turnitin for assignment submissions.

Late Assignments

Students are expected to make every effort to complete assignments on time. Assignment submissions are expected on the date determined by faculty. If extensions are necessary, they may be requested up to 48 hours prior to the assignment due date and should be submitted in writing to the faculty member



involved. Not all extensions will be granted. In exceptional situations, extension requests within the 48-hour period may be considered. Late assignments will have 5% of total marks (or one letter grade) for the assignment deducted for each day/partial day (including weekend days) beyond the due time.

For example, a paper marked at B+ would receive an adjusted grade of B if handed in one day late. After 5 days, a grade of 0 will be awarded the assignment. If the late penalty places the grade below the necessary pass grade, students will be unsuccessful in the course. When submitting assignments electronically, it is the student's responsibility to ensure the assignment has been received.

Papers/assignments may not be rewritten for a higher grade. Concerns regarding grading are to be discussed with the faculty member involved.