



## DEPARTMENT OF PRACTICAL NURSE AND HEALTH CARE AIDE

### COURSE OUTLINE – Winter 2026

#### HC 1061HY/L1: Advanced Care Techniques: Addressing Complex Care Needs

#### 5 (2.4-0-5.1) 75 Hours for 16 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.

|                                   |                     |                        |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
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| <b>OFFICE:</b> HEC358             | <b>E-MAIL:</b>      | ACarnell@nwpolytech.ca |
| <b>OFFICE HOURS:</b>              | By Appointment Only |                        |

#### CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course builds upon learners' fundamental skills and knowledge, introducing learners to more complex skills and restricted activities. Throughout the course, learners will gain an understanding of their legal and ethical responsibilities as HCAs related to complex skills and restricted activities. This comprehensive approach aims to foster greater awareness, competence, and confidence, enabling learners to provide high-quality client care.

#### PREREQUISITES:

HC1011, HC1021, HC1031, HC1041, HC1051

#### REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS:

College of LPNs and HCAs of Alberta. (2026, February). *HCA knowledge hub*.  
<https://www.clpna.com/hca/knowledge-hub/>



Wilk, M. J., Sorrentino, S. A., & Remmert, L. N. (2022). *Sorrentino's Canadian textbook for the support worker* (5th ed.). Elsevier Canada.

Wilk, M. J., & Sekhon, N. (2022). *Workbook to accompany Sorrentino's Canadian textbook for the support worker* (5th ed.). Elsevier Canada.

**DELIVERY MODE(S):** Lecture and Lab

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Integrate evidence-informed practices when performing complex skills and restricted activities.
2. Implement client care according to the client's care plan.
3. Apply knowledge of the body systems when completing complex skills and restricted activities.
4. Identify the scope of the HCA role when assisting with complex skills and restricted activities.
5. Identify the roles and responsibilities of all members of the health care team including HCAs in performing complex skills and restricted activities.
6. Apply the principles of professional communication through the reporting and documentation of complex skills and restricted activities.

**TRANSFERABILITY:**

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

**Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

**EVALUATIONS:**

| Assessment                 | Due            | Weighting |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Vital Signs & Pain OSCE    | After Module 6 | 30%       |
| Medication Assistance OSCE | After Module 9 | 30%       |

|                               |               |           |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Final Exam                    | End of Course | 40%       |
| Lab Skills                    | End of Course | Pass/Fail |
| High Impact Consolidation Lab | End of Course | Pass/Fail |

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## 1. Vital Signs & Pain OSCE

The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate the learner's competency in obtaining a complete set of vital signs. Learners will be assessed by an instructor in pairs, with each learner assigned a different scenario. Expectations and assessment criteria are consistent for all learners, regardless of the scenario assigned.

Learners must achieve a minimum score of 80% on their first attempt to pass. Learners that do not meet this requirement will be required to retest at a later date, scheduled by the instructor to demonstrate competency, again achieving at least 80%. The original score will be used in the calculation of the final grade.

## 2. Medication Assistance OSCE

The purpose of this assessment is to evaluate the learner's competency in providing medication assistance. Learners will be assessed in pairs, with each participant assigned a different scenario. Expectations and assessment criteria are consistent for all learners, regardless of the scenario assigned.

Learners must achieve a minimum score of 80% on their first attempt to pass. If they do not meet this threshold, they will need to retest at a later date to demonstrate competency. However, the original score will be used in the calculation of the final grade.

## 3. Final Exam

The final multiple-choice exam is designed to evaluate learners' understanding and mastery of the core concepts covered throughout this course. The exam assesses both foundational knowledge and the ability to apply that knowledge.

## 4. Lab Skills

The purpose of this assignment is to ensure learners' understanding and competency of skills. Learners must competently demonstrate each skill in the Course 6 Lab Skills Checklist, in-person to the instructor, in order to pass the course. All skills must be demonstrated and signed off as competent by the course instructor.

## 5. High Impact Consolidation Lab

The purpose of this activity is to help learners deepen their understanding of the roles and responsibilities of an HCA through hands-on experiences and enhance their skills by working on real-world scenarios. This lab will also foster collaborative learning and provide valuable feedback for continuous improvement

### GRADING CRITERIA:

| 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                 |

**\*70% or a B- is required to pass this course**

### COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Asynchronies lectures. See D2L page for suggested lecture study schedule

#### In-Person Labs:

| Dates                         | Modules Covered in Lab |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Sept 14 <sup>th</sup> 4pm-8pm | Module 1-2             |
| Sept 18 <sup>th</sup> 2pm-7pm | Module 3,4             |
| Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> 4pm-8pm   | Module 4               |



|                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Oct 19 <sup>th</sup> 4-8pm         | Module 5 &6                  |
| Oct 23 <sup>rd</sup> 2-7pm         | Module 6                     |
| Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> 2-7pm         | Module 6, 7                  |
| Nov 2 <sup>nd</sup> 4-8pm          | Vital Sign & Pain OSCE       |
| Nov 9 <sup>th</sup> 4-8pm          | Module 9                     |
| Nov 16 <sup>th</sup> 4-8pm         | Module 9                     |
| Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> 4-8pm         | Medication Assistance OSCE   |
| Dec 14 <sup>th</sup> 8:30am-5:30pm | High impact consolidated Lab |
| Dec 14 <sup>th</sup>               | <b>Final Exam</b>            |

**\*\* Tentative/Subject to change. Please see D2L page for further breakdown**

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

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 HCA 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:

- NWP Department of Practical Nurse & Health Care Aide, [HCA Student Handbook](#)

## 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 at <https://www.nwpolytech.ca/about/administration/policies/index.html>

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

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

### LABS:

By the end of each lab, students are responsible to demonstrate beginning proficiency and competence with each of the skills offered in this course.



Attendance at all labs is required and students are responsible to consult with the Lab Instructor to make up for missed labs. Which will then be scheduled by the instructor. To develop proficiency and psychomotor expertise students are encouraged to practice at home or during regularly schedule practice labs.