



DEPARTMENT OF NURSING EDUCATION AND HEALTH STUDIES

UC1250 COURSE OUTLINE – Fall/Winter 2018-19

INTRODUCTION TO PHARMACOLOGY

1.5 (3-0-0) 21 Hours, 7 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR: Dalyce Sather-McNabb, BScN. RN.

PHONE: 780-897-1094 (mobile)

E-MAIL: dsathermcnabb@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE: H212

OFFICE HOURS: Virtual Office Hours

DELIVERY MODES:

The course work includes online forum discussions, individual work, group work, and graded and practice exercises. Students will participate in a number of activities to assist in meeting the objectives of the course.

1. Online forum discussions

There will be online forum discussions regarding different aspects of Pharmacology and each student will be expected to participate in the discussions. There will be marks assigned to the discussions which will be generated with questions asked by the instructor.

2. Individual and Group Work

The purpose of these activities is to provide students with an opportunity to practice pharmacology vocabulary with various exercises. The instructor will provide practice and graded exercises which the students are asked to complete and submit. Students may work together in groups to complete all the practice exercises provided by the course instructor. Students are encouraged to work individually to complete their graded exercises unless a group project has been specified.

PREREQUISITE(S) / CO-REQUISITE:

No prerequisite or co-requisite required.

REQUIRED TEXT: None

RESOURCE MATERIALS:

All necessary resource materials, graded and practice exercises and class activities will be provided by the course instructor and posted on Moodle.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:

This course covers aspects of Pharmacology, which relate specifically to the hospital unit clerk. Course topics include: pharmacology vocabulary, routes of medication administration and measurement, and the 24-hour clock. The course content will focus on major drug groups and how they affect the various body systems, generic and trade names of common medications, and the classifications in which they belong. Along with unit clerk students, this course would also be beneficial to currently employed unit clerks or those seeking employment in health-related areas.

CREDIT / CONTACT HOURS:

1.5 (3-0-0) / 23 or 21 contact hours in a seven (7) week program

COURSE OBJECTIVES / LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Define the term pharmacology.
2. Explain the 24-hour clock.
3. Identify the various routes of medication administration and related abbreviations.
4. Describe the various forms in which drugs are available.
5. Distinguish among the various categories of medications.
6. Explain generic and trade names of common medications, and the classifications in which they belong.
7. Identify the drug classifications according to the various body systems.
8. Describe the role of the pharmacist, pharmacy, and pharmacy system within a hospital system.
9. Identify the different types of prescriptions.
10. Demonstrate proper medication storage and disposal.
11. Compare the differences between prescription and non-prescription/over-the-counter drugs.
12. Distinguish among and correctly use various resources pertinent to medication management including:
 - a. Textbooks
 - b. Credible online sources
 - c. Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties (CPS)
 - d. Other
13. Discuss the safety considerations in medication management and error prevention and demonstrate introductory knowledge of Health Canada and the regulation of pharmaceuticals in Canada.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to pharmacology and the history of drugs, including generic and trade names.<input type="checkbox"/> Drug forms, routes of administration, and abbreviations.<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to the 24-hour clock.<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to the role of the pharmacist, pharmacy and pharmacy system within the hospital system.<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to types of prescriptions and proper storage and disposal of medications.<input type="checkbox"/> Two worksheets Due
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to drugs and drug categories to treat specific body systems:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Urinary○ Gastrointestinal○ Musculoskeletal○ Respiratory<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Forum Due
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to drugs and drug categories to treat specific body systems:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Cardiovascular○ Hematologic○ Endocrine○ Neurological<input type="checkbox"/> Exam covering material from Weeks 1 and 2
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to drugs and drug categories to treat specific body systems:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Psychiatric○ Dermatologic○ Ophthalmic○ Ear, Nose, and Throat<input type="checkbox"/> Group Assignment Due

Week 5	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to drugs and drug categories used to treat multiple body systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Analgesic ○ Anti infective ○ Chemotherapy ○ Vaccines <input type="checkbox"/> Exam covering materials from Weeks 1-4 with an emphasis on the content covered in weeks 3&4.
Week 6	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to drugs and drug categories used to treat multiple body systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vaccines, ○ Anaesthetics (local & pre-op) ○ Emergency drugs, Intravenous (IV) fluids and Blood products <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to non-prescription medications. <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to safety and error prevention: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Error-prone abbreviations, symbols, and dose designations. ○ Noting look-alike and sound-alike drug names. <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to the top 20 medications used in Canada and related Canadian safety standards set by Health Canada <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Forum Due <input type="checkbox"/> One Worksheet Assignment Due
Week 7	FINAL EXAM covering ALL WEEKS of coursework, concentrating on material from Weeks 5 and 6

EVALUATIONS/EXAMINATIONS:

1. **All assignments combined will be worth 35% of the final grade.** This includes:
 - a. Online Forum Discussions – 2 discussions 10%
 - b. Graded Worksheets – 2 worksheets (3% each) and 1 (4%) 10%
 - c. Group Assignments – 1 group assignment 15%

Failure to submit assignments on time will result in a grade “0” for the assignment. Assignment extensions must be arranged with the instructor prior to the due date. ALL assignments must be submitted in order to receive a passing mark in this course.

2. Examinations will be a combination of multiple choice, matching and short answer questions [*with an extra written portion on the final exam*] and you will have three (3) hours to complete each exam.
 - a. **First Examination worth 20% of the final grade.** This exam is scheduled during the third week of classes testing the content covered in Weeks 1 & 2. *You will still need to complete the assignments for Week 3.*
 - b. **Mid-Term Examination worth 20% of the final grade.** This exam is scheduled during the fifth week of classes testing the content covered in Weeks 1–4 with an emphasis on content covered in Weeks 3 & 4. *You will still need to complete the assignments for Week 5.*
 - c. **Final Examination worth 25% of the final grade.** This exam is scheduled during the seventh week of classes. You will have time that week to complete any unfinished work and study for the exam. This examination will test content covered in Weeks 1–6 concentrating on material from Weeks 5 & 6.

Failure to complete any course examination will result in a grade “0” for that examination. The instructor must be notified prior to the examination in cases of illness or extenuating circumstances and special arrangements will be made in order to accommodate these students. Please refer to the [Grande Prairie Regional College Academic Calendar 2018/19](#) for the Academic Regulations that pertain to Examinations and Examination Procedures.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Grades will be assigned based on the Letter Grading System. In order to pass UC1250_EC, the student must achieve a final overall average of 60% (C-) or higher.

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A+	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A-	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B+	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B-	2.7	70 – 72	
C+	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C-	1.7	60 – 62	
D+	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

UNIVERSITY TRANSFER (If applicable):

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. Please refer to the Alberta Transfer guide for current transfer agreements: www.transferalberta.ca

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

Please refer the [College Policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

We expect honesty from our students. This demands that the contribution of others be acknowledged (GPRC Calendar, 2018-19). Penalties will be given according to the degree of the plagiarism or cheating. If you are unsure whether an action is plagiarism or not, please consult your course instructor. Cheating refers to dishonest conduct such as speaking during an exam, bringing written material not authorized by the course instructor, tampering with grades, or consciously aiding another student to cheat. For more information please refer to:

- [College Student Misconduct: Academic and Non-Academic Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity and Plagiarism LibGuide](#) Created by the [GPRC Learning Support Centre](#).

Note: All Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.
<https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>