



Nursing 331.2: Pharmacology I

Faculty: Jennifer A. Specht, PhD, RN

Email: Jennifer.Specht@Moravian.edu

Phone: (610) 625-7720

Office: Hamilton Hall 205

Office Hours: Wednesdays: 845a – 1245p

Mondays and Fridays: By appointment

Course Description:

This nursing course examines the pharmacological process utilized by nurses including knowledge of medications, administration of medications, and medication calculations in patients throughout the lifespan. Pharmacological issues, over the counter medications, and herbal medication use will be examined. Reactions, compliancy, and other patient responses to pharmacological therapies will be discussed. This course will be built upon prior nursing knowledge and coordinate with current required nursing courses.

Course Objectives:

1. Examine the pharmacological process utilized in the safe administration of medications to client.
2. Explore pharmacological issues related to client care.
3. Analyze ethical and legal principles associated with medication administration.

Required Textbooks:

Karch, A. M, (2013). Focus on nursing pharmacology (6th ed.). Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Required Supplements:

iClickers are required for all students and will be used during class time. Students are required to bring their iClickers to class with them. It is the students' responsibility to make sure that their iClickers are working and that battery life is sufficient. At any time during class periods, students may be asked to respond to questions using their electronic iClickers. The iClicker questions may be administered at the beginning, at the end, or during the lecture with items derived from content learned during the previous class day and/or from assigned textbook readings/assignments for that day or previous classes. Students may not share, borrow, or exchange iClickers with each other or risk paying the penalty for cheating (refer to a later discussion on "Academic Honesty").

Students will earn points for in-class quizzing. If a student misses class, or part of a class, there will be no opportunity to make up missed items. Students who miss a class for a verifiable serious illness, emergency, educational trip, or varsity sporting event may not be held liable for missed points on those days. Please note that these cases must be verified as appropriate. Whether or not the absence is considered excusable is left to the discretion of the course faculty.

Grading Policy:

Course grades are based on the following numerical equivalencies:

A = 93-100	C = 73-76.99
A- = 90-92.99	C- = 70-72.99
B+ = 87-89.99	D+ = 67-69.99
B = 83-86.99	D = 63-66.99
B- = 80-82.99	D- = 60-62.99
C+ = 77-79.99	F = Below 60

Please note that it is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for evaluation and for the final course grade.

Methods of Evaluation:

Exams (3) - Individual grade (10% each)	30%
Exams (3) - Group grade (5% each)	15%
Final Exam – Individual grade only	20%
Group work/assignments	15%
Group Case Study Presentation	10%
iClickers/NCLEX Review	10%

Examinations:

Three examinations and a cumulative final examination will be administered in class. Students will be allotted the entire class/testing period to take the examinations.

Group Case Study Presentations:

Students will work with their assigned groups outside of class to develop a group presentation of a patient case study. Students should use their clinical experiences to develop a fictitious patient that can be loosely based on one or more patients they have encountered on the clinical unit. General diagnoses/co-morbidities of the 'patient' (cancer, diabetes, heart failure) should be discussed with and approved by course faculty to ensure minimal overlap of the medications presented.

Course Requirements:

1. Students are expected to attend class but will not merit extra points for class attendance, nor have points deducted for lack of attendance. However, some classes will consist of group work or assignments and/or quizzes that may count toward students' course grades.

Additionally, iClicker responses to questions administered during some classes count toward students' final grades. Students are expected to review assigned concepts prior to class in preparation for class. Students who are experiencing course-related difficulty should consult the course faculty in a timely and constructive manner.

2. Academic honesty in all course-related assignments is an expectation of the course faculty. Students who cheat on iClicker responses, quizzes or other examinations will receive a zero for that day's activities/assignments. It will be assumed that students who text or use smart/cell phones during exams are cheating. For this reason, students will place all of their personal belongings, including cell phones, against the outer walls of the classroom and away from the testing seats during exams. Students found using technology during exams will receive a grade of zero on the examination. In addition, students who cheat will be prosecuted in accordance with policies outlined in the Moravian College Student Handbook.
3. Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability must contact Ms. Elaine Mara, assistant director of academic support services for academic and disability support, at the lower level of Monocacy Hall, or by calling 610-861-1401. Accommodations cannot be provided until authorization is received from the Academic Support Center.
4. The Moravian College nursing program is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. As part of the accreditation process the program must provide evidence of assignments completed by students. Any of the methods of evaluation used in this course, may be used as evidence of student assignments during the accreditation process.

The syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

Course Topical Outline

Week	Class Day (Wednesday) Topic	Readings	Meet for Problem Solving (Friday)
Week 1: August 27/29 th	Course Introduction Introduction to Nursing Pharmacology	Chapters 1 - 3	YES
Week 2: September 3 rd /5 th	Developing our approach to pharmacology	(Chapters 1 - 3)	NO
Week 3: September 10/12 th	Drugs acting on the Endocrine System	Chapters 35 - 38	NO
Week 4: September 17/19 th	Drugs acting on the Endocrine System	(Chapters 35 - 38)	YES
Week 5: September 24/26 th	EXAM #1		NO
Week 6: October 1 st /3 rd	Drugs acting on the Cardiovascular System	Chapters 43 - 47	NO (mid-term)
Week 7: October 8/10 th	Drugs acting on the Cardiovascular System	(Chapters 43 - 47)	YES
Week 8: October 15/17 th	Drugs acting on the Respiratory System	Chapters 54 and 55	NO
Week 9: October 22 nd /24 th	NO CLASS **Mandatory Attendance - Sipple Lecture**		YES

	<i>530pm, Foy Hall</i>		
Week 10: October 29 th /31 st	EXAM #2		NO
Week 11: November 5/7 th	Chemotherapeutic Agents	Chapters 8 - 14	YES
Week 12: November 12/14 th	Chemotherapeutic Agents Drugs acting on the Immune System	(Chapters 8 – 14) Chapter 17	NO
Week 13: November 19 th /21 st	Chemotherapeutic Agents Drugs acting on the Immune System	(Chapters 8 – 14; 17)	YES – EXAM #3
Week 14: November 26/28 th	BREAK – NO CLASS		BREAK – NO CLASS
Week 15: December 3 rd /5 th	Group Case Study Presentations		YES
Final Exam	Thursday, 12/11 at 830am		