South Central College

NURS 1220  Pharmacology for Practical Nurses

Course Outcome Summary

Course Information

Description  This course will address basic concepts of pharmacology and the effects on the body. The course focuses on drug classifications as they apply to all body systems. Understanding the therapeutic and adverse drug effects and appropriate actions will be addressed. The student will describe federal regulations to guide practice. The role of the practical nurse for client medication administration will be discussed using credible resources. (Prerequisite: Acceptance into Nursing Program is required in order to register for Nursing Courses)

Total Credits  2
Total Hours  32

Types of Instruction

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<tr>
<th>Instruction Type</th>
<th>Credits/Hours</th>
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<td>Lecture</td>
<td>2/32</td>
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Pre/Corequisites

Acceptance into Nursing Program is required in order to register for Nursing Courses

Institutional Core Competencies

Civic Engagement and Social Responsibility - Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to engage in the social responsibilities expected of a community member.

Communication - Students will be able to demonstrate appropriate and effective interactions with others to achieve their personal, academic, and professional objectives.

Critical and Creative Thinking - Students will be able to demonstrate purposeful thinking with the goal of using a creative process for developing and building upon ideas and/or the goal of using a critical process for the analyzing and evaluating of ideas.

Cultural Competence - Students will be able to demonstrate an attitude of personal curiosity, a rising knowledge of cultures, and an evolving range of skills for living and working among others with other worldviews and ways of life.

Course Competencies

1. Describe basic pharmacology concepts.
Learning Objectives
Define the pharmacokinetic process.
Define the pharmacodynamic effects.
Identify possible ethnic influences on drug action.
Discuss application of pharmacology concepts and meaning for practice.

2. **Describe drug classifications as they pertain to expected therapeutic effects.**

   Learning Objectives
   Define drug classifications as they relate to therapeutic effect.
   Define categories of medications within drug classifications.
   Describe therapeutic effect on body systems for individual drug classifications.

3. **Choose appropriate actions when responding to potential and actual incompatibilities of client medications.**

   Learning Objectives
   Define differences between desired and undesired effects for medications (ex. side-effect, adverse effects).
   Discuss use of drug classifications to recognize risk for potential incompatibilities.
   Identify signs and symptoms of adverse events and actions to implement (ex. allergic reactions).
   Discuss lifespan considerations for undesired effects for medications.
   Discuss client use of medication over time with over-the-counter medications and home remedies including herbal remedies.
   Determine medications in which desired and undesired effects are important to monitor.

4. **Describe the importance of federal regulations and resources to guide practice.**

   Learning Objectives
   Define federal regulations and standards.
   Discuss importance of federal regulations and standards to guide practice.

5. **Demonstrate use of credible resources to guide practice.**

   Learning Objectives
   Use credible resources to determine purpose and action of pharmacological actions.
   Demonstrate competence in using credible medication resources to guide practice and reinforce patient education.

6. **Discuss the role of the LPN in client medication education.**

   Learning Objectives
   Describe LPN role in assisting with client medication education for action, side-effects, and interactions.
   Discuss of teaching methods that may be used in following the established teaching plan (ex. demonstration, "read-back").

**SCC Accessibility Statement**

South Central College strives to make all learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you have a disability and need accommodations for access to this class, contact the Academic Support Center to request and discuss accommodations. North Mankato: Room B-132, (507) 389-7222; Faribault: Room A-116, (507) 332-7222.

Additional information and forms can be found at: [www.southcentral.edu/disability](http://www.southcentral.edu/disability)

This material can be made available in alternative formats by contacting the Academic Support Center at 507-389-7222.

**Academic Honesty- Nursing**
**Nursing - Academic Honesty**

Academic honesty is a core principle of learning and scholarship. When you violate this principle, you cheat yourself of the confidence that comes from knowing you have mastered the targeted skills and knowledge. You also hurt all members of the learning community by falsely presenting yourself as having command of competencies with which you are credited, thus degrading the credibility of the college, the program, and your fellow learners who hold the same credential.

All members of the learning community share an interest in protecting the value, integrity, and credibility of the outcomes of this learning experience. We also have the responsibility to censor behaviors that interfere with this effort. The following behaviors will be subject to disciplinary action:

*Plagiarism* - presenting someone else's words, ideas, or data as your own work.

*Fabrication* - using invented information or the falsifying research or other findings.

*Cheating* - misleading others to believe you have mastered competencies or other learning outcomes that you have not mastered. Examples include, but are not limited to:

1. Copying from another learner's work.
2. Allowing another learner to copy from your work.
3. Using resource materials or information to complete an assessment without permission from your instructor.
4. Collaborating on an assessment (graded assignment or test) without permission from the instructor.
5. Taking a test for someone else or permitting someone else to take a test for you.

**Academic Misconduct** - other academically dishonest acts such as tampering with grades, taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of an assessment, or selling or buying products such as papers, research, projects or other artifacts that document achievement of learning outcomes.

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**Communication- Nursing**

Positive, direct and timely communication is expected.

Use of messaging by e-mail is encouraged.

Only southcentral.edu e-mail addresses will be used.

E-mail will be answered as timely as possible. No response should be expected until the following day if message is received after 6pm.

E-mail will not be routinely responded to over the weekend.

E-mail received Friday after 3pm has no guarantee of response until Monday, after class.

Instructor is known to be on the computer after 8pm, do not assume communication will be guaranteed.

E-mail etiquette is expected. The following rules should be utilized:

Include a brief entry in the Subject line.
In the Subject line, include either “response requested” or “no response needed”.

Never send a message when angry or emotionally upset.

Re-read the message before sending to make sure content is appropriate and professional.

E-mail messages will be returned with “Inappropriate message” in the Subject line when the above is not followed.

Include your first and last name when signing off.

Guidlines to Success- Nursing

Nursing - Guidelines to Success

Each student is expected to perform the following:

1. Be responsible for own learning.

2. Actively participate in online activities and discussions.

3. Complete and turn in assignments/projects on time.

4. Participate in D2L expectations. This course utilizes the Desire 2 Learn (D2L) platform to deliver grades, communication within the class, assignments, and course content. It is expected all students will be familiar and able to utilize this technology and check it frequently for updates and course information. *This includes the expectation the home page is checked daily.*

5. Spend approximately two (2) hours minimum studying for each credit of class (ten hours per week).

6. Devote additional time for other projects assigned.

7. Contact instructor and share with classmates by using D2L Discussion: Talk with Teacher.

8. Contact instructor by email with personal questions or concerns.

9. Submit all written work on time, via D2L Dropbox. Make sure work is professional in appearance with accurate spelling and grammar. APA formatting will be expected (cover page, citation within body of paper, and reference page). Helpful information for APA formatting is available under course content.

10. Understand and utilize the rubrics provided for all written work assigned.

11. Act in a professional manner during class and in meetings with instructor. Refer to the Student Professional Expectation Guideline in the South Central Student Handbook.

13. Recognize fellow classmate as part of the classroom team. Please note the importance of every single person on the team in the mastery of this course.

**Desire to Learn or D2L - Nursing**

*Nursing - Desire to Learn or D2L*

Students are expected to know how to access and use the D2L site for this course. This includes but is not limited to the drop box, discussions, e-mail functions, and grade book. Communication will occur through this route. You are to check D2L several times each week to read announcements and requirements.

**SCC Email - Nursing**

*Nursing - SCC Email*

Students are responsible for checking their South Central College email. If instructors need to contact students that is how we will do it. We cannot use other e-mail addresses for privacy reasons. If there is another email that you check more often, arrange for SCC messages to be forwarded to that email account.

**Technology Expectations - Nursing**

*Nursing - Technology Expectations*

You will need access to a computer for this course. This may be through your personal home computer, a public library, or the school computer lab. Required software includes the following:

1. Adobe Acrobat Reader

2. Microsoft Word (version 2003 or later)

3. Not only are you required to have access to these software programs and platforms, you are expected to know the basic functions of their use. “I don’t know or didn’t know how” are not valid excuses for incomplete or late assignments. If you don’t know something, it is expected you seek out the information required of you to complete the assignment. Additional information and instruction about D2L can be accessed through the SCC website.

4. Directions for Microsoft Word can be found by clicking on help within the program, utilizing help sheets in the college library, or access the Microsoft website directly at [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com).

5. If you don’t have Microsoft on your computer, strongly consider purchasing this program through SCC. The student version is quite affordable and includes all aspects of the program.

6. Atomic Learning is a D2L site with a wide array of tutorials.

7. [Openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org) is available as a substitute for Microsoft; it is easy to use, and free. It is the leading open source
office software suite for word processing, spreadsheets, presentations, graphics, and more. It can be downloaded and used completely free of charge for any purpose. It will allow you to submit your papers in a format acceptable for this class!

MATH TEST POLICY FROM THE NURSING HANDBOOK - Nursing

Math Competency (Updated 8/2011): Math competency and the ability to apply mathematical concepts appropriately and consistently in the patient setting is of vital importance in nursing. The primary purpose of administering medications is to improve therapeutic outcomes and quality of life for patients. Failure to accurately calculate and administer the right dose of a patient’s medication may lead to serious and life-threatening consequences, not to mention potential disciplinary and legal ramifications for the nurse.

In order to ensure that students are adequately prepared to administer medication safely, math content will be incorporated throughout the curriculum. Faculty will work with students each semester on math concepts, providing opportunities for instruction and learning. Criteria are as follows:

**NURS 1275:**

1. Course content includes medication administration and dosage calculations.

2. Students must successfully complete course in order to progress into the clinical course (NURS 1150).

**NURS 1350:**

1. Course content includes math competence and safe medication administration in the clinical setting, intervention, and critical thinking.

2. Students will be given a math comprehension & retention assessment during orientation (week 1) to identify knowledge gaps prior to beginning the clinical.

3. Students who do not achieve a score of 90% on the assessment will be required to have a remediation plan in place and re-take a second assessment during week 4-6.

4. A score of 90% must be achieved on the second assessment or the student will fail the course (students may have the option to withdraw) and the student will need to withdraw from NURS 1350. Students who do not withdraw from the courses will receive a course grade of “F” and will be subject to the repeat policy of the Nursing Program.

**NURS 2275:**

1. Course content includes medication administration and dosage calculations.

2. Students must achieve a score of 90% on the math test, which will be given 2-3 weeks prior to starting
3. Students who do not achieve a score of 90% on the first math test will have 2 weeks to remediate and take the second and final test.

4. A score of 90% must be achieved or the student will fail the course (students may have the option to withdraw) and the student will need to withdraw from NURS 2250. Students who do not withdraw from the courses will receive a course grade of “F” and will be subject to the repeat policy of the Nursing Program.

**NURS 2375:**

1. Course content includes math competence, intervention, and critical thinking.

2. Students must achieve a score of 90% on the math test, which will be given 2-3 weeks prior to starting clinical (NURS 2350).

3. Students who do not achieve a score of 90% on the first math test will have 2 weeks to remediate and take the second and final test.

4. A score of 90% must be achieved or the student will fail the course (students may have the option to withdraw) and the student will need to withdraw from NURS 2350. Students who do not withdraw from the courses will receive a course grade of “F” and will be subject to the repeat policy of the Nursing Program.

**NURS 2450 and 2550:**

1. Math content will be evaluated as part of the course grade, as determined appropriate by the faculty.

2. No course specific math tests will be given.

3. Students who demonstrate a persistent inability to correctly calculate medication dosages in the clinical setting may be placed on a student learning contract with individualized learning objectives to ensure safe practice.

### Late or Missed Exams - Nursing

**Nursing - Late or Missed Exams**

If a student is absent on the date of the scheduled exam, the student may make up the exam; however, the student will automatically lose **five percent (5%)** of the total earned points possible. The makeup exam will be administered on make-up days determined by the instructor. The make-up days will be scheduled at midterm and the week of finals. Any exam missed prior to midterm must be made up on the make-up day at midterm. Any exam missed after midterm must be made up on the make-up day during the week of finals. If the make-up exam is not completed on the assigned day it will result in zero points for that particular exam. It is the responsibility of the student to inquire what score was earned on the make-up exam (a few days after taking the exam).
Late or Missed Assignments- Nursing

Nursing - Late or Missed Assignments
Late papers and/or assignments will result in **five percent (5%)** of the total points being deducted for each day that the paper/assignment is late (weekend included). Submitting assignments late in the D2L Dropbox may require contacting the instructor first to re-open the Dropbox for submissions, or submission via e-mail. Students should retain a copy of the paper/assignment for their records.

There may be unscheduled quizzes or classroom activities which provide the opportunity to earn points. If you are not present in class (and have not contacted the instructor prior to the start of class) there will not be any make up offered. Any extra credit points will only affect the student's points earned when the student's overall percentage at the end of the course is 80% or above.

Withdrawing from the Course- Nursing

Nursing - Withdrawing from the Course

A student may withdraw from the course until the 60th day of the term or until 75% of the course has been held and will be shown as a "W" on the student's transcript. After that point, withdrawals will not be allowed and students will be graded according to their performance.

It is the student's responsibility for completing the withdrawal form and turning it in to the Registration Office by the date specified in the student handbook. For a full refund, a student must withdraw from a course within the first 5 days of the semester. See the student handbook for specifics on the refund policy.

Student Feedback- Nursing

Nursing - Student Feedback

Students are encouraged to give feedback that will serve to improve the nursing curriculum. Feedback must be given in a constructive manner and a possible solution or resolution must be offered.

1. Discuss issue with current instructor offering a possible solution
2. Call or e-mail your instructor to schedule a date and time for meeting
3. Present possible solution and feedback to nursing faculty in writing before scheduled meeting
4. Present possible solution and feedback to nursing faculty verbally at appointed meeting.
5. Work with your student representative to provide constructive feedback to the nursing faculty at faculty meetings.
SCC Handbooks- Nursing

Nursing - SCC Handbooks
Refer to the information and policies in the current SCC Catalog and Nursing Handbooks. You are a member of our SCC learning community and are responsible for knowing and following these requirements. The Nursing Handbook can be found at http://southcentral.edu/nursing/nursing-handbook.html, SCC College policies are at http://southcentral.edu/academic-policies/academic-dishonesty.html

Campus Closing- Nursing

Nursing - Campus Closings

If it is determined by the college administration or the governor that emergency conditions have developed which change the college’s normal operating times, an announcement will be made via radio and television broadcasts over the following stations: KTOE (AM 1230), KEEZ (FM 99.1), KXLP (FM 93), KNUJ (AM 860), KDOG (FM 96.7), KSTP (channel 5), KEYC-TV (channel 12), KDHL (AM 920), KQLC (FM 95.9), and WCCO (AM 830). Please note that the closing may be specific to facility, South Central College - North Mankato or Faribault.

We recommend that you register for the Star Alert system so you will know if the college closes. Directions can be found at http://southcentral.edu/campus-security/star-alert.html

In an emergency, Star Alert will send a text message to the cell number(s) and/or e-mail address(es) you provide. Notifications identified as "Star Alert" messages will note the nature of the emergency, what action, if any, you are to take, and where to find more information. Star Alert also will let you know if campus is closed or if classes are delayed or cancelled.