Stephen F. Austin State University
DeWitt School of Nursing
Advanced Pharmacology
Course Number: NUR 5341

Course Instructor:
Erin Bailey, DNP, RN, FNP-C

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IN THE CASE OF COMMISSION, OMISSION, AMBIGUITY, VAGUENESS, OR CONFLICT, THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING SHALL CONTROL.

EACH STUDENT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTUAL AND/OR CONSTRUCTIVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING AND FOR COMPLIANCE THEREWITH.

THE STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL INFORMATION IN THIS SYLLABUS.

This syllabus is provided for information purposes only.
Faculty Information

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Office Hours: 0800-1100 & 1300-1400 Mondays and Wednesdays with additional appointments available upon request. Faculty review student input and questions within 24 hours during the week and within 48 hours over the weekend. As a guide, faculty will make the effort to grade all weekly assignments within a week and large assignments within 2 weeks. If there is a delay in this timeframe, students will be notified.

Class Meeting Time and Place: This course is taught in an online format. No on-campus requirements. Course calendar to follow.

COVID-19 MASK POLICY:  
Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times in this class and appropriate physical distancing must be observed. Students not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be asked to leave the class. All incidents of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing will be reported to the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Students who are reported for multiple infractions of not wearing a mask and/or not observing appropriate physical distancing may be subject to disciplinary actions.


Course Description

This course provides students with the knowledge and skills to develop and manage a patient’s pharmacological regimen in a safe, high quality, cost-effective manner. This course includes information on prescription and non-prescription pharmacological agents.

Prerequisites NUR 501, 502, 511, 512, 522

Credit Hour Distribution

3 credit hours (3:0)

(3 credits; fully online graduate course) This course spans 15 weeks and has an additional 2 hour final. The course contains extensive written content requiring students
to engage in online module for at least 12 hours a week. Required readings are woven into the content to support key concepts and provide advanced nursing perspectives. In addition, students are expected to participate in weekly discussions or virtual simulation assignments. There are additional assignments required and they will take 3 major tests and a final examination.

**Required Textbooks**


**Recommended Textbooks**


Reading assignments will be made from the textbooks in addition to other resources identified in the individual units. Students will be responsible for accessing additional scholarly resources to support team discussion and other assignments.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, the student is expected to:

1. Assemble concepts and principles of the arts, sciences, humanities, and nursing in order to make advanced practice nursing decisions regarding pharmacological management of patients.
2. Synthesize responsibility and accountability using consistent behavior patterns and professional communication.
3. Incorporate evidenced based practice into the use of pharmacological agents.
4. Analyze the kinetics, dynamics, and therapeutics of broad categories of pharmacological agents.
5. Examine the relationship between pharmacologic agents and physiologic/pathologic responses.
6. Integrate moral, ethical, economic, cultural, and legal issues into advanced practice nursing decisions in the pharmacological management of patients.
Program Outcomes:

The Student Will:

1. Synthesize nursing science with knowledge from other disciplines as the basis for the advanced level of nursing practice.
2. Evaluate effective strategies for managing the ethical and legal dilemmas inherent in patient care, the health care organization, and research.
3. Employ effective communication and collaborative skills in interdisciplinary teams for creating change in health care.
4. Analyze concepts of health promotion and culturally competent care across the lifespan.
5. Assume responsibility for the use of health care information systems and patient care technology to improve patient outcomes.
6. Demonstrate leadership and accountability in the development and implementation of health care policy.
7. Critically appraise existing literature from nursing and other disciplines to determine and implement the best evidence for practice.
8. Advocate for the advanced practice role within the policy related to access and health care communities.
9. Value continuing competence, growth, and development in the profession.

MSN Essentials

I. Background for Practice from Sciences and Humanities
II. Quality Improvement and Safety
III. Translating and Integrating Scholarship into Practice
IV. Informatics and Healthcare Technologies
V. Health Policy and Advocacy
VI. Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes
VII. Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving Health
VIII. Master's-Level Nursing Practice

NONPF Core and FNP Population Specific Competency Outcomes

I. Scientific Foundation Competencies
II. Leadership Competencies
III. Family/Across the Lifespan NP Competencies
IV. Quality Competencies
V. Practice Inquiry Competencies
VI. Technology and Information Literacy Competencies
VII. Policy Competencies
VIII. Health Delivery System Competencies
IX. Ethics Competencies
X. Independent Practice Competencies

QSEN Graduate Competencies

1. Patient-centered Care
2. Teamwork and Collaboration
3. Evidence-based Practice (EBP)
4. Quality Improvement
5. Safety
6. Informatics

Topics

Fundamental principles of pharmacology
Pharmacology across the lifespan
Legalities
Texas Legal Requirements
Pharmacology of the Central Nervous System
Pharmacology of the Cardiovascular System
Pharmacology of Infectious Disease
Pharmacology of the Gastrointestinal System
Pharmacology of the Endocrine and Hormonal System
Pharmacology of the Respiratory System
Pharmacology of Musculoskeletal Disorders
Pharmacology of Dermatologic Disorders
Pharmacology of the Renal and GU System
Pharmacology of Eye and Ear Disorders
Miscellaneous Agents

Instructional Methods - Discussion board, online presentations, case studies and assigned readings

Teaching Strategies - Discussion, reading/resources, online content delivery/presentation, video, clinical experience

Course Requirements - Faculty developed coursework to provide students with a foundation to meet the end of program student learning outcomes, QSEN Graduate Competencies and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioners – Core and Family Nurse Practitioner expected outcomes.

- Complete all course assignments by the assigned due date/time. Late work will not be accepted without prior faculty approval and a 10% late penalty will apply for each day late.
• Communication should be professional, respectful of other views, and have a positive and polite tone.

• All assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless assigned as a group project.

Additional Course Requirements for the online forum:

• The electronic week begins on Monday at 0000 CST (12:00 AM) and ends on Sunday at 2359 CST (11:59 PM).

• Students are expected to participate in weekly discussions on at least three separate days out of seven in the electronic week when assigned.

• The three weekly posts consist of one Main post and a minimum of two responses to peers. All will be posted on separate days.

• There are no “make-ups” for not posting to the Weekly Discussions and late posts will not be accepted at the close of the module week.

• Students must post a Main post to the Discussion board each week on or before Thursday at 2359.

• Points will be deducted for not having the Initial post completed on or before Thursday to ensure active learning and engagement with peers and course faculty. See the grading rubric for details.

• Students must read and respond to a minimum of two peer posts each week.

• Students must provide references in current APA format for all posts.

• It is recommended that you prepare your weekly discussion posts in Microsoft Word and then cut and paste into the BRIGHTSPACE discussion.

• All discussions posted must reflect scholarly writing.

• Posts must be in the correct Weekly Discussion board or no points will be awarded.

Grades and Grading

**Assignments and the associated grading rubrics are available in BRIGHTSPACE**

15% - Test 1
15% - Test 2
15% - Test 3
15% - HESI Final Exam
15% - Discussion Board Average
10% - Shadow Health Average (6 assignments)
10% - Opioid Crisis Paper
10% - PowerPoint Assignment
100% Total
A minimum average grade of 80% on the exams must be achieved in order to pass the course. Even if the final course grade is 80% or more, the average grade on the 4 exams must be 80% or higher to pass the course. There is no provision for re-taking exams in the course.

**Grading Scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Score Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>75-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A grade of B or better is required for passage of all graduate courses. Only one course may be repeated to achieve a course grade of “B”. Students have the responsibility for monitoring grades in the course website throughout the semester and in communicating with course instructors regarding grade status. Two course failures will result in dismissal from the program (Policy 2: Policy and Procedures Manual for Graduate Students)

In the event of course failure, the student must petition the Student Affairs Committee to repeat the course and to remain in the program. See the School of Nursing policies relating to retention and progression.

**Course Activities**

**Exams**

All exams will be given online. Exams will be time limited. Exams will usually be objective items (multiple choice or matching), but may include questions requiring short answer or essay. In order to prepare for national board exams, only one question is displayed at time for answering and students MAY NOT go back to change their answer. Each of the 50 questions is given 1 ½ minutes. The exam will be available for 75 minutes.

Absolute integrity is expected from each student in all aspect of this course. Cheating on exam will not be tolerated. Students may be dismissed from the program for violation of academic integrity. Exams are not open-book. No notes, books, papers or aids are to be used during the exam. Students are also expected to work individually and submit the test within the allotted time frame.

Exams will be set up based on the exam policy at a secure site. Please see policies for more details. Exams will be offered on the designated Wednesdays from noon to 1700 at the secured testing sites or from 1300-1500 at the SFA School of Nursing testing labs. No alternative dates and times will be available.

**Discussions**

The Stephen F. Austin State University on-line nursing courses means you are essentially completing 15 weeks of class room time (3 hours per week), course work
and assignments on-line. It is important for on-line learners to understand that standards for on-line learning are set by the U.S. Department of Education and professional accrediting bodies which Stephen F. Austin State University and the DeWitt School of Nursing are accredited through. The following has been prepared to clarify weekly discussion requirements and grading for students and faculty participating in on-line nursing courses.

The purpose of the Weekly Discussions is to develop a scholarly and dynamic exchange between you, faculty, and other students in the course promoting an active and engaging on-line learning community. Your success and the success of your classmates in a positive learning environment is dependent on discussion participation and timely completion of assignments.

Weekly Discussion Requirements

- Students are expected to participate in weekly discussions on at least three separate days out of seven in the electronic week when assigned.
- The three weekly posts consist of one Main post and a minimum of two responses to peers. All will be posted on separate day.
- The electronic week begins on Monday at 12:01 am CST and ends on Sunday at 12 midnight CST.
- There are no “make-ups” for not posting to the Weekly Discussions and if you need to be away or do not have computer access, you need to make alternative arrangements for participation and actively engaging in the course to meet weekly discussion requirement.
- Students must post a Main post to the Discussion board each week on or before Wednesday at 12 midnight CST.
- One point per day will be deducted for not having the Main post on or before Wednesday each week ensuring that all students have the opportunity for active learning and engagement with peers and course faculty.
- Students must read and respond to posts of a minimum of two peers each week in the course.
- Students must provide references in the current APA format for all Main posts and responses to peers linking their response to theory from the required readings or other weekly assignments.
- It is recommended that you prepare your weekly discussion posts in Microsoft Word and then cut and paste into the Blackboard discussion. This is because Blackboard ‘times out’ if you are not active in a frame for a few minutes and erase your information. This can result in much frustration and a lot of work so better to be safe than sorry.
- All discussions posted must reflect proficient writing standards consistent with your educational preparation. For example, spelling words correctly, punctuation and syntax errors are expected to be avoided.
- Posts in other areas of the course do not count as discussion and no points are awarded for posts not in the Weekly Discussion on the Discussion board.
**Tips for postings**

- Avoid postings that are limited to 'I agree' or 'great idea', etc. If you agree (or disagree) with a posting then say why you agree by supporting your statement with concepts from the readings or by bringing in a related example or experience.
- Address the questions as much as possible
- Try to use quotes from the articles that support your postings. Include page numbers when you do that.
- Build on others responses to create threads.
- Bring in related prior knowledge (work experience, prior coursework, readings, etc.)
- Use proper etiquette (address your peer by name, proper language, typing, etc.)

**Shadow Health Activities**

Each student will be required to complete all Shadow Health Activities by dates assigned in calendar. Each student will be required complete the assigned activities and the grade on the first attempt will count by the due date. See BRIGHTSPACE for more information. Concepts labs and Orientation will not be graded but are highly recommended. Attempts made after the due date will not be counted.

**Opioid Crisis Paper**

You will be required to write a paper on the current state of the opioid crisis. You should use scholarly support and follow APA guidelines. The following criteria are required for this paper:

1. Introduction
2. Scope of the problem
3. Prescribing role of the FNP including legal components
4. Addiction
5. How this will affect your personal practice
6. Conclusion
7. References
8. 10 pages or less including cover page. Reference page(s) may put you over the limit. Follow all APA guidelines.

This paper is due by the last Sunday of the musculoskeletal content by 2359. Please do not wait till the last minute to begin this. It is best if you collect information from the legal section and write at least one section a week to stay on track.

**PowerPoint Assignment**
You will required to complete a PowerPoint to post to the discussion board under this topic for the class to use as a study aid. It must have the following components:

1. Pathophysiology of the assigned disease
2. National guidelines for treating this disease
3. A description of the pharmacological agents available for treating this disease
4. OTC or non-pharmacological treatments for this disease
5. Pharmacological application and management that includes the following:
   a. Considerations for special populations
   b. Associated risks of therapy or non-therapy
   c. Required diagnostics for the disease and the medications used
   d. Teaching required for the disease and medications
   e. Goals of therapy
6. Examples of how a written prescription for each type of medications will look
7. Links to Academia
   a. Based on the information you have gathered please show how it links to the NONPF, MSN Essentials, and End of program outcomes. These will all be listed in your syllabus. Do not just list them; expand on how the criteria was met.
8. References

The following options will be on a first come first serve basis for the PowerPoint Assignment. Please announce your topic on the discussion board thread PowerPoint Assignment and make sure no one else has chosen that topic. You may not do one that has already been chosen. You must post on this discussion board under the discussion topic PowerPoint Assignment by the end of the week that that topic is discussed. For example, if you chose a topic under the respiratory system, your PowerPoint is due by the end of Module 3 (by the final Sunday in that week by 2359). Please review these for the tests.

Here are the topics by system:

1. Respiratory has 2 options
   a. Asthma
   b. COPD
2. GI
   a. GERD
3. Renal has 2 options
   a. UTI
   b. Incontinence
4. Musculoskeletal has 2 options
   a. Gout
   b. Osteoporosis
5. CNS has 2 options
a. Headaches  
b. Parkinson’s Disease
6. Mental Health has 2 options  
a. Anxiety  
b. Depression
7. Endocrine has 3 options  
a. DM Type 1  
b. DM Type 2  
c. Hypothyroidism
8. Reproductive  
a. Hormone replacement Therapy
9. Dermatology and EENT has 3 options  
a. Acne  
b. Tinea pedis  
c. Shingles

This must be completed along with the required assignment for that week so do not wait till the last minute to do this. You should use scholarly support and follow APA guidelines.

Policies

Attendance Policy: Your participation in class is expected, essential to the learning experience and your contribution valued.

Evaluation Input from Students: The faculty of the School of Nursing places great value on evaluative input from students. Evaluation of courses, instructors and clinical facilities provides the College with important data which is used to strengthen the program. Data is analyzed as to trends and themes and is important to curriculum and sequencing decisions. All evaluation for the courses are posted on-line. The online mechanism allows us the opportunity to tabulate and store information in order analyze trends within the curriculum. Please be assured that this information is secured and not released until after grades are submitted. No names are available to faculty at any time. In order to garner some reliability and validity, the College must have representative data from the student population. The representation, based on the literature has been set at 70%. The College is anticipating that the students with thoughtfully participate in the evaluation process which will assist the faculty with the growth of the programs. A link to evaluation will be available on BRIGHTSPACE toward the end of the semester. Thank you in advance for your assistance with the evaluation process.

Academic Integrity and Honesty: Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.
Definition of Academic Dishonesty: Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit.

The University updated the definitions of, penalties for, and procedures to handle Academic Dishonesty in January 2017. This updated information can be found at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-dishonesty.pdf

SON Rounding Policy:

SON Policy 66 (effective June 1, 2017) for all courses:
1. Rounding is confined to the final course grade. Grades on individual exams (including comprehensive or HESI). Assignments, quizzes, and projects are recorded in the gradebook (BRIGHTSPACE) in their original form without rounding.
2. Final course grades are rounded to the closest whole number using the 0.5 math rule and using one decimal point to the right of the whole number. If the final course grade is not a whole number, the following rounding rules apply:
   a. If the decimal attached to a whole number is 0.5 or greater, then round up to the next whole number (equal to or greater than 85.50 = 86).
   b. If the decimal attached to a whole number is less than 0.5, then round down to the previous whole number (equal to or less 85.49 = 85).
3. The grading scale for all Nursing Courses is as follows:

Withheld Grades: (http://www.sfasu.edu/registrar/143.asp Policy and Procedure Manual for Graduate students Policy #0)

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within on calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for computing grade point average. The circumstances precipitating the request must have occurred after the last day in which a student could withdraw from a course. Students requesting a WH must be passing the course with a minimum projected grade of a C.
Students with Disabilities: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aides, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004/468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aides to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/)

Acceptable Student Behavior (Policy #7 Policy and Procedures Manual for Graduate Students) Course behavior should not interfere with the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or the ability of other students to learn from the instructional program. Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be subject to judicial, academic or other penalties. The prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including electronic, classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The instructor shall have full discretion over what behavior is appropriate/inappropriate in the on-line classroom. Students who do not access the course regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendation for resources or other assistance that is available to help SFA students succeed. Exams are secure, no printing, copying, or writing questions down for outside use is permitted.

Communication with Instructor: The Instructor will communicate with students about the course through the use of BRIGHTSPACE Students are required to check this site at least three times a week (daily is recommended) for announcements and posted material and are responsible for information posted in BRIGHTSPACE. Grades will be posted electronically. Students are highly recommended to make appoints to speak with instructor if making less than 80 on any test well in advance of the following test.

Technology Requirements-
All students are required to have access to a laptop or desktop computer for academic and testing purposes. You may view the complete list of technical requirements below for Windows and Mac computers. We do not currently support mobile devices for Examsoft or HESI exams (iPads, Androids, etc). We do not support any computer systems other than Windows or Mac (no Chromebooks, Linux devices, etc). For questions regarding laptop hardware or software, please contact The SFA Help Desk at [https://help.sfasu.edu/TDClient/2027/Portal/Home/](https://help.sfasu.edu/TDClient/2027/Portal/Home/) or 936-468-HELP.

At all times, the computer should be capable of running the software below or contain the necessary hardware listed. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that his/her computer has the required software installed upon admission, and it is updated throughout his/her time as a student.

Upon admission, students will attend an orientation session. The orientation for each course provides instructions on how to access each of the software programs used in the DeWitt School of Nursing program.
TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS MAC LAPTOPS/DESKTOPS

- Operating System – OS 10.14 Mojave (or newer)
- Hard Drive – 250 GB hard drive or solid state drive
- RAM – 8 GB
- Battery Life – Minimum of 6 hours required (8 hours recommended).
- High Speed Internet Connection – We require a minimum connection speed of 20 Mbps.
- Safari Browser (free)
- Mozilla Firefox Browser (free)
- Chrome Browser (free)
- Microsoft Office 365 – Is provided to you through your My SFA account. Your Microsoft Office 365 can be installed on up to 5 additional devices.
- SFASU Duo Authentication – You will be required to verify your identity using dual authentication on a mobile device.
- SFASU Jacks Email – You will be required to read your SFASU Jacks email. It is recommended that you access your account daily and connect to a mobile device so you never miss any critical announcements.
- Examsoft Examplify – Software will be provided upon admission. All testing is completed using this software platform.
- Adobe Reader (free)
- Adobe Flash Player (free)
- Anti-Virus Solution – We support Sophos for MAC (free version). There is also a paid version, but this in not required or necessary. We only support Sophos at exams. If you choose to use another anti-virus solution and encounter problems, you will have to contact the vendor or general helpdesk for support.
- Scanning Capabilities – You may use a mobile app (such as Turbo Scan) or visit a store which provides scanning services (such as Fed Ex Office).
- Webcam
- Computer Microphone
- Computer Headset and/or Ear Buds

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS WINDOWS LAPTOPS/DESKTOPS

- Operating System – Windows 10. We do not support 7 or 8.
- Processor - Intel Core 2 Duo, i3,i5 or i7 processor
- Hard Drive – 250 GB hard drive or solid state drive
- RAM – 8 GB
- Battery Life – Minimum of 6 hours required (8 hours recommended).
- High Speed Internet Connection – We require a minimum connection speed of 20 Mbps.
- Internet Explorer Browser (free)
- Mozilla Firefox Browser (free)
- Chrome Browser (free)
- Edge Browser (for Windows 10 users only) free
• Microsoft Office 365 – Is provided to you through your My SFA account. Your Microsoft Office 365 can be installed on up to 5 additional devices.
• SFASU Duo Authentication – You will be required to verify your identity using dual authentication on a mobile device.
• SFASU Jacks Email – You will be required to read your SFASU Jacks email. It is recommended that you access your account daily and connect to a mobile device so you never miss any critical announcements.
• Examsoft Examplify – Software will be provided upon admission. All testing is completed using this software platform.
• Adobe Reader (free)
• Adobe Flash Player (free)
• Anti-Virus Solution – We only support Windows Defender (Windows 10). Before testing, disable any other anti-virus programs that you may have other than Windows Defender. We do not provide support for any antivirus solution with exams other than Windows Defender. If you choose to use another anti-virus solution and encounter problems, you will have to contact the vendor or general helpdesk for support.
• Scanning Capabilities – You may use a mobile app (such as Turbo Scan) or visit a store, which provides scanning services (such as Fed Ex Office).
• Webcam
• Computer Microphone
• Computer Headset and/or Ear Buds