Stephen F. Austin State University  
DeWitt School of Nursing  
PHARMACOLOGY ACROSS THE LIFESPAN SYLLABUS  
Course Number: NUR 3308  
Section Number: 001  
Fall 2021

Course Instructor  
Sherry Cheever MSN, APRN, FNP-C

ALL INFORMATION IN THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO THE WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING, STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY, NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS.

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

Name: Sherry Cheever MSN, APRN, FNP-C  
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Phone: 936-468-7745  
Office: 174  
Office Hours: Monday 0900-1200, Tuesday 1100-1200 and 1300 to 1700  
Friday by appointment only  
Please call in advance as times may vary due to committee obligations, lecture time, and clinical.

Class meeting time and place:
Lecture: Tuesdays 0800-1100, School of Nursing Room 107  
Testing: Tuesdays (refer to calendar), School of Nursing Room 115

Textbooks and Materials:

Required:


Optional and Recommended:


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/ 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.

For a complete list of technology requirements please visit: http://www.sfasu.edu/docs/nursing/technology-requirements.pdf

**Unabridged Course Description**
This course establishes a foundation for the pharmacological aspects of nursing and builds on concepts from core curriculum, previous, and concurrent nursing courses. The course will encompass basic principles of pharmacology, medication administration, and classification of drugs.

**Number of Credit Hours** 3 credit hours (3 lecture)
NUR 3308 Pharmacology Across the Lifespan (3 credits) typically meets once a week on Tuesdays in 3 hour segment for 15 weeks and also meets for a 2 hour final examination.

Students have significant weekly reading assignments, are expected to have occasional medication calculation homework, Shadow Health assignments, or other weekly assignments, are required to make a major in-class presentation over teaching, are required to create group commercials, and required to take 4 major test and a final examination. These activities average at a minimum 6 hours of work each week to prepare outside of classroom hours.

**Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites**
Prerequisites: NURS 3304, Admission to Nursing Program
Co-requisites: NURS 3205, NURS 3207, NURS 3606

**Program Learning Outcomes**
1. Apply knowledge of the physical, social, and behavioral sciences in the provision of nursing care based on theory and evidence based practice.
2. Deliver nursing care within established legal and ethical parameters in collaboration with clients and members of the interdisciplinary health care team.
3. Provide holistic nursing care to clients while respecting individual and cultural diversity.
4. Demonstrate effective leadership that fosters independent thinking, use of informatics, and collaborative communication in the management of nursing care.
5. Assure responsibility and accountability for quality improvement and delivery of safe and effective nursing care.
6. Serve as an advocate for clients and for the profession of nursing.
7. Value continuing competence, growth, and development in the profession of nursing.

**General Education Core Curriculum Objectives/Outcomes**
None.

**Student Learning Outcomes**
1. Identify concepts and principles of the arts, sciences, humanities, and nursing as foundational content for the science of pharmacological nursing.
2. Identify the nursing responsibility and accountability related to pharmacology and medication administration.
3. Identify the interdisciplinary collaboration involved with pharmacology.
4. Describe the moral, ethical, economic, political, and legal issues involved in nursing and pharmacology.
5. Explain how holistic, socio-economic, spiritual, and ethno-cultural characteristics of clients affect nursing and pharmacology.
6. Identify selected drug classifications, mechanisms of action, indications for use, and pertinent client educational needs.
7. Evaluate drug effects on physiologic and psychological processes.
8. Describe processes utilized in medication administration.
9. Demonstrate medication calculations through successful completion of calculation exam prior to administering medications in the clinical setting.

**Differentiated Essential Competencies (DEC’s)**
The Richard and Lucille DeWitt School of Nursing prepares graduates to demonstrate the Differentiated Essential Competencies of Graduates of Texas Nursing Programs Evidenced by Knowledge, Clinical Judgments, and Behaviors (DECs). The competencies are based upon the preparation in the program of study. In nursing education, the DEC’s serve as a guideline and tool for curriculum development and revision, a tool for benchmarking and evaluation of the program, and statewide standard to ensure graduates will enter practice as safe and competent nurses. The DECs are incorporated into every course in the SON to ensure uniformity and continuity of standards. Please refer to the Texas BON website for additional information [https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/publication_pdfs/delc-2010.pdf](https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/publication_pdfs/delc-2010.pdf)

**Course Requirements:**
Online simulations, quizzes, presentations, participation, exams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shadow Health Assignments &amp; commercials</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quiz avg &amp; dosage calc (part of weighted exam average)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test 2</td>
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<td>Test 3</td>
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<td>Test 4</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Grading Policy:
A = 90 - 100%
B = 80 - 89%
C = 75 - 79%
F = below 75%

Per SON policy 1.7 http://www.sfasu.edu/sites/default/files/2019-06/1_7_grades.pdf:
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 (D2L/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 than 85.49 = 85).
3. It is necessary to obtain a WEIGHTED MEAN TEST SCORE OF 75 in the class exam grades to pass this course. A weighted mean test score below 75 or a class average below 75 constitutes failure. Quizzes do not count towards test average. http://www.sfasu.edu/academics/colleges/sciences-math/nursing/student-resources/nursing-policies.

A STUDENT WHO FAILS THE COURSE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PROGRESS IN THE NURSING PROGRAM.

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.

Testing Expectations
Each test consists of 50 graded items. 5 pilot questions may be present but will not count towards the final grade. Test will be computerized and only available during the time specified on the calendar. Any form of cheating on quizzes or tests results in a zero on the test/quiz, an F grade for the course, and possible dismissal from SON. Testing is never a joint effort.

- No ear buds, cell phones, hats, drinks, food, paper, or other unapproved items will be allowed during the testing period.
- Backpacks and keys will be placed in designated area in testing room.
- Cell phones will be turned off and left at the front of the room.
- Please visit the restroom before the test.

- Students who arrive late will ONLY be allowed to take the exam within the first 30 minutes of the exam period starting. After that time has passed, no
one will be able to begin the exam. If you are experiencing an emergency (car accident, flat tire…) and know you will not make it, call the instructor as soon as you realize this to receive further instructions.

Make-Up Exam:
Make-up exam will be given at the discretion of faculty. They will be given in accordance with the policies and procedures of the School of Nursing, Stephen F. Austin State University.

Attendance Policy:
Your attendance in class is expected and your contribution valued. Some activities will require completion of pre-class assignments to enter the classroom. Announcements will be made via D2L/Brightspace regarding these dates. In-class attendance to class is required-no test will be taken outside of the assigned area.

Academic Integrity (A-9.1)
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 on any class assignment or exam;
(2) falsifying or inventing of any information, including citations, on an assignment;
(3) helping or attempting to help other student(s) in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

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/student-academic-dishonesty-4.1.pdf

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were one’s own. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- Submitting an assignment as one’s own work when it is at least partly the work of another person.
- Submitting work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from the Internet or another source, and/or
- Incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper or presentation without giving the author credit.

Self-Plagiarism
As a student, self-plagiarism is the presentation of your own previously completed work as an original and is considered unethical (APA, 2021). In specific circumstances, students may wish to duplicate their written work; however, in these rare cases where this is deemed acceptable, appropriate notation of previous work is required. If repeating a course in the nursing program and the student previously successfully completed an assignment, but is required to complete the assignment again as part of the course work, the vast majority of the assignment should constitute new work of the student. If the student desires to add a small segment of previously graded work, it should be noted in the new document. For example, “As I discussed in the Spring 2021 assignment, Covid 19 vaccinations are essential for promoting public health.” This clearly identifies the student’s intent to point the reader to the previous document.

References


**Withheld Grades (Semester Grades Policy A – 54)**

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 one 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 the purpose of computing the 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 C.

**Students with Disabilities**

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, 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/).

**Mental Health Statement**

SFASU values students’ mental health and the role it plays in academic and overall student success. SFA provides a variety of resources to support students’ mental health and wellness. Many of these resources are free and all of them are confidential.

**On-Campus Resources**

SFASU Counseling Services
[www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices](http://www.sfasu.edu/counselingservices)
Acceptable Student Behavior
Classroom 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 (see Student Conduct Code, policy D – 34.1). Unacceptable or disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Students who disrupt the learning environment may be asked to leave class and 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 classroom. Students who do not attend class regularly or who perform poorly on class projects/exams may be referred to the Early Alert Program. This program provides students with recommendations 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.*

Late to Class
If you are late to class, please wait until the break to enter the classroom.

Cell Phones
Cell phones should be turned off and out of sight during this class. All cell phone should be placed at the front of the classroom prior to the beginning of any test.

CALCULATION TEST
Student will complete a required calculations test that will counts for 1 quiz grade.

Shadow Health Patient Simulations
Each Shadow Health Patient Simulation will count as one assignment grade. The first attempt will be recorded as your score. See calendar and D2L/ Brightspace for due dates and more information.
Commercial Assignment

Students will find 1 partner to complete the assignment with and sign up for a drug on first day of class. Each group will be required to complete 2 videos. One video will be presented like a commercial to help sell the medication and the other will be the attorney video asking “if you or your loved one has ever taken (medication) and experienced …” Each video should be no longer than 3 minutes each. Videos should be uploaded to YouTube and link posted to the discussion board by 0800 on the due date. The grade for this will count towards 1 assignment grade. Students should be CREATIVE in the presentation. Skits, videos and other creative aides may be used. A reference page should also be posted on the discussion board with the videos.

CONTENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commercial video-try to sell your drug</th>
<th>40/___</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is the drug class?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
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<tr>
<td>What drug is used for?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How drug works?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment data needed?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contraindications?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Side effects?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
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<tr>
<td>How to take medication?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
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<tr>
<td>How to tell it is working?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
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<tr>
<td>How long it takes to work?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Attorney video-emphasize what can go wrong</th>
<th>40/___</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>4/___</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching?</td>
<td>4/___</td>
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</table>

APPEARANCE

| Each video 1-3 min long                   | 2/___  |
| Use of appropriate and creative audiovisual aides | 6/___  |
| Appropriate dress and actions             | 2/___  |
| Post on D2L/ Brightspace discussion board by 0800 on due date | 2/___  |
| Post reference list on Brightspace discussion board by 0800 on due date | 2/___  |
| The information should be presented at the level of the average patient | 2/___  |
| Reference page is APA                     | 2/___  |
| At least three (3) references in addition to text (Do not use Wikipedia) | 2/___  |
**Communication with Instructor**
The Instructor will communicate with students about the course through the use of D2L/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 on D2L/Brightspace. Grades will be posted electronically. Students are highly recommended to make appointments to speak with instructor if making less than 75 on any test well in advance of the following test.

**Grading Criteria and Forms for Assignments**
Forms for assignments and grading criteria for assignments will be posted online on D2L/Brightspace.

**Course Evaluations by Students**
Students will evaluate the course per SFASU School of Nursing Policy at the end of the semester.

**Online Sites:**
D2L/Brightspace: [https://www.sfaonline.info/d2llogging](https://www.sfaonline.info/d2llogging)
School of Nursing Policies: [http://www.sfasu.edu/academics/colleges/sciences-math/nursing/student-resources/nursing-policies](http://www.sfasu.edu/academics/colleges/sciences-math/nursing/student-resources/nursing-policies)

**Test 1**

**Test 2**

**Test 3**

**Test 4**