

VERNON COLLEGE
SYLLABUS

DIVISION: Allied Health & Human Services

DATE: 2023-2024

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: RNSG 1301 Pharmacology

CREDIT HRS: 3 HRS/WK LEC: 3 HRS/WK LAB: 1 LEC/LAB COMB:
4

I. VERNON COLLEGE GENERAL EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

General education at Vernon College reflects the institution's deep conviction that successful, satisfying lives require a wide range of skills and knowledge. Through the Texas Core Curriculum and through support and reinforcement in all non-core courses, students will gain a foundation of knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, develop principles of personal and social responsibility for living in a diverse world, and advance intellectual and practical skills that are essential for all learning.

CORE OBJECTIVES (GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES)

- Critical Thinking Skills – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information
- Communication Skills – to include effective development, interpretation, and expression of ideas through written, oral, and visual communication
- Empirical and Quantitative Skills – to include the manipulation and analysis of numerical data or observable facts resulting in informed conclusions
- Teamwork - to include the ability to consider different points of view and to work effectively with others to support a shared purpose or goal
- Personal Responsibility – to include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision making
- Social Responsibility – to include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities

II. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

Prerequisite: RNSG 1441 or licensed nurse; or consent of the Director of Nursing. Introduction to the science of pharmacology with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects, and nursing implications of drug classifications. Content includes the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in safe administration of medications within a legal/ethical framework. This course lends itself to either a blocked or integrated approach. Lab Fee: \$24.00; Program Fee: \$150.00.

III. REQUIRED BACKGROUND:

Prerequisites: RNSG 1441 or licensed nurse.

IV. STUDENT E-MAIL:

All students should activate and regularly check their Vernon College issued student email account. Student emails are an official form of communication between Vernon College and students and will be used by various components of the college including the Office of

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: RNSG 1301 Pharmacology

Financial Aid, Admissions & records, the Business Office, Student Services, and Instructional Services.

Additionally, an active VC student email account is required for students to access online courses and supplemental instruction provided on the College's Learning Management System – *Canvas*.

V. TEXTS, OTHER REFERENCE MATERIAL:

Required:

Craig, G. (2020). *Clinical Calculations Made Easy: Solving Problems Using Dimensional Analysis*. (7th ed.). Philadelphia: Wolters Kluwer/ Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Kee, J., Hayes, E. & McCuiston, L. (2021). *Pharmacology: A Nursing Process Approach*. (10th ed.) St. Louis: Elsevier/Saunders.

Suggested:

Delgin, J. H. & Vallerand, A. H. *Davis's Drug Guide for Nurses*. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis.
HESI. (2020). *Comprehensive Review for the NCLEX-RN Examination*. (6th ed.). St. Louis: Elsevier/Saunders.

Kee, J., Hayes, E. & McCuiston, L. (2021). *Pharmacology: A Nursing process Approach Study Guide*. (10th ed.) St Louis: Elsevier/Saunders.

Any Medical and Nursing Dictionary.

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, discussion, case studies, patient teaching brochures & audiovisual.

Students desiring auxiliary aids and services for this course should make their requests to the instructor and the PASS Department Director/Office for Students with Disabilities Coordinator.

VII. COURSE CONTENT:

1. Principles of Pharmacology
2. The Nursing Process and Pharmacology
3. Biopsychosocial Aspects of Pharmacology
4. Current Issues in Pharmacology
5. Drugs Affecting the Autonomic Nervous System
6. Drugs to Treat Neurologic and Neuromuscular System Disorders
7. Drugs Affecting the Central Nervous System
8. Drugs Affecting the Cardiovascular System
9. Drugs Affecting the Blood
10. Drugs Affecting the Respiratory System
11. Drugs Affecting the Gastrointestinal System
12. Drugs for Fluid, Electrolyte, and Nutritional Balance
13. Drugs Affecting Endocrine System
14. Drugs Affecting the Immunologic System
15. Drugs used in Infectious Diseases and Inflammation

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: RNSG 1301 Pharmacology

16. Drugs used in Neoplastic Diseases
17. Drugs Affecting the Visual and Auditory Systems
18. Dosage and Solutions

VIII. LEARNER OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course each student should be able to:

1. Utilize current literature as a basis for decision making to meet the pharmacological needs of the client and identify the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in administering pharmacological agents. [I A, B, C; II A, D; III A, E]
2. Apply the “FIVE-PLUS-FIVE RIGHTS” of medication administration during the preparation, administration, and documentation of medication therapy.
3. Utilize individual drug monographs to identify: [I A; II A, B, C, F; IV A, D]
 - a. drug actions,
 - b. drug side effects to expect,
 - c. drug side effects to report,
 - d. available drug dosage forms,
 - e. recommended dosages and routes of administration,
 - f. nursing interventions appropriate to alleviate or prevent drug side effects,
 - g. drug interactions.
4. Apply knowledge of the general characteristics exhibited by pharmaceutical agents within each drug classification in assessing, identifying a nursing diagnosis, planning, implementing, and evaluating client care. [I B, D; II A, B, C, F, G; III B; IV A]
5. Apply knowledge associated with the psychosocial, physiological, and nutritional care needs of individuals, together with associated nursing interventions, to complete the nursing responsibilities needed to deliver safe client care while meeting the pharmacological needs of the client while applying knowledge of cultural implications to the administration of medications. [I A, B; II A, B, C; IV A]
6. Foster compliance with the entire prescribed therapeutic regimen by:
 - a. performing client education designed specifically to meet the health care needs of the individual,
 - b. discussing the expectations of therapy and degree of symptom relief that can be anticipated, and
 - c. keeping a written record of the monitoring parameters (outcome criteria) to be used to evaluate the individual’s response to therapy. [I A, B; II G; IV D]
7. Discuss the nursing management of pharmacologic aspects of substance misuse and abuse. [II C, F]
8. Exhibit knowledge of the legal and ethical dimensions of the nursing role and responsibilities associated with pharmaceutical agents. [I. BC2a, II. EC I A; II A, D; III A, B]
9. Apply basic computational skills effectively in determining the desired dosage of all pharmaceutical agents administered to the client. [II A; III A]
10. Utilize the knowledge of pharmacology to demonstrate safe administration of medications while implementing age-specific nursing management of drug therapy across the life span. [I A; II A, B, D; III A, B]

[DECS] = Differential Essential Competencies

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: RNSG 1301 Pharmacology

IX. ASSESSMENT:

Module exams as scheduled - 75%

Lab Assignments – 5%

Comprehensive Final exam - 20%

Any final course average lower than 78 will be given an F grade for failure of the course

Regular classroom attendance

Lab Component

Satisfactory completion of all assignments - (patient teaching brochure, math case studies, textbook case studies)

A grade of 80 is necessary to pass case studies.

A grade of 8 is necessary to pass the patient teaching brochure.

Module exam grades and the opportunity for the student to review the exam will be immediately after the test or at the end of the following class period.

Expectations:

Students planning to enter the LVN Transition program may take select nursing (RNSG) courses prior to acceptance into the program. Failure of and/or withdrawal from two or more of these courses will result in ineligibility for admission to the LVN Transition Program.

Two Attempt Rule: students who are not successful (failure and/or withdrawal) in completing a single RNSG course two times, are not eligible to retake that course for a period of at least three years from the first course attempt.

Two Failure Rule: students who fail two or more nursing courses (single course or combination of courses) prior to acceptance into the Transition Program, are not eligible for admission. Students failing two or more RNSG courses (single course or combination of courses) before and/or after program admission, will be dismissed from the ADN Program and are not eligible for re-entry or readmission unless extenuating circumstances are approved by the Nursing Admissions and Review Committee. Nursing Pathophysiology (RNSG 1311) is not included in this rule.

To be accepted into the A.D.N. program RNSG courses must have been successfully completed within the last 3 years.

Vernon College does not discriminate based on color, race, gender, age, religion, national origin, or disability.