

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides the student with the opportunity to explore the concepts of pharmacology. The role of the nurse in the administration of medications is the emphasis. Pharmacotherapeutics, interactions of drugs, and psychosocial and legal aspects of medication use will be addressed in a variety of learning activities. This course is also offered through Independent Study.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:

Upon successful completion of this course the student will demonstrate the ability to:

- 1) utilize the general principles of pharmacology.
 - differentiate the processes involved in Pharmacology, Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, and Pharmacotherapeutics.
 - analyze errors in practical examples of medication administration.
 - promote the use of safety practices in the administration of medications.
 - describe the various levels of legislation and policy related to drug administration.
 - use drug classification systems to prepare specific information about administering medications.
 - design, implement, and evaluate health teaching related to medication administration.

III. TOPICS:

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|------------------------------|---|
| 1) Canadian Drug Legislation | 8) Social, Cultural and Psychological Impacts on Medication Use |
| 2) Medication Terminology | 9) Drugs for all Ages/Stages |
| 3) Forms of Drugs | 10) Pharmacodynamics |
| 4) Routes of Administration | 11) Pharmacokinetics |
| 5) Health Teaching | 12) Pharmacotherapeutics |
| 6) Drug Classifications | 13) Nursing Responsibilities |
| 7) Medication Safety | |

IV. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:

Karch, A. (2000). Focus on nursing pharmacology. New York: Lippincott.

Recommended Resources:

Gray, D. (1998). Calculate with confidence. (2nd ed.). Toronto: Mosby.

Skidmore-Roth, L. (2001). Mosby's 2001 nursing drug reference. Toronto: Mosby.

College of Nurses of Ontario (1995). Medication administration guidelines for RNs and RPNs.

V. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:

1. The pass mark for this course is 60%.

2. Evaluation Methods:

Unit Tests (3 in total, 15% each)	45%
Drug Study Profile	20%
Final Exam: Comprehensive	35%
TOTAL	100%

3. Students who receive a mark of below 60%, may be eligible to write a supplemental exam. The following criteria applies:

- Received at least 50% in the overall mark
- Attended at least 80% of the classes

The following semester grades will be assigned to students in postsecondary courses:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Grade Point Equivalent</u>
A+	90 - 100%	4.00
A	80 - 89%	3.75
B	70 - 79%	3.00
C	60 - 69%	2.00
R (Repeat)	59% or below	0.00
CR (Credit)	Credit for diploma requirements has been awarded.	
S	Satisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
U	Unsatisfactory achievement in field placement or non-graded subject areas.	
X	A temporary grade. This is used in limited situations with extenuating circumstances giving a student additional time to complete the requirements for a course (see <i>Policies & Procedures Manual – Deferred Grades and Make-up</i>).	
NR	Grade not reported to Registrar's office. This is used to facilitate transcript preparation when, for extenuating circumstances, it has not been possible for the faculty member to report grades.	

VI. SPECIAL NOTES:

Special Needs:

If you are a student with special needs (e.g. physical limitations, visual impairments, hearing impairments, or learning disabilities), you are encouraged to discuss required accommodations with your instructor and/or the Special Needs office. Visit Room E1204 or call Extension 493, 717, or 491 so that support services can be arranged for you.

Retention of course outlines:

It is the responsibility of the student to retain all course outlines for possible future use in acquiring advanced standing at other postsecondary institutions.

Plagiarism:

Students should refer to the definition of “academic dishonesty” in *Student Rights and Responsibilities*. Students who engage in “academic dishonesty” will receive an automatic failure for that submission and/or such other penalty, up to and including expulsion from the course/program, as may be decided by the professor/dean. In order to protect students from inadvertent plagiarism, to protect the copyright of the material referenced, and to credit the author of the material, it is the policy of the department to employ a documentation format for referencing source material.

Course outline amendments:

The Professor reserves the right to change the information contained in this course outline depending on the needs of the learner and the availability of resources.

Substitute course information is available in the Registrar's office.

VII. PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT:

Students who wish to apply for advanced credit in the course should consult the professor. Credit for prior learning will be given upon successful completion of a challenge exam or portfolio.

VIII. DIRECT CREDIT TRANSFERS:

Students who wish to apply for direct credit transfer (advanced standing) should obtain a direct credit transfer form from the Dean's secretary. Students will be required to provide a transcript and course outline related to the course in question.