



**I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course has a community focus and is designed to assist the registered practical nurse to develop basic skills in physical assessment of children and adults using pre-set procedures. A systems approach to physical examination will be used with emphasis placed on recognizing the range of normal findings and developmental variations, with some discussion

**II. LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ELEMENTS OF THE PERFORMANCE:**

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

1. Demonstrate interviewing skills necessary to establish a concise health history and incorporate this information into the nursing care plan.
2. Identify variations in methodology/content in history-taking and physical examination specific to different age groups.
3. Define five assessment techniques and demonstrate safe and accurate performance of assessment techniques.
4. Demonstrate the ability to differentiate normal and abnormal assessment findings using the systems approach.
5. Perform a complete, systematic patient assessment according to established nursing criteria/assessment tools.

**III. REQUIRED RESOURCES/TEXTS/MATERIALS:**

Leasia, M. S. and Monahan, F. D. (1997). Practical Guide to Health Assessment. Toronto: Saunders.

**IV. EVALUATION PROCESS/GRADING SYSTEM:**

This 48 hours credit course will be evaluated in both theory and practice. The evaluation scheme is as follows:

Test #1	20%
Test #2	20%
Assignment	10%
Practical Assessment Test	30%
Test #3	20%
Total	100%

The 10% assignment will be a written submission of a complete health history.

The practical assessment test will demonstrate competent performance of a systematic patient assessment.

The passing grade for this course is 60%. Failure to write a test, complete an assignment or complete a practical test as assigned will result in a zero grade.

***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 &amp; 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.	

**V. SPECIAL NOTES:**

Suggested Apparel for Class

During the classes you will be practising assessment skills on one another. Wear loose fitting clothing to assist in peer assessment. Students are asked to bring a stethoscope to class to enhance assessment opportunities.

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.

**VI. 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.

**VII. 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.

HEALTH ASSESSMENT – RPN

CLASS SCHEDULE

CLASS	CONTENT
1	Introductions/Interviewing
2	Integumentary
3	HEENT
4	HEENT
5	Respiratory
6	Respiratory
7	Test #1 and Introduction to Cardiovascular
8	Cardiovascular/Peripheral Vascular
9	Abdomen
10	Genitourinary/Assignment Due – Health History
11	Breast and Axillae
12	Test #2 and Postpartum/Neonatal
13	Musculoskeletal
14	Neurological
15	Neurological
16	Practical Assessment Test and Test #3