Course Description

Introduction to the science of pharmacology with emphasis on the actions, interactions, adverse effects and nursing implications of each drug classification. Topics include the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in safe administration of medications within a legal/ethical framework.

The student will identify the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in administering pharmacological agents, and utilize knowledge of pharmacology to demonstrate safe administration techniques.

Text, References, and Supplies


RNSG 1201 Learning Packet

Study Guide accompanying text book

Course Goals/Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course the student will:

1. Define/describe terms, concepts, and basic processes associated with drug therapy.

2. Use a systematic approach to studying drug therapy, with emphasis on therapeutic classifications and prototypical drugs.

3. Describe the pathophysiology of selected major conditions and selected individual drugs in terms of the following:

4. Describe the characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual drugs in terms of the following:
   - Mechanism of action
   - Indications for use
   - Contraindications to use
   - Expected therapeutic effects
   - Common or serious adverse effects
   - Accurate administration
   - Essential client teaching

5. Identify client-related and drug-related factors that influence drug effects.

6. Discuss principles of therapy with major drug groups in relation to drug selection, dosage, route, and use in special populations (e.g. children, older adults, clients with impaired renal or hepatic function).
7. Discuss clinically significant drug-drug, drug-disease, and drug-nutrient interactions.

8. Describe selected legal, ethical, and economic aspects of drug therapy.

9. Evaluate over-the-counter drugs for personal use and instruction of others.

Provider of Care: 1. A student may be dropped for not keeping up with assigned work. The student is encouraged to see the instructor during office hours or by appointment for special help or whenever a question or concern arises. The instructor may also be contacted through email or telephone. Do not wait for the instructor to contact you!

2. Students should use Mozilla Firefox to access Blackboard. This can be done in either of two ways: 1) type in http://blackboard.midland.edu or 2) type in www.midland.edu, and select Blackboard from the Fast Links. Login in with the first letter of your first name plus the first 3 letters of your last name and the last three numbers of your social security number. An example for John Doe, social security number 123-45-6789, would be jdoe789. Your password would be your social security number with dashes until you change it to something else. Once you are in Blackboard, you will see “My Courses”. Select RNSG 1202 Pharmacology. Please read the major content areas such as Announcements, Course Information, Course Documents and Assignments. The quizzes and exams will be under Assignments.

3. Once you open a readiness quiz or unit exam, you must finish it. You can not save it and come back to it later. In order to facilitate student success, a schedule is posted with the assignments. Students are encouraged to take the quizzes and exams in a timely manner, although “last chance” dates are provided. A missed readiness quiz and exam must be made up no later than the posted “last chance” date or the student will receive a 0. Only in extreme emergencies will there be an exception to this rule.

4. A suggestion: In order to keep your service provider (Mozilla Firefox) from disconnecting service while you are taking an exam, minimize the Pharmacology page and open another web site. Minimize the second web site and return to the Pharmacology page, double click on the exam you want to take and begin the testing process. After approximately 10 minutes, minimize the Pharmacology, open the second web site and click on the refresh button. Go back to the Pharmacology page and finish taking the exam.
5. In the Tools section you can access your grades. If you have a padlock instead of a grade, you must contact the instructor because your test has not been recorded in your gradebook nor the instructor’s. If you have an (!) instead of a grade, the instructor will have to review your quiz/exam, then the grade will post.

6. Students who do not have access to a computer may use the Health Sciences Computer Lab (244DHS). Generally, the lab is open 8am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. However, nursing department instructors often reserve the entire lab and hold class in there, so if you need to use the lab it is strongly advised to call the division office (432-685-4600) or the computer lab (432-685-6421) to see if it is open. This course can be accessed from any computer anywhere which has internet access.

The unit objectives are selected objectives at the beginning of the assigned chapters in the textbook.

The instructor retains the right to make changes to the course as needed.

**Grading criteria for RNSG 1201:**

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<tr>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam Average (Three)</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam (Comprehensive)</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Readiness Quiz Average</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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The instructor will provide a class calendar. The instructor retains the right to make changes to the calendar.

The following SCANS skills are taught and/or reinforced in this course:

- **Reading:** locate, understand, and interpret written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules. Example: textbook assignments.

- **Decision Making:** specify goals and constraints, generate alternatives, consider risks, and evaluate and choose the best alternative: Example: Answer selection during test taking.

- **Self-management:** assess oneself accurately, set personal goals, monitor progress, and exhibit self-control. Example: keeping up with class study, quiz and exam schedule.
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Nursing Program Director: Kim Bezinque, RN
Division Dean: Dr. Becky Hammack
Division Office Location and Telephone: 209 DFH, 685-4600

Students are encouraged to contact the instructor at any time. However, making an appointment will guarantee the instructor’s availability at a specific time.

Revised: 8/08