CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
SYLLABUS FOR VNSG 1331
PHARMACOLOGY

Semester Hours Credit: 2
16 week course

INSTRUCTOR: _______________________

OFFICE HOURS: _________________

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Course Description: Fundamentals of medications and their diagnostic, therapeutic, and curative effects. It includes nursing interventions utilizing the nursing process.

B. VNSG 1331 is a required course for completion of the Vocational Nursing Certificate Program.

C. This course is occupationally related and serves as preparation for careers in Vocational Nursing.

D. Prerequisites:
   1. Current Health Care Provider BLS course completion
   2. Admission to the Central Texas College Vocational Nursing Program
   3. Satisfactory completion of all first semester courses

E. Policy:

   Dependent on Spring or Fall admission, the student will refer to the specific curriculum chart and follow that progression pattern.

F. Secretary’s Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) and Differentiated Essential Competencies (DEC’s) of graduates of Texas Vocational Nursing Educational Programs:

   Alphanumeric coding used throughout the syllabus denotes the integration of SCANS occupational competencies (C) and foundation skills (F). The Differentiated Essential Competencies (DEC’s) that are implemented in VNSG 1231 are coded as Member of Profession, Provider of Patient-Centered Care, Patient Safety Advocate, and Member of the Health Care Team. The complete delineation of Texas Board of Nursing Differentiated Essential Competencies (DECs) is found at:
II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, (Pharmacology), the student will:

A. Identify properties, effects, and principles of pharmacotherapeutic agents. (C5, C6, C7, C8)

B. Explain nursing interventions associated with the various phamacotheerapeutic agents. (F1, F2, F5)

C. Incorporate nutrition, drug therapy, and nursing interventions in developing plans of care to meet the needs of patients from culturally, ethnically and socially diverse backgrounds that are experiencing common medical-surgical health problems. (F3, F4, F5, F7, F8, F9)

D. Utilize therapeutic communication to develop patient education for common pharmacology agents. (C5, C6, C7, C8) and (F1, F3, F4, F7, F8, F9, F10, F11, F12, F15, F17)

E. Demonstrate an understanding of the following Differentiated Essential Competencies (DEC’s):

1. Member of a Profession:
   A. Knowledge 1-4
   B. Knowledge 1-3, 6-8
   D. Knowledge 2

2. Provider of Patient-Centered Care:
   A. Knowledge 1-4
   B. Knowledge 1-12
   C. Knowledge 1-8
   D. Knowledge 1-5
   E. Knowledge 1-7, 10, 12, 13
   F. Knowledge 1-3
   G. Knowledge 1-3

3. Patient Safety Advocate:
   B. Knowledge 2-4
   C. Knowledge 1

4. Member of the Health Care Team:
   A. Knowledge 1, 4, 5
   B. Knowledge 1, 2
   C. Knowledge 3, 6-8
   D. Knowledge 1

E. Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN) project core competencies will be taught and evaluated in relation to the course objectives and content. Those core competencies are Patient Centered Care, Teamwork and Collaboration, Best Practices, Quality Improvement, Safety and Informatics.
III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

A. Text: The instructional materials identified for this course are viewable through www.ctcd.edu/books

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Preparation for Class: In preparation for all classes, students are required to obtain the Course Guidelines and Syllabus from the C.T.C. Black Board site. An orientation to class will be provided on the first class day. Students are expected to read the objectives, text, and ATI materials related to that unit of study prior to lecture. Appropriate Study Guide, ATI Application, Think Critically: Pharmacology In Practice, Test Your Knowledge and Calculate Medication Dosages exercises should also be completed prior to class. Students are expected to participate in discussions and activities related to these resources.

B. Written Assignments: Written assignments must be submitted for grading on the designated due date. Late papers will receive a grade of “0” unless an extension of the due date was negotiated with the instructor prior to the time the assignment is due. Written Assignments in this course include ten (10) pre- and post-test learning tools to help you retain classroom information. They are worth 4 points each.

C. Attendance Policy: All students are expected to be in class on time. For further details, see the VN Student Handbook.

D. Progression: VNSG 1231 (Pharmacology) is a stand alone course completed in the 2nd or 3rd semester based on enrollment date. ATI Pharmacology Scores must be at proficiency level 2 or 3. If scores are at or below level one, proof of remediation must be submitted to the instructor. Registration for the next semester or the release of the Directors Affidavit to the Board of Nursing may be delayed until remediation is completed.

E. Academic Integrity: The following statement is published in the Central Texas College Catalog:

   All students are required and expected to maintain the highest standards of scholastic honesty in the preparation of all course work and during examinations. The following will be considered examples of scholastic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism - the taking of passages from the writing of others without giving proper credit to the sources.

2. Collusion - (a) using another’s work as one’s own, or (b) working together with another person in the preparation of work, unless such joint preparation is specifically approved in advance by the instructor.

3. Cheating - giving or receiving information on examinations.

Students guilty of scholastic dishonesty will be administratively dropped from the course with a grade of “F” and subject to disciplinary action.
All Vocational Nursing students are expected to abide by this policy. Falsification of attendance records is considered a violation of academic integrity. Obtaining or utilizing “Test Bank Materials” from any current or obsolete textbook, is considered scholastic dishonesty.

F. Office Hours: Each instructor keeps office hours for the purpose of conferring with students. Students are encouraged to make appointments with instructors to discuss their needs and/or problems related to their studies. Appointments for review of examination results must be completed prior to the next scheduled exam. Please go through the secretary to be announced.

G. Current practice guidelines set forth by Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) related to safe patient handling and ergonomics will be implemented.

V. EXAMINATIONS: Dates of the examinations are posted on the daily calendar/plan which is available to students from the CTC Black Board VNSG 1231 site. Attendance is expected. In the event a student is unable to attend a scheduled exam, notification to VNSG 1231 instructor (not clerical staff) is required prior to the beginning of class. E-mail notification is not acceptable. Make-up examinations may include up to 15% alternative type questions, ie. matching or short answer. It is the students’ responsibility to arrange with the instructor to complete the make-up examination within 1 week. If the rescheduled opportunity is missed there will be no other opportunities afforded. ParSCORE™ Test Forms are the only forms utilized for grading purposes. Students are responsible for checking ParSCORE™ Test Forms thoroughly prior to submitting them for grading. Additionally, students must mark the ParSCORE sheet clearly with dark markings with a number 2 pencil. Light marks are NOT detected by the machine that reads the answers. Once submitted, students will not be given access to these forms. Examinations are timed and students reporting to the exam late will not be given extra time to complete the exam.

VI. SEMESTER GRADE COMPUTATIONS: Semester grade computation: The grade for pharmacology is determined by 4 examinations worth 40 points each and 1 comprehensive final worth 50 points. Each of the 4 examinations will consist of 40 questions valued at 1 point each. The Final Examination is a 50 question comprehensive exam. There will be ten pre- and post-test learning aids during this semester. These short in-class quizzes are designed solely to help you retain information. They are worth four points each, totaling 40 points. Each question on the final is worth 1 point. Students must obtain a 70% average (175/250 available points) to successfully complete VNSG 1231. There will be no rounding of grades for VNSG 1331.

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<tr>
<th>Test</th>
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<tr>
<td>Test 1</td>
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<td>Test 4</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Pre/Post Tests</td>
<td>40 points</td>
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**TOTAL** 250 points
VII. NOTES AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

A. Course Withdrawal: It is the student’s responsibility to officially drop a class if circumstances prevent attendance. Any student who desires to, or must officially withdraw from a course after the first scheduled class meeting must file an Application for Withdrawal or an Application for Refund. The withdrawal form must be signed by the student. Application for Withdrawal will be accepted at any time prior to Friday of the 12th week of classes during the 16 week fall and spring semesters. The deadline for sessions of other lengths is as follows:

CTC Form 59 will be accepted at any time prior to Friday of the 12th week of classes during the 16-week fall and spring semesters. The deadline for sessions of other lengths is:

- 10 week session  Friday of the 8th week
- 8 week session  Friday of the 6th week
- 5½ week session  Friday of the 4th week

The equivalent date (75% of the semester) will be used for sessions of other lengths. The specific last day to withdrawal is published each semester in the Schedule Bulletin.

A student who officially withdraws will be awarded the grade of “W” provided the student’s attendance and academic performance are satisfactory at the time of official withdrawal. Students must file a withdrawal application with the College before they may be considered for withdrawal.

A student may not withdraw from a class for which the instructor has previously issued the student a grade of “F” or “FN” for nonattendance.

B. Administrative Withdrawal: An administrative withdrawal may be initiated when the student fails to meet College attendance requirements. The instructor will assign the appropriate grade on CTC Form 59 for submission to the registrar.

C. Incomplete Grade: The College catalog states, “An incomplete grade may be given in those cases where the student has completed the majority of the course work but, because of personal illness, death in the immediate family, or military orders, the student is unable to complete the requirements for a course . . .” Prior approval from the instructor is required before the grade of “I” for Incomplete is recorded. A student who merely fails to show for the final examination will receive a zero for the final grade and an “F” for the course.

D. Cellular Phones and Beepers: Cellular phones and beepers will be turned off while the student is in the classroom or laboratory. Laptops and tablets are allowed in class for the purpose of taking notes. However, only class related materials should appear on the screen. Other activities are NOT permitted.
E. **American’s With Disabilities Act (ADA):** Disability Support Services provide services to students who have appropriate documentation of a disability. Students requiring accommodations for class are responsible for contacting the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) located on the central campus. This service is available to all students, regardless of location. Explore the website at [www.ctcd.edu/disability-support](http://www.ctcd.edu/disability-support) for further information. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws through the DSS office.

F. **Instructor Discretion:** The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements.

G. **Civility:** Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive educational experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Arriving late to class is considered incivility, and is disruptive to the class. You are expected to arrive on time.

H. **Values and Ethics in Nursing:** Students are expected to demonstrate commitment to the following values and ethical principles believed to be inherent to the nursing profession:
   a. **Altruism:** Concern for the welfare of others seen through caring, commitment, and compassion
   b. **Human Dignity:** Belief in the inherent worth and uniqueness of the individual seen through respect, empathy, humanness, and trust
   c. **Truth:** Faithfulness to fact seen through honesty, accountability, and authenticity
   d. **Justice:** Upholding moral and legal principles seen through courage, advocacy, and objectivity
   e. **Freedom:** Capacity to exercise choice seen through openness, self-direction, and self-discipline
   f. **Equality:** Having the same rights and privileges seen through acceptance, tolerance, and fairness
   g. **Esthetics:** Identifying the qualities of objects, events, and persons that provide satisfaction as seen through creativity, sensitivity and appreciation

I. **ATI Testing and remediation:** It is mandatory for VN student’s at all three levels of the program to participate in the Assessment Technologies Institute (ATI) comprehensive assessment and review program. Detailed diagnostic reports at the end of the semester (online exams) provide the student immediate results and opportunity for remediation. Failure to achieve satisfactory results will require student to provide proof of satisfactory remediation to the instructor as specified in the Counseling Statement completed after the examination. Failure to remediate could result in the student not being permitted to register for subsequent classes.
VIII. COURSE OUTLINE

The learning outcomes for VNSG 1231 are stated under Roman Numeral II of this syllabus.

Unit objectives are stated at the beginning of each chapter of the required text.

A. Common Pharmacology Agents (Refer to Course Guidelines for calendar)
   1. Drugs Used to Fight Infections
   2. Drugs Used to Manage Pain
   3. Drugs That Affect the Central Nervous System
   4. Drugs That Affect the Peripheral Nervous System
   5. Drugs That Affect the Neuromuscular System
   6. Drugs That Affect the Respiratory System
   7. Drugs That Affect the Cardiovascular System
   8. Drugs That Affect the Gastrointestinal System
   9. Drugs That Affect the Endocrine System
  10. Drugs That Affect the Urinary System
  11. Drugs That Affect the Immune System
  12. Drugs That Affect Other Body Systems

B. Drug Actions
   1. Side effects
   2. Contraindications
   3. Incompatibilities

C. Nursing Responsibilities
   1. Patient teaching
   2. Documentation
   3. Gerontologic Alert
My signature acknowledges that I have read and understand the syllabus, course format and testing policy for VNSG 1231, Pharmacology, and I agree to abide by the terms set forth in this document.

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<th>Printed Name</th>
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Signature