

**Hagerstown Community College**  
**OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS DOCUMENT**

**COURSE:** NUR 224 – Pharmacology for Nursing Practice, 2 Credits

Summer 2016

**INSTRUCTORS:** Robin Hill  
Lori A. Manilla

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides information on a variety of drugs that students need to know in order to administer medications safely. Major drug categories associated with body systems will be reviewed. Students will learn about drug pharmacokinetics, dosage, preparation, administration and interactions. Particular emphasis will be on the use of the nursing process when providing care to patients receiving medications. A grade of 75% or above must be achieved on all exams and a 75% or above must be attained on all course requirements. Prerequisites: NUR 116 and NUR 117 or completion of NUR 116-117 challenge exam for transition students, BIO 205 or concurrent enrollment. 2 Credits

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:**

- Kee, J. and Hayes, E., McCuiston (2014). Pharmacology: A Patient-Centered Nursing Approach. 8<sup>th</sup> edition. Philadelphia: Saunders. ISBN: 9781455751488
- RN PHARMACOLOGY FOR NURSING, EDITION 5.0, Content Mastery Series, ATI Nursing Education, Knippa, et al, 2013.
- Nursing 2016 Drug Handbook. Lippincott.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

- Utilize critical thinking in application of the nursing process to provide care for individuals in a variety of settings that promotes health throughout the lifespan.
- Adhere to quality of care and safety standards in all client care setting.
- Facilitate the continuity of care for individuals in various acute and community settings.
- Practice within the ethical and legal framework of the nursing profession and maintain professional standards of conduct.
- Provide compassionate care and serve as advocates for individuals and families, respecting their diverse cultures, values, and belief systems.
- Employ written and therapeutic communication skills.
- Collaborate with the individual, family, and interdisciplinary health professionals to promote, maintain, or restore health, and comfort the dying.
- Manage human, physical, and technological resources in a safe and cost-effective manner without sacrificing quality nursing care.
- Participate in lifelong learning activities that promote professional growth and personal development.
- Exercise leadership skills in the management of care.

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Plan care for clients receiving various types of pharmacologic therapy.
- Administers medication according to current safety standards and patient rights.
- Facilitate the continuity of individuals receiving pharmacologic therapy.
- Integrate ethical and legal principles into the care of clients receiving various types of pharmacologic therapy.
- Consider the uniqueness of various cultures, values, and belief systems and their impact on clients who need pharmacologic therapy.
- Utilize effective communication skills to promote interaction between the client and caregiver regarding the client’s pharmacologic therapy.
- Facilitate communication between the client and the health care team regarding the client’s plan of care and prescribed pharmacologic therapy.
- Demonstrate effective use of resources that minimize harm and promote established outcomes for clients receiving pharmacologic therapy.
- Demonstrate current knowledge of pharmacologic agents.
- Advocates for patients in managing pharmacological therapy.

**Total Hours of Coursework:**

To earn one academic credit at HCC, students are required to complete a minimum of 37.5 clock hours (45 fifty-minute “academic” hours) of coursework per semester. Those hours of coursework may be completed through a combination of hours within the classroom and hours outside the classroom. Certain courses may require more than the 37.5 minimum of hours of coursework per credit.

*For face-to-face class: NUR 224*

Assignment/Assessment	Clock Hours	Explanation
In-class/online instruction, Tests	38	Lecture online/class
Assigned reading	70	Reading, studying, etc.- minimum
Homework	20	Take home assignments
Labs	2	Simulation and skill testing
ATI Assignments	15	Individual units corresponding with study and proctored exam.
Total hours	145	

For most classes, student should expect to do at least 2 hours of coursework outside of class for each hour of in-class coursework.

**ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES:**

1. Theory Grade

- Homework/Quizzes – 20%
- 4 exams – 60%
- ATI Proctored -10%
- Labs- 10%

## 2. Grading Schedule for Nursing Courses

- A = 90.0 – 100.0
  - B = 80.0 - 89.9
  - C = 75.0 - 79.9
  - D = 65.0 - 74.9
  - F = 64.9 – below
3. A grade of 75% or greater must be achieved to successfully complete this course.
  4. Homework is collected at the beginning of class. Homework that is not turned in on time will receive a grade of zero.
  5. Audio-visual/computer materials identified in the outline are required and testable.
  6. Grades on all examinations and for the course will not be rounded upward, but will be recorded to the hundredth decimal place. For example, for a score of 83.86, an 83.86 will be recorded. A passing average score (75.0 or higher) is required for unit examinations to pass this course. **Grades posted to Moodle are unofficial grades, and are only intended to help student's informally track their progress.**
  7. A drug calculation exam must be passed with a minimum score of 90% in order to remain in the program. Please review the Progression and Retention Policy in the Nursing Student Handbook. The grade for this exam is not counted as part of the theory grade, however if you fail this exam after two attempts you will not be allowed to take NURS 231 until the next time it is offered again, unless you have failed a nursing course prior to this then the policy of the Nursing program at HCC is you will not be allowed to complete the nursing program. Please refer to your Student Handbook 2015-2016.
  8. Study Guides / Questions /Homework for each class must be completed and will be collected at the beginning of class. **Homework that is not turned in at the beginning of class will receive a grade of zero.** Please make two copies, one to submit and one to use during class. Homework will contribute to the course grade.
  9. **Students who do not complete an exam on the designated date will receive a 5% deduction in grade for every weekday the exam is late.**
  10. Students who fail an exam are not allowed to retake the exam or quiz to improve grades. Some quizzes will allow a single “re-take”
  11. Reading/computer/online information and library materials identified in the course outline are required and testable.

### **COURSE POLICIES:**

- Students are expected to promptly attend all classes (see Attendance Policy in Appendix). If unable to attend class, contact the instructor at HCC.
- Students are expected to adhere to the Honor Code of Hagerstown Community College and all standards in the Nursing Student Handbook.
- Progression in the Nursing Program is contingent upon the student's continued meeting of all objectives and outcomes of previous and current nursing courses.
- Students in the nursing program are required to adhere to all of the policies of the program. Failure to do so may result in faculty conferencing, disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the program.
- Student behavior that violates the HCC Code of Conduct, the HCC Nursing Department Code of Conduct, or the ANA Code of Ethics will immediately be dismissed from class, lab, or clinical and will be referred to the Director of Nursing.

- The instructor reserves the right to modify the course content, requirements, and evaluation procedures as he/she deems necessary.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Completion of all assigned ATIs
- Unit Exams.
- ATI Pharmacology Proctored exam
- Calculation Exam
- Study Guides / Questions / Homework each Week
- Course Evaluations.

There are minimal on-campus classes in this hybrid course, with that being said it is imperative that none are missed and if any are 2 points for each occurrence will be deducted from the students final grade. Any emergency absences will be discussed with the director and faculty for further consideration.

**Services for Student with Special Needs:** Students who have special needs are encouraged to identify themselves to the Coordinator of Disability Services as early as possible. Reasonable accommodations based on current documentation are provided to qualified students.

**The instructor reserves the right to modify the course content, schedule, and/or assessment procedures as deemed necessary.**

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Robin Hill [robinh630@outlook.com](mailto:robinh630@outlook.com)  
Lori A. Manilla [lamanilla@hagerstowncc.edu](mailto:lamanilla@hagerstowncc.edu)