

# College of San Mateo

## Course Outline

- New Course  
 Update/No change  
 Course Revision (Minor)  
 Course Revision (Major)

Date: 4/3/08

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**Department:** Nursing                      **Number:** 615  
**Course Title:** Pharmacology for Nurses: Practical Applications                      **Units:** 1  
**Total Semester Hours:** Lecture: 16      **Lab:**                      **Homework:** 32      **By Arrangement:**

**Length of Course**

- Semester-long  
 Short course (Number of weeks 3 days)  
 Open entry/Open exit

**Grading**

- Letter  
 Pass/No Pass  
 Grade Option (letter or Pass/No Pass)

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1. **Prerequisite** (Attach Enrollment Limitation Validation Form.)

None

2. **Corequisite** (Attach Enrollment Limitation Validation Form.)

None

3. **Recommended Preparation** (Attach Enrollment Validation Form.)

None

4. **Catalog Description** (Include prerequisites/corequisites/recommended preparation.)

(1) (Pass/No Pass grading.) Total of sixteen lecture hours. This course provides practical application of the pharmacological principles of drug therapy to Nursing practice. Discussion will stress the utilization of key drugs prescribed to treat different disease states. Lectures are organized by body system in order to correlate with the nursing pharmacology text currently being used. No prerequisites. (AA, CSU)

5. **Class Schedule Description** (Include prerequisites/corequisites/recommended preparation.)

This course provides practical application of the pharmacological principles of drug therapy to Nursing practice. Discussion will stress the utilization of key drugs prescribed to treat different disease states. Lectures are organized by body system in order to correlate with the nursing pharmacology text currently being used and the "Top 200 medications" prescribed annually. No prerequisites.

6. **Student Learning Outcomes** (Identify 1-6 expected learner outcomes using active verbs.)

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

- Using the "Top 200 medications" prescribed annually, categorize the medications into drug categories.
- Describe drug therapy as it relates to the different body systems and disease states.
- Describe the most common drug interactions and side effects.
- Differentiate specific administration concerns for the different classes of drugs.
- Using the nursing process, describe the RN's role in medication administration.

7. **Course Objectives** (Identify specific teaching objectives detailing course content and activities. *For some courses, the course objectives will be the same as the student learning outcomes. If this is the case, please simply indicate this in this section).*

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

- Describe drug therapy as it relates to the different body systems and disease states.
- Identify chemical mediators and receptor cell targets affected by a specific class of drugs.
- Evaluate how the choice of drug therapy is based upon side effect profile, specificity of action, and frequency of administration.
- Describe the most common drug interactions and side effects.
- Differentiate specific administration concerns for the different classes of drugs.
- Using the nursing process, describe the RN's role in medication administration.

8. **Course Content** (Brief but complete topical outline of the course that includes major subject areas [1-2 pages]. Should reflect all course objectives listed above. In addition, you may attach a sample course syllabus with a timeline.)

- Introduction (brief):
  - Pharmacological principles: Pharmacokinetics, Drug Absorption & Excretion
  - Calculation of doses: simple ratio method
  - Routes of administration
- The RN's role in Drug Administration
  - The Drug Order
  - The Use of Nursing Process
  - National Patient Safety Goals
  - Continuum of Care
- CNS: -Narcotic analgesics
  - Psychotropics (anti-anxiety, antidepressants, sedatives, stimulants)
  - Anticonvulsants
  - Parkinson meds
- Autonomic NS
- Cardiovascular
  - Cardiac drugs
  - Antihypertensives
  - Anticoagulants
  - Antilipemic
- Renal & GU (genito-urinary) drugs:
  - Diuretics

- -Female & Male reproductive agents
- Endocrine:
  - Pituitary
  - Thyroid
  - Pancreas & Diabetes
  - Adrenal
- Respiratory: Cough & cold, COPD, inhalation therapy
- Anti-infectives: ATB, Antifungals, Antivirals, etc.
- Anti-Inflammatory: Non-steroidal (NSAID's) vs. Steroids
- Immune System drugs
- GI (gastro-intestinal):
  - Antacids
  - Acid-Blockers
  - Antidiarrheals & Laxatives
  - Antiemetics
  - Nutritional supplements
- Dermatological agents
- Ophthalmics agents: Glaucoma meds
- Otic
- Blood-forming agents: Iron and agents for anemia

9. **Representative Instructional Methods** (Describe instructor-initiated teaching strategies that will assist students in meeting course objectives. Include examples of out-of-class assignments, required reading and writing assignments, and methods for teaching critical thinking skills.) **If hours by arrangement are required by this course, indicate the additional instructional activity which will be provided during this time.**

Skill demonstration, discussion, multimedia instruction, on-line pharmacology data sites and skill competency practice.

10. **Representative Methods of Evaluation** (Describe measurement of student progress toward course objectives. Courses with required writing component and/or problem-solving emphasis must reflect critical thinking component. If skills class, then applied skills.)

- Lecture
- Case Study
- Question-driven learning
- Group discussion
- Multimedia instruction
- Small group presentation of Concept Map

11. **Representative Text Materials** (With few exceptions, texts need to be current. Include publication dates.)

- Lilley, L., et al. Pharmacology and the Nursing Process. (2007). St. Louis, MO: Mosby.
- Current Drug Guide for Nurses

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Submission Date: \_\_\_\_\_