COURSE ID: NURS 615  TITLE: Pharmacology for Nurses: Practical Applications
Units: 3.0 units  Hours/Semester: 48.0-54.0 Lecture hours; and 96.0-108.0 Homework hours
Method of Grading: Letter Grade Only

2. COURSE DESIGNATION:
Degree Credit
Transfer credit: CSU

3. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:
Catalog Description:
Course provides practical application of the pharmacological principles of drug therapy to the 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 (Summer only).

4. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME(S) (SLO'S):
Upon successful completion of this course, a student will meet the following outcomes:
1. Apply nursing methods, protocols and procedures to appropriate care situations.
2. Use the nursing process, which emphasizes critical thinking, independent judgment and continual evaluation as a means to determine nursing activities.
3. Meet required course objectives.

5. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES:
Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:
1. Apply nursing methods, protocols and procedures to appropriate care situations.
2. Use the nursing process, which emphasizes critical thinking, independent judgment and continual evaluation as a means to determine nursing activities.

6. COURSE CONTENT:
Lecture Content:
1. Introduction (brief):
   A. Pharmacological principles: Pharmacokinetics, Drug Absorption & Excretion
   B. Calculation of doses: simple ratio method
   C. Routes of administration
2. The RN's role in Drug Administration
   A. The Drug Order
   B. The Use of Nursing Process
   C. National Patient Safety Goals
   D. Continuum of Care
3. CNS:
   A. Psychotropics (anti-anxiety, antidepressants, sedatives, stimulants)
   B. Anticonvulsants
   C. Parkinson meds
   D. Narcotic analgesics
   E. Pain management - opioids
4. Autonomic NS
5. Cardiovascular
   A. Cardiac drugs
   B. Antihypertensives
   C. Anticoagulants
   D. Antilipemic
6. Renal & GU (genito-urinary) drugs:
   A. Diuretics
   B. Female & Male reproductive agents
7. Endocrine:
   A. Pituitary
B. Thyroid  
C. Pancreas & Diabetes  
D. Adrenal  
8. Respiratory: Cough & cold, COPD, inhalation therapy  
9. Anti-infectives: ATB, Antifungals, Antivirals, etc.  
10. Anti-Inflammatory: Non-steroidal (NSAIDs) vs. Steroids  
11. Immune System drugs  
12. GI (gastro-intestinal):  
   A. Antacids  
   B. Acid-Blockers  
   C. Antidiarrheals & Laxatives  
   D. Antiemetics  
   E. Nutritional supplements  
13. Dermatological agents  
14. Ophthalmics agents: Glaucoma meds  
15. Otic  

7. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:  
Typical methods of instruction may include:  
   A. Lecture  
   B. Discussion  
   C. Other (Specify): Students will be required to complete learning activities online utilizing the textbook publisher learning management system.  

8. REPRESENTATIVE ASSIGNMENTS  
Representative assignments in this course may include, but are not limited to the following:  
   Writing Assignments:  
       Written reports  

       Sample writing assignment:  
       Complete a written report on the usage and potential side effects of a particular medication.  
   Reading Assignments:  
       Read assigned chapters in textbook.  

       Sample reading assignment:  
       Read chapter 22 - Antihypertensive Drugs  
   Other Outside Assignments:  
       Online activities - Audio/Visual presentations, case-studies, quizzes, and critical thinking activities.  

9. REPRESENTATIVE METHODS OF EVALUATION  
Representative methods of evaluation may include:  
   A. Class Participation  
   B. Exams/Tests  

10. REPRESENTATIVE TEXT(S):  
Possible textbooks include:  
Other:  
   A. Online course access for textbook.