



Walters State Community College Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Number and Name: NRSG 1360 Pharmacology in Nursing

Section ID: 50282.202350

Semester and Year: Summer 2023

Credit Hours: 3

Start Date: May 08, 2023

End Date: August 03, 2023

Course Format: CON - Conventional Methodology

Catalog Course Description: This course applies the core concepts that provide the basis for knowledge, skills and attitudes that are essential for providing safe pharmacological management for patients with a variety of alterations in health. **F,S,SU**

Meeting Details: M; 09:00AM - 04:00PM; TECH 150

Course Drop Deadline: July 04, 2023

Instructor Information

Name: Staci Boruff, PhD, RN

Role: Assistant Director of Nursing, Professor of Nursing

Office Location: TECH 156

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday

Office Phone: 423-585-6821

Email: Staci.Boruff@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Cheryl McCall

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-6981

Name: Beth Cruz, DNP, RN

Role: Associate Professor

Office Location: TECH 118C

Office Hours: As posted and as scheduled

Office Phone: 423-318-2752

Email: Beth.Cruz@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Dr. Cheryl McCall

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-6981

Name: Rebecca Turner, DNP, RN

Role: Assistant Professor

Office Location: TECH 106G

Office Hours: As posted and by appointment

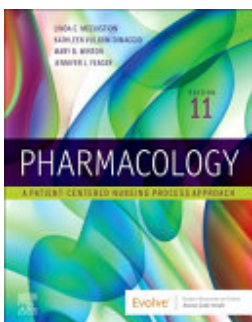
Office Phone: 423-585-6985

Email: Beki.Turner@ws.edu

Supervisor Name: Dr. Cheryl McCall

Supervisor Phone: 423-585-6981

Required Textbook(s) and Materials



Pharmacology

ISBN: 9780323793155

Authors: Linda E. McCuiston, PhD, MSN, Kathleen Vuljoin DiMaggio, RN, MSN, Mary B. Winton, Jennifer J. Yeager, PhD, RN, APRN

Publisher: Saunders

Publication Date: 2022-01-03

Edition: 11th

Supplemental or Optional Materials

Kee, J.L., Marshall, S.M, Woods, K., & Forrester, M.C. (2021). Clinical calculations with applications to general and specialty areas (9th ed.). St. Louis: Elsevier

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

- Upon completion of this course, which includes lecture, discussion, text readings, independent study, and written assignments, and in acknowledgement of the patient's needs for a safe and effective environment, health promotion and maintenance, and psychosocial and physiologic integrity, the student will:
 1. Demonstrate foundation knowledge of the pharmaceutic, pharmacokinetic, and pharmacodynamic phases of commonly prescribed drugs.

2. Identify the nursing responsibilities necessary for the safe administration of medications.
 3. Demonstrate dosage calculation skills necessary to administer medications safely in subsequent nursing courses.
 4. Satisfy the following NLN core components and competencies, and QSEN outcomes.
- Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to meet the eight (8) core competencies related to safe pharmacological management for adults with alterations in health that are primarily chronic in nature as evidenced by:
 1. Professional Behavior: Demonstrate ethical, legal and regulatory frameworks of nursing & the standards of professional nursing practice.
 2. Communication: Demonstrate basic effective communication techniques including information and technology.
 3. Assessment: Demonstrate ability to collect subjective and objective data to identify actual or potential health alterations.
 4. Clinical Decision Making: Formulate clinical decisions to provide safe and effective evidenced-based nursing care.
 5. Caring Interventions: Demonstrate caring interventions that incorporate principles of dignity, diversity, safety & knowledge.
 6. Teaching and Learning: Develop an individualized basic teaching plan to meet the educational needs of patients, families, and/or groups.
 7. Collaboration: Collaborate when planning care.
 8. Managing Care: Use basic principles of managing care.
 - QSEN: Quality and Safety Education for Nurses:
Patient-Centered Care
 1. Develop an appreciation of medications as a means to improve patient health and comfort.
 - Teamwork and Collaboration
 1. Acknowledge the importance of working as a team to administer the right medication in the right dose to the right patient at the right time by the right route for the right reason.

Evidence-based Practice

1. Appreciate the importance of regularly updating medication resources to keep clinical practice based on new knowledge.

Quality Improvement

1. Value relationship between national campaigns and initiatives in local practices and practice settings, including:

- TJC National Patient Safety Goals
- QSEN
- ISMP initiatives
- Quaid Foundation

Safety

1. Describe the benefits and limitations of selected safety-enhancing technologies, to include:

- Barcodes
- Medication pumps
- Automatic alerts/alarms

1. Demonstrate effective use of strategies to reduce risk of harm to self and others, to include:

- Paying attention to detail
- Identifying resources to reduce reliance on memory

1. Acknowledging the importance of effective and accurate communication, to include:

- Repeat back and read backs
- Clarifying questions
- Avoiding abbreviations
- Documenting accurately

Informatics

1. Appreciate the role of technology and information management tools to support medication administration.
1. Demonstrate the ability to utilize authoritative sources for drug information.

Instructional Approach and Methods

Lecture

Assigned readings

Written work/assignments

Assessment, Evaluation and Testing Procedures

1. There will be 3 examinations worth a total of 185 points given during the semester and a comprehensive final exam worth 85 points.
2. Each examination will have multiple choice and alternative answer questions concerned with pharmacology content and 10 drug dosage calculation problems.
3. Exams will be online via eLearn using WSCC laptops/desktops with Exemplify from ExamSoft. Exams will be given in the classroom or computer lab and monitored by faculty. Students may bring a mouse from home if testing on a laptop.
4. The final will have 75 questions concerned with pharmacology content and 10 drug dosage calculation problems.
5. There will be one abbreviations exam based on the handout posted in eLearn. This exam is worth 5 points.
6. Examination questions determined to be statistically invalid may be reviewed to determine if adjustments are necessary.
7. Examination scores will be posted on the WSCC course management system (eLearn). If you suspect an error in your posted score, you have one week to notify your faculty advisor in writing. Grades are final after one week of being posted on Elearn. No test scores will be given via telephone.

Absences on an Exam Day

If a student is absent on the day of an exam, the course coordinator must be notified via email (Staci.Boruff@ws.edu). Failure to do so will result in deducting 2 percentage points from the final course average. For an excused absence, (refer to Student Handbook for guidelines), 3 percentage points may be deducted from the student's possible exam score. Unexcused absences may result in 10 percentage points being deducted from the student's possible exam score. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor within one day to schedule a make-up exam. Failure to take a make-up exam as scheduled will result in a zero (0) grade for that exam. The format of the makeup test is at the instructor's discretion.

| EXAM | DATE | TOPICS | NUMBER OF QUESTIONS |
|-------|----------|---|---------------------|
| Abb | | Common abbreviations from the list posted in eLearn | 20 (5 points) |
| 1 | 05/15/23 | Introduction to pharmacology; Drug regulations and resources; Phases of drug action; Drug interactions; Medication safety; Ethical considerations; research; Nursing process; Drug administration principles; Cultural, genetic, and age-related considerations; Central nervous system stimulants and depressants; Drugs for pain management; calculation of PO and injectable drugs | 55 |
| 2 | 06/05/23 | Drugs for neurologic disorders; Drugs used in disasters; autonomic nervous system agents; Drugs to treat opioid dependence; Anti-infective agents; Antiinflammatory drugs, drugs for eyes, ears, and skin ; calculation of safe dose and IV flow rates | 65 |
| 3 | 06/19/23 | Respiratory agents; Antidiabetic drugs; endocrine agents; Gastrointestinal agents; nutrition and electrolyte replacement; herbal therapy; Cardiovascular agents; diuretics and antihypertensive drugs; complex dosage calculation | 65 |
| FINAL | 06/26/23 | Anticoagulants, antiplatelets, thrombolytics, antilipidemics, and peripheral vasodilators; Oncologic drugs and immunologic agents; plus comprehensive questions and dosage calc problems | 85 |

Grading Scale

| | |
|---|------------|
| A | 92% - 100% |
| | |

| | |
|---|--------------|
| B | 83% - 91% |
| C | 78% - 82% |
| D | 70% - 77% |
| F | 69% or below |

Assignments

Required written work constitutes 30 points and consists of:

- 3 dosage calculation problem sets (10 points each)

Written homework must be placed in the eLearn class Dropbox that is labeled for the assignment. All written work must be submitted to the instructor or the student may receive an Incomplete for the course grade.

Calculation Problems Sets: Assigned problems must be uploaded into eLearn course Dropbox labeled for the assignment. **Work must be shown for all calculation problems to receive the points for the assignment.**

- Grading Rubric for Dosage Calculation: **One point each for**
 - Accuracy
 - Completeness (all sets included)
 - On time
 - Work shown
 - Neatness

When calculating problems, please follow the calculation rules below **OR AS POSTED IN THE PROBLEM:**

Calculation Rules:

1. Label all answers with the appropriate unit of measurement.
2. Round oral liquid medicine dosages to a tenth of a mL (one decimal place to the right).
3. Round all injection amounts over 1 mL to the nearest tenth of a mL (one decimal place to the right).
4. Round all injection amounts under 1 mL to the nearest hundredth of a mL (two decimal places to the right).
5. Round IV and tube feeding flow rates to the nearest drop or mL (unless otherwise stated) (0.5 and over goes up; 0.4 or less goes down).

6. Do not round weight calculations or round as instructed by the course coordinator.
7. All work on tests must be shown.
8. **Only one answer will be accepted on a test.**

Failure to round correctly will result in the answer being counted as incorrect.

Problem sets are due in the DROPBOX by **11:59 pm** on the due date.

Class Participation

Attendance at classes and other official appointments is required. Attendance is recorded and absences are counted from the first scheduled meeting of the class. Punctual attendance is expected for each lecture, campus lab and clinical experience. There may be times when a student will be unable to attend class for reasons beyond his/her control. In such cases it is the student's responsibility to see the appropriate instructor for assistance in obtaining information, handouts, etc. for the missed content. Students must attend the first day of class or contact the Director of Nursing prior to the first day of class. Failure to do this may result in the student being dropped from the course.

Course and Class Policies/Procedures

Phones must be stored in backpacks or purses during class/testing. On lecture days, phones may be accessed during breaks. On exam days, phones can be accessed after all students have completed the exam. Students who must access their phones for texts or phone calls during lectures must leave the classroom to avoid disrupting others.

Additional Course Requirements/Details/Information

Total Course Points:

The total available points for this course are 305 points.

Academic Honesty

Faculty expect all students to refrain from acts of academic misconduct including but not limited to:

1. Plagiarism - refers to using another person's ideas or writing without giving proper credit to the original source. Indulging in this type of conduct will subject the student to disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures of Walters State Community College as outlined in the Student Handbook. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" for the paper/exam/presentation. Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions contained in the college Catalog/Student Handbook apply (see policy 04:18:02 Disciplinary Sanctions).

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following:

- a. Using cut/paste tool from original document with no references given.
 - b. Copying another student's work and submitting it as one's own.
 - c. Forging or otherwise altering signatures.
 - d. Giving or falsifying academic documents or materials.
2. Cheating - construed as attempting to deceive or mislead which includes, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Utilizing old tests, projects, notes or written papers.
 - b. Providing unauthorized information to a fellow student about exam content.
 - c. Receiving unauthorized aid from any source with quizzes, examinations, or other assignments.
 - d. Seeking information in an unacceptable manner during/preceding an exam or other assigned work (cheat sheet, verbal exchange, looking at another person's paper or electronic device, utilizing headphones, using textbook when the test/quiz is not an open book test/quiz, using textbook test bank etc.).
 - e. Consulting with a classmate or others when taking a computerized test.
 - f. Disregarding other specific policies and procedures outlined for a particular class.
 - g. Utilizing unapproved technology/electronic equipment during testing (i.e.: mobile devices such as cell phones, smart devices, or tablets, etc.).
 - h. Using the same Internet Protocol network address (IP address) as another student for testing without approval from the course faculty.

Student Resources

TUTORING SERVICES

Students in need of tutoring assistance are encouraged to contact the Office of Student Tutoring located as follows:

- Morristown Campus - Student Services Building Room L107 - (423) 585-6920

- Niswonger Campus - GRNV 226 - (423) 798-7982
- Sevierville Campus - MMH Room 210 - (865) 286-2787
- Claiborne Campus - Room 123A - (423) 851-4761

Specific tutoring assistance in mathematics and writing is available in-person and online as follows:

- Morristown Campus - English Learning Lab - HUM 120 - (423) 585-6970

[Walters State English Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/humanities/writing-lab)

- Morristown Campus - Mathematics Lab - MBSS 222 - (423) 585-6872

[Walters State Mathematics Learning Lab \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)
[ws.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab](https://www.waltersstate.edu/academics/mathematics/learning-lab)

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Students who need assistance with computing and technology issues should contact the IET Helpdesk by phone at Morristown: (423) 318-2742; Niswonger: (423) 798-8186; or Sevierville: (865) 286-2789 or on-line access.

[Walters State Helpdesk \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/helpdesk)
[helpdesk.ws.edu](https://www.waltersstate.edu/helpdesk)

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES

Students with disabilities must register with Student Support Services each semester in the Student Services Building, Room U134 (phone (423) 585-6892) if they need any special facilities, services, or consideration.

[Walters State Student Support Services \(opens in new window\)](https://www.waltersstate.edu/student-services/disability/)
[ws.edu/student-services/disability/](https://www.waltersstate.edu/student-services/disability/)

SUICIDE PREVENTION STATEMENT

Walters State is committed to and cares about all students. Support services are available for any person at Walters State who is experiencing feelings of being overwhelmed, hopelessness, depression, thinking about dying by suicide, or is otherwise in need of assistance. For immediate help, contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by calling or texting 9-8-8 or the Trevor Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. Veterans may also contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 (press 1) or Text 838255.

Walters State has a relationship in place with the following community agencies to provide services (may include crisis referral services, prevention screenings, etc.):

- Cherokee Health Systems 423-586-5032
- Frontier Health 423-467-3600

College Policies

STUDENTS HANDBOOK AS OFFICIAL GOVERNING DOCUMENT

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Walters State Community College Student Handbook. All students attending Walters State Community College, regardless of the time, location, or format of the class, must abide by the rules and regulations outlined in the current Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook and the current Walters State Timetable of Classes.

[Walters State Catalog \(opens in new window\)](https://catalog.ws.edu/)
catalog.ws.edu/

[Walters State Timetable of Classes \(opens in new window\)](https://ws.edu/admissions/registration/)
ws.edu/admissions/registration/

PURPOSE, LIMITATIONS AND MODIFICATION OF SYLLABUS

This syllabus sets forth the expectations for the course content, work, and grading as well as expectations for student performance and conduct. The syllabus does not constitute a contract between the student and the instructor or the College. The information contained here is subject to change at any time. The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus at any time with written notification to the students. Though changes are possible, it is expected that the course will be conducted as described in this syllabus for the semester/year specified in the Course Information section of the syllabus. This syllabus is only valid for the semester/year specified and course requirements are not guaranteed for future semesters.

COURSE GROUND RULES

- Students must attend the first day of on-ground class or contact the instructor prior to the first class. Failure to do this may result in being dropped from the class. Excessive absences may substantially lower the course grade.
- Regular class attendance is a student's obligation for any course regardless of format. (See the Walters State Catalog/Student Handbook). If a student misses class, it is his or her responsibility to contact the instructor regarding missed assignments and/or activities and to be prepared for the next class assignment.
- Students enrolled in web courses must follow the course attendance policy defined for online attendance during the first week of class and throughout the term. Failure to do this may result

in being dropped from the class during week one OR may result in the accrual of absences which may negatively impact the student's grade in the course.

- Students who have not paid fees on time and/or are not correctly registered for this class and whose names do not appear on official class rolls generated by the Walters State student information system (MyWS) will not be allowed to remain in class or receive credit for this course.
- Electronic devices must not disrupt the instructional process or college-sponsored academic activity. Use of electronic devices is prohibited unless use of the device is relevant to the activity and use is sanctioned by the faculty member in charge. Electronic devices that are not relevant to the activity or sanctioned by the faculty member in charge should be set so that they will not produce an audible sound during classroom instruction or other college-sponsored academic activity.

FINANCIAL AID

Students receiving any type of financial aid or scholarship should contact the Financial Aid Office before making any changes to their schedule. Schedule changes without prior approval may result in loss of award for the current term and future terms.

All forms of student Financial Aid may be jeopardized or lost due to the lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress in one or multiple courses. Lack of Satisfactory Academic Progress may negatively impact a student's degree/certificate completion pace and further jeopardize Financial Aid eligibility.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND ACADEMIC CONTINUITY

For information related to the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather or other events, please check the Senators Emergency Text system or the college's Web site at:

[Walters State Homepage \(opens in new window\)](#)

ws.edu/home/

[Walters State Facebook page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/WaltersState/>

[Walters State Twitter page \(opens in new window\)](#)

<https://twitter.com/waltersstate>

or call the college's student information line, 1-800-225-4770, option 1; the Sevier County Campus, (865) 774-5800, option 7; the Niswonger Campus (423) 798-7940, option 7; or the Claiborne County Campus, 423-636-6200, option 7. Also, please monitor local TV and radio stations for further announcements.

When an event or disaster interrupts the scheduled operations of the college and the ability to proceed with the academic course activities as planned, the college and your instructor may alter the course plan outlined in the syllabus. Should an event occur, students should refer to their course e-Learn pages and/or class materials previously delivered to receive guidance from their instructor. Students should continue to monitor the official college channels of communication listed in the above paragraph. If you would like to sign up for the Senators Emergency Text system, please go to the following Web site:

[Senator Emergency Text System \(opens in new window\)](#)
[ws.edu/set/](#)

Dual Enrollment students attending on a high school campus should refer to the high school inclement weather cancellations.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Brightspace (commonly known as eLearn or D2L) is the college's Learning Management System (LMS).

Brightspace is committed to accessibility by "deliver[ing] a learning experience that meets the needs of all people, regardless of age or ability." [Brightspace Accessibility Standard \(opens in new window\)](#)

Brightspace is also committed to guarding student data and privacy. [Brightspace Privacy Policy \(opens in new window\)](#)