



North Central State College

**MASTER SYLLABUS**

**2025-2026**

- A. Academic Division: Health Sciences
- B. Discipline: Practical Nursing/Associate Degree Nursing
- C. Course Number and Title: RNUR1030 Pharmacology
- D. Assistant Dean: Heidi Kreglow, PT
- E. Credit Hours: 2
- Classroom: 2 hours
  - Theory Hours: 25 total clock hours
- F. Prerequisite(s): BIOL2751, PSYC1010, STAT1010  
Co-Requisites: RNUR1012m & RNUR1014m
- G. Last Course/Curriculum Revision Date: Spring 2024    Origin date: Fall 2025
- H. Textbook(s) Title:

**Required:**

*Pharmacology and the Nursing Process*

- Authors: Lilley, Rainforth-Collins, Snyder
- Copyright Year: 2022
- Edition: 10<sup>th</sup>
- ISBN #: 9780323827973

*Dimensional analysis for meds: refocusing on essential metric calculations*

- Author: Curren, Anna M.
- Copyright Year: 2022
- Edition: 6<sup>th</sup>
- ISBN: 9781284248623

**Optional:**

*Davis's Drug Guide for Nurses*

- Author: Vallerand, Delginand
- Copyright Year: 2022
- Edition: 18<sup>th</sup>
- ISBN: 9781719646406

- I. Workbook(s) and/or Lab Manual: None
- J. Course Description: Pharmacology RNUR1030 provides an introduction to the study of drugs. This course focuses on basic drug classification, safe administration, contraindications, methods of action, and medication interactions associated with pharmacological management of clients. Foundations of basic pharmacology and math skills are explored, with emphasis placed on safe administration, no matter what the form of administration. The course incorporates the nursing process and prioritization of patient needs

with special consideration to the physiological, psychosocial, cultural, and spiritual needs of the patient/client's effective drug therapy by disease and diagnosis.

K. College-Wide Learning Outcomes:

College-Wide Learning Outcome	Assessments - - How it is met & When it is met
Communication – Written	
Communication – Speech	
Intercultural Knowledge and Competence	
Critical Thinking	
Information Literacy	
Quantitative Literacy	Dosage calculation test with analysis of findings – Quantitative Literacy VALUE rubric – Midterm

L. Course Outcomes and Assessment Methods:

End of Program Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

- I. Utilize the principles of communication to promote client care
- II. Facilitate safe care of clients using principles of evidence-based practice.
- III. Model professionalism through interpersonal interaction and ethical decision making.
- IV. Implement client centered care for individuals across the life span.
- V. Demonstrate clinical judgement when providing client care.
- VI. Collaborate with clients and the interdisciplinary healthcare team.

Following each Course Outcome, the related End of Program Student Learning Outcome(s) are indicated by the Roman Numeral(s).

Upon successful completion of this course, the student shall:

Outcomes	Assessments – How it is met & When it is met
1. Utilize critical thinking and evidence-based practice to implement the five rights and nursing process to safely prepare and administer medications to clients. (I, II, III, IV, V)	Medication evaluation assignments Unit tests, Quizzes In class assignments Shadow Health Virtual Reality Assignments Midterm and Final Exam
2. Identify & apply knowledge of drug action, drug use, safe dosage with calculation, side effects, nursing implications and patient education for medication administration. (I, II, III, IV, V, VI)	Medication evaluation assignments Unit tests, Quizzes In class assignments Shadow Health Virtual Reality Assignments Midterm and Final Exam
3. Identify collaborative practices within the interprofessional team to prevent adverse drug administration events and medication related errors. (I, II, III, V, VI)	Medication evaluation assignments Unit tests, Quizzes In class assignments Shadow Health Virtual Reality Assignments Midterm and Final Exam
4. Implement professional responsibilities & standards of legal/ethical practice for the nursing role related to the medication administration process for diverse populations. (I II, III, IV, V)	Medication evaluation assignments Unit tests, Quizzes In class assignments Shadow Health Virtual Reality Assignments Midterm and Final Exam

Outcomes	Assessments – How it is met & When it is met
5. Interpret nurse's role in medication therapy including supervision, delegation, teaching and potential for abuse utilizing therapeutic and professional communication. (I, II, III, IV, V, VI)	Medication evaluation assignments Unit tests, Quizzes In class assignments Virtual Reality Assignments Midterm and Final Exam
6. Demonstrate competency & professionalism in safe performance of nursing procedures within current scope of practice including dosage calculations for clients of all ages. (I, II, III, IV, V, VI)	Dosage Calculation Test Midterm; Medication evaluation assignments Unit tests, Quizzes In class assignments Virtual Reality Assignments Midterm and Final Exam
7. Explain drug action and use, safe dosages, significant adverse drug reactions, drug-drug and drug – nutrient reactions and nursing implications of drugs studied. (I, II, III, IV, V, VI)	Medication evaluation assignments Unit tests, Quizzes In class assignments Virtual Reality Assignments Midterm and Final Exam

M. Recommended Grading Scale:

NUMERIC	GRADE	POINTS	DEFINITION
93–100	A	4.00	Superior
90–92	A-	3.67	Superior
87–89	B+	3.33	Above Average
83–86	B	3.00	Above Average
80–82	B-	2.67	Above Average
77–79	C+	2.33	Average
73–76	C	2.00	Average
70–72	C-	1.67	Below Average
67–69	D+	1.33	Below Average
63–66	D	1.00	Below Average
60–62	D-	0.67	Poor
00–59	F	0.00	Failure

N. College Procedures/Policies:

North Central State College believes that every student is a valued and equal member of the community.\* Every student brings different experiences to the College, and all are important in enriching academic life and developing greater understanding and appreciation of one another. Therefore, NC State College creates an inclusive culture in which students feel comfortable sharing their experiences.

Discrimination and prejudice have no place on the campus, and the College takes any complaint in this regard seriously. Students encountering aspects of the instruction that result in barriers to their sense of being included and respected should contact the instructor, assistant dean, or dean without fear of reprisal.

- *Inclusive of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, national origin (ancestry), military status (past, present or future), disability, age (40 years or older), status as a parent during pregnancy and immediately after the birth of a child, status as a parent of a young child, status as a foster parent, genetic information, or sexual orientation*

**Important information regarding College Procedures and Policies can be found on the syllabus supplement located at**

**<https://ncstatecollege.edu/documents/President/PoliciesProcedures/PolicyManual/Final%20PDFs/14-081b.pdf>**



North Central State College  
SYLLABUS ADDENDUM

Academic Division:	Health Science	Discipline:	Practical & Associate Degree Nursing
Course Coordinator:	Sarah May, APRN-CNP		
Course Number:	P/RNUR 1030	Course Title:	Pharmacology
Semester / Session:	Fall 2025 / Session A & B	Start / End Date:	08/12/2025 – 12/09/2025

**Instructor Information**

Name:	Sarah May DNP, AGACNP-BC, APRN-CNP	Phone Number:	No campus phone
		E-Mail Address:	smay2@ncstatecollege.edu
Office Location:	Virtual	Office Hours:	By appointment

**I. Topical Timeline (Subject to Change):**

Weeks	Topics
1	Unit #1: Introduction to Pharmacology Section #1: Basic pharmacological principles Section #2: Drug Nomenclature: Generic v. Brand Names Section #3: Legal & Ethical Considerations in Pharmacology
2	Unit #2: Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics Section #1: Absorption, Distribution, Metabolism, Excretion (ADME) Section #2: Therapeutic Index, Potency, Factors affecting drug response
3	Unit #3: Medication Administration and Safety Section #1: Routes of Administration Section #2: “Six Rights” of Medication Administration Section #3: Dosage Calculations and Conversions
4	<b>Exam 1: Units 1, 2, &amp; 3</b> Unit #4: Cardiovascular Drugs (Part 1) Section #1: Antihypertensives Section #2: Diuretics, Fluids, and Electrolytes Section #3: Antianginal Medications
5	Unit #5: Cardiovascular Drugs (Part 2) Section #1: Antiarrhythmics Section #2: Anticoagulants, Antiplatelets, Thrombolytics Section #3: Antilipemic Medications
6	Unit #6: Respiratory Medications Section #1: Bronchodilators and Corticosteroids Section #2: Antihistamines and Decongestants
7	<b>Exam 2: Units 4, 5, &amp; 6</b> Unit #7: Gastrointestinal Medications Section #1: Antiemetics, Laxatives, and Antidiarrheals Section #2: Acid Reduction Medications
8	Unit #8: Endocrine Drugs Section #1: Insulin and Oral Antidiabetic Medications Section #2: Thyroid Medications Section #3: Corticosteroids for Endocrine Disorders
9	<b>FALL BREAK – NO CLASS</b>

Course Number: PNUR/RNUR 1030  
Semester / Session: Fall 2025

Course Title: Pharmacology  
Start / End Date: 8/12/25- 12/09/25

Weeks	Topics
10	<b>Exam 3: Units 7 &amp; 8</b> Unit #9: Antibiotics and Antimicrobials Section #1: Antibiotic Classifications Section #2: Mechanism of Action and Resistance Section #3: Antifungals, Antivirals, Antiparasitic Medications
11	<b>Exam 4: Unit 9</b> Unit #10: Autonomic Nervous System Drugs Section #1: Sympathetic and Parasympathetic System Overview Section #2: Adrenergic and Cholinergic Drugs
12	Unit #11: Central Nervous System Drugs Section #1: Sedatives, Hypnotics, Anxiolytics, and Antidotes/Reversal Agents Section #2: Antidepressants and Antipsychotics Section #3: Antiepileptic Medications
13	Unit #12: Pain Management Section #1: NSAIDs and Antipyretics Section #2: Chronic Pain Management Medications Section #3: Opioids, Non-opioid Medications Section #4: Substance Use Disorders and Antidotes/Reversal Agents
14	<b>VETERAN'S DAY – NO CLASS</b>
15	<b>Exam 5: Units 10, 11, &amp; 12</b> Unit #13: Dermatologic, Ophthalmic, and Otic Drugs
16	Unit #14: Hematological and Immune Medications Section #1: Vaccines and Immunizations Section #2: Immunosuppression Medications Section #3: Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents Unit #15: Special Populations and Considerations Section #1: Pediatric Considerations Section #2: Geriatric Considerations Section #3: Women's and Men's Health Drugs Section #4: Over-the-Counter Drugs, Herbals, and Dietary Supplements
17	Review for final exam
18	<b>Comprehensive Final Exam</b>

## II. Course Assignments:

1. Tests (5 unit tests, 1 final exam)
2. Concept based assignments (In Canvas)
3. Quizzes (announced or unannounced)
4. Other assorted in and out of class assignments (TBD)

## III. Grading and Testing Guidelines:

1. **Unit tests**
  - a. Five (5) unit tests will be administered, each covering content taught throughout the course.
  - b. All tests after the dosage calculation test may potentially include dosage calculation questions.
  - c. Each unit test will be worth 10% of the final grade (total of 50% of total course grade).
  - d. **Test review is mandatory for any pharm student who scores below 80% on a unit test**
    - Unless otherwise indicated, test review will occur 30min prior to class the week after the unit test
  - e. **Students must take all five unit tests to pass the course.**
2. **Final exam**
  - a. The final exam is a comprehensive exam covering content from units 1-15. It is worth 25% of the final course grade.
  - b. **Students must take the final exam to pass the course.**

**3. Assignments**

- a. Non-exam assignments will be designated by the first day of class.
- b. Assignments will be worth 25% of the final grade.

**IV. Examination Policy:**

**1. The reasons for which a student will be excused from taking an examination:**

- a. Hospitalization (with documented verification)
- b. Death in the immediate family (with documented verification)
- c. Personal illness or illness in immediate family - (doctor's excuse required).

**2. A student who misses an examination for **any** reason is responsible for:**

- a. Contacting the instructor **BEFORE** the exam when at all possible.
- b. Contacting the Student Success Center to schedule a make-up exam.
- c. Notifying the instructor when the test date/time is and when it has been completed.

**3. Exams missed for any reason other than those listed in item 1 may result in an automatic deduction of 10% off the test grade.**

**V. Class Attendance and Homework Make-Up Policy:**

**1. Class attendance is necessary to acquire the knowledge required to:**

- a. Obtain the necessary knowledge for passing the course, applying knowledge to nursing fundamentals, and having a basic understanding of nursing pharmacology to be a safe and effective entry level nurse.
- b. Attending lectures is expected unless a class absence is approved in advance by the instructor.

**2. Students are responsible for:**

- a. Completing assigned reading BEFORE the module's lecture date.

**3. Homework turned in after the due date may receive a zero unless advance arrangements are made with the instructor.**

**VI. Classroom Expectations:**

**1. Classroom etiquette**

- a. Being attentive to lecture, including being prepared and able to verbally participate when called upon.
- b. Arriving to lecture on time and remaining in the lecture until its completion.

**2. Participation**

- a. Asking thoughtful, relevant questions during and after lecture.
- b. Joining planned and impromptu class activities such Kahoot! quizzes or breakout sessions.

**3. Announcements**

- a. Students are expected and required to review all Canvas announcements for important course information, changes, and adjustments.

WEEK	CONTENT	STUDENT PREP/ACTIVITIES ***Double check due dates! Due by 11:55pm on due date!***	TEST REVIEW
August 12	Unit #1: Introduction to Pharmacology	Abbreviations quiz (due 8/15 by 11:55pm)	
August 19	Unit #2: Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics	Drug action duos assignment (due 8/22 by 11:55pm)	
August 26	Unit #3: Medication Administration and Safety	Nursing Process Review quiz (due 8/29 by 11:55pm)	
September 2	<b>Exam 1: Units 1, 2, &amp; 3</b> Unit #4: Cardiovascular Drugs (Part 1)	HTN Patient Teaching Handout (due 9/05 by 11:55pm)	
September 9	Unit #5: Cardiovascular Drugs (Part 2)	Anticoagulant Concept Map (due 9/12 by 11:55pm)	Exam 1 Review
September 16	Unit #6: Respiratory Medications	Respiratory Quiz (due 9/19 by 11:55pm)	
September 23	<b>Exam 2: Units 4, 5, &amp; 6</b> Unit #7: Gastrointestinal Medications		
September 30	Unit #8: Endocrine Drugs	Antidiabetics Concept Map (due 10/03 by 11:55pm)	Exam 2 Review
October 7	<b>FALL BREAK</b>		
October 14	<b>Exam 3: Units 7 &amp; 8</b> Unit #9: Antibiotics and Antimicrobials	Mystery Antibiotic Assignment (due 10/17 by 11:55pm)	
October 21	<b>Exam 4: Unit 9</b> Unit #10: Autonomic Nervous System Drugs		Exam 3 Review
October 28	Unit #11: Central Nervous System Drugs	Psych meds discussion board (due by 10/31 by 11:55pm)	Exam 4 Review
November 4	Unit #12: Pain Management	Analgesics quiz (due 11/07 by 11:55pm)	
November 11	<b>VETERAN'S DAY</b>		

WEEK	CONTENT	STUDENT PREP/ACTIVITIES ***Double check due dates! Due by 11:55pm on due date!***	TEST REVIEW
November 18	<b>Exam 5: Units 10, 11, &amp; 12</b> Unit #13: Dermatologic, Ophthalmic, and Otic Medications		
November 25	Unit #14: Hematological and Immune Medications  Unit #15: Special Populations and Considerations		Exam 5 Review
December 2	Review for Final Exam		
December 9	<b>Comprehensive Final Exam</b>		