



Nursing in Nontraditional Environments (NiNE)
NURS4311
Fall 2024

Scheduled Class Days and Times: Tuesdays 0830-1130

Room: WT Brookshire Hall 133 and at Lake Harvey by Pier

[Zoom Link](#)

Instructor's

Name: Dr. Glenn A Barnes DNP, RN, EMT-P, NHDP-BC, FAWM
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Course Description: Nursing in Nontraditional Environments (NiNE) will give the student the basic understanding and skills required to provide professional nursing care in various non-traditional environments. These environments include remote outdoor locations, disasters, and humanitarian global health missions. Fieldcraft and survival skills are taught to provide basic sustainment for extended amounts of time. Students will learn to create fires, build shelters, and purify water, allowing the nurse to provide the basic needs for themselves and patients in austere settings. The pathophysiology of common nontraditional environments includes high altitude injuries, dive injuries, envenomation, animal bites, and infectious diseases endemic to various areas around the world. This course includes three national certifications: Wilderness Life Support for Medical Professionals, FEMA's Community Emergency Response Team, and Essentials of Disaster Life Support.

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None required.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

1. Analyze various nontraditional environments and critique the challenges and resources associated with providing care in austere and disaster environments.
2. Discuss the nurse's role in and methods of addressing client needs in nontraditional environments utilizing Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs as a theoretical model.
3. Assess water, food, shelter, and medical needs for yourself and your family during the first 72 hours of a disaster. Identify deficiencies and a mitigation plan for those deficiencies.
4. Demonstrate base survival skills in building an improvised shelter, building a safe fire by spark initiation, and purifying water for consumption.
5. Demonstrate the continuum of care from pre-event resiliency building through immediate care to Prolonged Casualty Care (PCC) and return home by providing care during the overnight simulation.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

Barnes, G., (2023). Nursing in Nontraditional Environments. Dubuque, IA: Kendal-Hunt Publishing.

Canterbury, D. (2014). Bushcraft 101: A field guide to the art of wilderness survival. New York: Simon & Schuster.

Wilderness Life Support for Medical Professionals 1st ed. (Della-Giustina, D., Duke, J., 2023. Independently published)

Recommended Textbooks

Alton, A., Alton, J. (2015). The ultimate survival medicine guide. New York: Skyhorse Publishing.

Enyart, J., (2021). Surviving the wild: Essential Bushcraft and first aid skills for surviving the great outdoors. Coral Gables: Mango Media

All required Text are available from the UT Tyler Bookstore or from online sources below:

[Nursing in Nontraditional Environments](#)

[Bushcraft 101: A field guide to the art of wilderness survival](#)

[Wilderness Life Support for Medical Professionals](#)

[The Ultimate Survival Medicine Guide Emergency Preparedness for any Disaster](#)

Nursing in Nontraditional Environments may also be ordered from the publisher [HERE](#)

Special Course Notes:

National Certifications

Wilderness Life Support for Medical Professionals (formerly AWLS)

This course balances didactic lectures with hands-on instruction to train students in managing medical and trauma situations in austere environments. This course is designed for licensed medical professionals or medical professionals in training who have an interest in expanding their medical knowledge of wilderness medical pathology and enhancing their practical skills in a nontraditional environment. The course covers a wide range of topics including assessment and treatment in nontraditional environments, various topics of illness and injury prevention, assessment, and treatment. Environmental, high altitude, dive medicine, medical kits, and many other topics. All certification classes are given within the course. Attendance at the final exercise is mandatory as part of the hands-on evaluation. The certification cost is discounted to \$200.00 which is the administrative fee charged by Adventure Med. LLC and the Wilderness Medical Society only. Payment may be made via the UT Bookstore as a required item for the course.

Community Emergency Response Team

UT Tyler School of Nursing is an official FEMA training site for the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT training covers basic skills that are important to know in a disaster when emergency services are not available. With training and practice, and by working as a team, you will be able to protect yourself and maximize your capability to help the greatest number of people after a disaster. Before, during, and after disasters, CERT volunteer teams perform basic response activities, including checking in on neighbors, distributing information to the public, supporting emergency operations centers, and helping to manage traffic and crowds. Local CERT programs train and organize teams of volunteers to assist their families, neighbors, co-workers, and other community members. This training is held over a weekend and is mandatory. Please plan accordingly. There is no charge for this certification.

Essentials of Disaster Life Support certification

Essentials of Disaster Life Support™ (EDLS) is a 3.5-hour competency-based, awareness-level course, delivered entirely online, that introduces concepts and principles to prepare health professionals in the management of injuries and illnesses caused by disasters and public health emergencies. This includes the application of core principles and concepts in emergency management and public health through the PRE-DISASTER Paradigm™ and DISASTER Paradigm™. The primary focus of the EDLS course is the incorporation of an “all-hazards” approach to mass casualty management and population-based care across a broad range of disasters. Measures to ensure and enhance health workforce readiness are emphasized throughout the course. This includes a consistent and scalable approach to workforce protection and casualty management, as well as mass casualty triage and fatality management. The certification cost is discounted to \$25.00 which is the administrative fee charged by the National Disaster Life Support Foundation only. Payment may be made via the UT Bookstore as a required item for the course.

Search and Rescue Final Simulation

Conducted after the Survival and WLS: MP portions have been completed, teams of 5-7 students will conduct a simulation of locating casualties, providing initial patient stabilization and transport to an extraction site. At the extraction site, students will establish a basecamp and will conduct prolonged casualty care to provide care overnight until an evacuation can be made. This will require you and your team to establish a basecamp and provide shelter and fire for the thermoregulation of you, your casualty, and your team. This is a mandatory overnight requirement. Further details will be in the course assignment section.

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

1. Discussion Board	40%
2. Quizzes	30%
3. Assignments	30%
4. Participation	30%

(Participation grade includes 10% classroom attendance, 10% for the overnight Simulation, and 10% for the FEMA CERT Course.)

Grading Scale:

Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the Modules. Final grades for the course will be determined based on the following point assignments:

- A - 90-100
- B - 80-89
- C - 75-79
- D - 60-74
- F - Below 60

Final course grades less than 75 are not rounded up.

The simple average of all exam grades, including a final, must first be at or above 75% to pass the course. Once the student has achieved a simple exam average of 75% or higher, course grades will be determined based on the weighted calculation of exams and other required coursework.

Exam and homework materials, questions, and problems are the intellectual property of faculty, UT Tyler, or publishers.

- These materials may not be distributed without permission.

- Distributing or uploading them to online resources destroys the integrity of the assignment and the course, allowing others an unfair advantage by letting them view the materials.
- Uploading these materials to online resources is a violation of UT Tyler's academic misconduct policies and may result in formal conduct charges.
- Technical resources: Laptops/electronic devices are required for testing with ATI. Notebooks and tablets are not compatible for ATI Products.
- Artificial Intelligence in course work: Refer to the UT Website for more details @ uttyler.edu - digital learning AI.
- Sanctions for uploading or otherwise divulging the contents of these materials can include:
 - a reduced or failing grade on an assignment.
 - a reduced or failing grade for the course.
 - removal from the Nursing program
 - removal from UT Tyler

Late Policy: 5% will be deducted each day an assignment is past due unless prior arrangements have been made with your course faculty. Extenuating circumstances may apply.

Repeating a Course: Students repeating this course may not use previously submitted assignments nor utilize the same patients for an assignment. Submitting the same or slightly modified assignments from previous semesters is considered self-plagiarism and is subject to academic discipline, including failing the assignment or the course.

Attendance and Make-up Policy: Attendance/participation is expected. Make-up for exams, quizzes, assignments, and missed clinical time is at the instructor's discretion.

Graded Course Requirements Information:

Discussion Board: Students must answer the initial post by the due date. After initial posting, you may then respond to two other students. Initial posts are due by the Sunday of the week's due date. Responses are due the following Wed. and should be constructive and respectful.

The hands-on skills clinics at mid-term and final are not graded and are for monitored practice and simulation of the skills taught in this course. Final Testing for WLS: MP will be during the final skills lab.

Portions of the discussion boards may require videotaping your skills including shelter making and casualty assessment if you are unable to attend those classes in person.

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates: See Canvas Course for dates and readings.

School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information:

https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/student_guide_and_policies.php

Student Resources to assist you in this course:

[UT Tyler Student Accessibility and Resource \(SAR\) Office](#) (provides needed accommodations to students with document needs related to access and learning)

[UT Tyler Writing Center](#)

[The Mathematics Learning Center](#)

[UT Tyler PASS Tutoring Center](#)

[UT Tyler Supplemental Instruction](#)

[Upswing \(24/7 online tutoring\) - covers nearly all undergraduate course areas](#)

[Robert Muntz Library](#) and [Library Liaison](#)

[Canvas 101](#) (learn to use Canvas, proctoring, Unicheck, and other software)

Digital Support Toolkit (for supported courses only. Students are automatically enrolled in the toolkit for supported courses)

LIB 422 - Computer Lab where students can take a proctored exam

[The Career Success Center](#)

[UT Tyler Testing Center](#)

[Office of Research & Scholarship Design and Data Analysis Lab](#)

Resources available to UT Tyler Students

[UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (available to all students)

[TAO Online Support Center](#) (online self-help modules related to mental & emotional health)

[Military and Veterans Success Center](#) (support for all of our military-affiliated students)

[UT Tyler Patriot Food Pantry](#)

[UT Tyler Financial Aid and Scholarships](#)

[UT Tyler Registrar's Office](#)

[Office of International Programs](#)

[Title IX Reporting](#)

[Patriots Engage](#) (available to all students. Get engaged at UT Tyler.)

University Policies and Information

Withdrawing from Class: Students are allowed to [withdraw](#) (drop) this course through the University's withdrawal portal. Texas law prohibits students who began college for the first time in Fall 2007 or thereafter from dropping more than six courses during their entire undergraduate career. This includes courses dropped at other 2-year or 4-year Texas public colleges and universities. Make sure to consider the impact withdrawing from this class has on your academic progress as well as the financial implications. We encourage you to consult your advisor(s) and financial aid for additional guidance. CAUTION #1: Withdrawing before census day does not mean you get a full refund. Please see the [Tuition and Fee Refund Schedule](#). CAUTION #2: All international students must check with the [Office of International Programs](#) before withdrawing. All international students are required to enroll full-time for fall and spring terms.

Final Exam Policy: Final examinations are administered as scheduled. If unusual circumstances require that special arrangements be made for an individual student or class, the dean of the appropriate college, after consultation with the faculty member involved, may authorize an exception to the schedule. Faculty members are required to maintain student final examination papers for a minimum of three months following the examination date.

Incomplete Grade Policy: If a student, because of extenuating circumstances, is unable to complete all of the requirements for a course by the end of the semester, then the instructor may recommend an Incomplete (I) for the course. The "I" may be assigned in lieu of a grade only when all of the following conditions are met: (a) the student has been making satisfactory progress in the course; (b) the student is unable to complete all course work or final exam due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control and are acceptable to the instructor, and (c) the student presents these reasons prior to the time that the final grade roster is due. The semester credit hours for an Incomplete will not be used to calculate the grade point average for a student.

The student and the instructor must submit an Incomplete Form detailing the work required and the time by which the work must be completed to their respective department chair or college dean for approval. The time limit established must not exceed one year. Should the student fail to complete all of the work for the course within the time limit, then the instructor may assign zeros to the unfinished work, compute the course average for the student, and assign the appropriate grade. If a grade has not been assigned within one year, then the Incomplete will be changed to an F or NC if the course was originally taken under the CR/NC grading basis.

Grade Appeal Policy: UT Tyler's Grade Appeal policy requires the completion of a Grade Appeal form for this action to take place. The grade appeal begins with the instructor of your course. If you do not agree with the decision of the instructor, you may then move your appeal to the department chair/school director for that course. If you are still dissatisfied with the decision of the chair/director, you may move the appeal to the dean of the college offering that course, who has the final decision. Grade appeals must be initiated within sixty (60) days from the date

of receiving the final course grade. The grade Appeal form is found on the [Registrar's Form Library](#).

Disability/Accessibility Services: The University of Texas at Tyler has a continuing commitment to providing reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities. Students with disabilities who may need accommodation(s) in order to fully participate in this class are urged to contact the Student Accessibility and Resources Office (SAR) as soon as possible to explore what arrangements need to be made to ensure access. If you have a disability, you are encouraged to visit the SAR Portal (<https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler/>) and complete the New Student Application. For more information, please visit the [SAR webpage](#) or call 903.566.7079.

Military Affiliated Students: UT Tyler honors the service and sacrifices of our military-affiliated students. If you are a student who is a veteran, on active duty, in the reserves or National Guard, or a military spouse or dependent, please stay in contact with me if any aspect of your present or prior service or family situation makes it difficult for you to fulfill the requirements of a course or creates disruption in your academic progress. It is important to make me aware of any complications as far in advance as possible. I am willing to work with you and, if needed, put you in contact with university staff who are trained to assist you. Campus resources for military-affiliated students are in the [Military and Veterans Success Center \(MVSC\)](#). The MVSC can be reached at MVSC@uttyler.edu or via phone at 903.565.5972.

Academic Honesty and Academic Misconduct: The UT Tyler community comes together to pledge that "Honor and integrity will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do." Therefore, we enforce the [Student Conduct and Discipline policy](#) in the Student Manual Of Operating Procedures (Section 8).

FERPA: UT Tyler follows the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as noted in [University Policy 5.2.3](#). The course instructor will follow all requirements in protecting your confidential information.

COVID Guidance: The UT Tyler community of Patriots respects the rights of others to wear a mask if they desire to do so. COVID guidelines may change as the situation warrants, and students should follow the instructions warranted by the situation.

Absence for Official University Events or Activities: This course follows the practices related to approved absences as noted by the Student Manual of Operating Procedures ([Sec. 1 -501](#)).

Absence for Religious Holidays: Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious holiday are requested to inform the instructor by the second class meeting of the semester.

Campus Carry: We respect the right and privacy of students who are duly licensed to carry concealed weapons in this class. License holders are expected to behave responsibly and keep a handgun secure and concealed. More information is available at <http://www.uttyler.edu/about/campus-carry/index.php>.

COVID and other communicable diseases: *It is important to take the necessary precautions to ensure a healthy and successful year. UT Tyler continues to urge you to protect yourselves against the flu, COVID and any new threats that may be developing. Be diligent about preventive measures such as washing hands, covering sneezes/coughs, social distancing and vaccinations, which have proven to be successful in slowing the spread of viruses. Encourage those who don't feel well to stay home, and if they show symptoms, ask them to get tested for the flu or COVID. Self-isolation is important to reduce exposure ([CDC quarantine/isolation guidelines](#)). Please work with your faculty members to maintain coursework and please consult [existing campus resources](#) for support.*