



NURS 4626
Caring for the Acutely Ill
Summer 2020

Longview Campus Faculty Section: .090

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Course Title: NURS 4626 Caring for the Acutely Ill

Course Description

This course introduces nursing care required for individuals across the lifespan who have been diagnosed with acute physical or mental conditions. Emphasis is on using evidence-based practice for professional collaborative management of acute illness. A variety of clinical experiences will be used to apply caring, evidence-based, professional nursing care for persons experiencing acute illnesses. The focus will be on managing acute conditions, prevention of complications, patient safety and quality care.

Prerequisites:

NURS 3615 & NURS 3617

Corequisites

Successful completion of, or concurrent enrollment in NURS 4329.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Professionalism: Demonstrate and apply professional and ethical behavior including professional accountability and responsibility in the acute care setting.
2. Patient-Centered Care: Differentiate an individualized plan of care for patients who are acutely ill and for patients of special populations in the acute care setting.
3. Evidenced-Based Practice (EBP): Synthesize and apply evidence-based practice to evaluate and improve patient outcomes in the acute care setting.
4. Informatics & Technology: Apply the use of technology and information systems to support best practices in the delivery of comprehensive care to adult patients in the acute care setting and their families.
5. Quality Improvement: Critique the effectiveness of quality improvement using a systematic data-guided approach in the acute care setting.
6. Teamwork and Collaboration: Appraise the effectiveness of teamwork and mutual respect within the interdisciplinary team including different communication styles in the acute care setting.
7. Wellness and Prevention: Recognize the benefits of health and wellness-based initiatives, and prevention of further complications in promoting healthy outcomes for patients with acute care conditions.
8. Leadership: Differentiate between leadership styles and how each impact professional practice in the acute care setting.
9. Safety: Appraise safety and quality measures implemented in the acute care environment.
10. Strengths: Analyze how Strengths (signature talent themes) influence the role of the student nurse and clinical decision-making.

Course Outline

This course includes content covering:

- * Skills required for acute care
- * Management of clients with acute physical and mental illnesses
- * Care of clients in different levels of care intensity (acute; intermediate; progressive; intensive)
- * Patient and family education for persons with acute illness
- * Prevention of complications associated with acute illnesses
- * Pharmacological and non-pharmacological therapies for physical and psychiatric acute illnesses.

Textbook Information, Other Readings and Materials

The required textbooks and course materials are:

Lewis, S., Dirksen, S., Heikemper, M., & Bucher, L. (2017) *Medical-surgical nursing: Clinical management for positive outcomes* (10th ed.) St. Louis, Mosby.

ISBN 978-0-323-32852-4

Halter, M. J. (2018) *Varcarolis' foundations of psychiatric-mental health nursing: A clinical approach* (8th ed.) St. Louis, Elsevier. ISBN 978-0-323-38967-9

Sherpath for Lewis and Halter

EHR Go: Students will use a subscription to access EHR Go. There are seven terms available and each is renewable (cost per student) as of 4/17/2020.

To get payment through financial aid, students can purchase in the bookstore. A separate option is to purchase online through the vendor at www.ehrgo.com.

Quarter coverage (12 weeks): \$45

- Semester coverage (16 weeks): \$65
- Academic year coverage (40 weeks or about 9 months): \$105
- Annual coverage (52 weeks): \$120
- Extended coverage (up to 18 months): \$155
- 2-year coverage: \$195
- 3-year coverage: \$285

Booklists and bookstore links may be accessed from the [UT Tyler](#) homepage. You may purchase your textbook from any source you wish or you can purchase it through the [UT Tyler Bookstore](#). The UT Tyler bookstore does offer competitive pricing.

Grading Information

Course Requirements

Assignment **Percentage**

Unit Exam (4 @ 17% each)	68%	
Quizzes		3%
Case Studies		2%
Final Exam	17%	
ATI	10%	
Sherpath Assignments		P/F
EAQ Quizzes (25 questions per week)		P/F
Medication Calculation Exam (Must obtain 100% required to pass)		P/F
Clinical Care Plan (Must obtain 80% or higher to pass clinical)		P/F
Clinical Evaluation		P/F

Final grades for the course will be determined based upon the following point assignments:

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

The exam average must be ≥ 75 before the grades for other assignments are calculated. An exam average of < 75 will result in failure of the course. Grades will *not* be rounded up.

Attendance Policy

Attendance is expected. Make-up for exams, quizzes, assignments missed is at the discretion of the instructor.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

UT Tyler Honor Code:

Every member of the UT Tyler community joins together to embrace: Honor and integrity that will not allow me to lie, cheat, or steal, nor to accept the actions of those who do.

Students Rights and Responsibilities

To know and understand the policies that affect your rights and responsibilities as a student at UT Tyler, please follow this link: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/rightsresponsibilities.php>

Campus Carry

We respect the right and privacy of students 21 and over 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>

UT Tyler a Tobacco-Free University

All forms of tobacco will not be permitted on the UT Tyler main campus, branch campuses, and any property owned by UT Tyler. This applies to all members of the University community, including students, faculty, staff, University affiliates, contractors, and visitors. Forms of tobacco not permitted include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis, kreteks, electronic cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other tobacco products. There are several cessation programs available to students looking to quit smoking, including counseling, quit lines, and group support. For more information on cessation programs please visit www.uttyler.edu/tobacco-free.

Grade Replacement/Forgiveness and Census Date Policies

Students repeating a course for grade forgiveness (grade replacement) must file a Grade Replacement Contract with the Enrollment Services Center (ADM 230) on or before the Census Date of the semester in which the course will be repeated. Grade Replacement Contracts are available in the Enrollment Services Center or at <http://www.uttyler.edu/registrar>. Each semester's Census Date can be found on the Contract itself, on the Academic Calendar, or in the information pamphlets published each semester by the Office of the Registrar. Failure to file a Grade Replacement Contract will result in both the original and repeated grade being used to calculate your overall grade point average. Undergraduates are eligible to exercise grade replacement for only three course repeats during their career at UT Tyler; graduates are eligible for two grade replacements. Full policy details are printed on each Grade Replacement Contract. The Census Date is the deadline for many forms and enrollment actions of which students need to be aware. These include:

- Submitting Grade Replacement Contracts, Transient Forms, requests to withhold directory information, approvals for taking courses as Audit, Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit.
- Receiving 100% refunds for partial withdrawals. (There is no refund for these after the Census Date)
- Schedule adjustments (section changes, adding a new class, dropping without a "W" grade)
- Being reinstated or re-enrolled in classes after being dropped for non-payment
- Completing the process for tuition exemptions or waivers through Financial Aid

State-Mandated Course Drop Policy

Texas law prohibits a student 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 another 2-year or 4-year Texas public college or university. For purposes of this rule, a dropped course is any course that is dropped after the census date (See Academic Calendar for the specific date).

Exceptions to the 6-drop rule may be found in the catalog. Petitions for exemptions must be submitted to the Enrollment Services Center and must be accompanied by documentation of the extenuating circumstance. Please contact the Enrollment Services Center if you have any questions.

Disability/Accessibility Services

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) the University of Texas at Tyler offers accommodations to students with learning, physical and/or psychological disabilities. If you have a disability, including a non-visible diagnosis such as a learning disorder, chronic illness, TBI, PTSD, ADHD, or you have a history of modifications or accommodations in a previous educational environment, you are encouraged to visit <https://hood.accessiblelearning.com/UTTyler> and fill out the New Student application. The Student Accessibility and Resources (SAR) office will contact you when your application has been submitted and an appointment with Cynthia Lowery, Assistant Director of Student Services/ADA Coordinator. For more information, including filling out an application for services, please visit the SAR webpage at <http://www.uttyler.edu/disabilityservices>, the SAR office located in the University Center, # 3150 or call 903.566.7079.

Student Absence due to Religious Observance

Students who anticipate being absent from class due to a religious observance are requested to inform the instructor of such absences by the second class meeting of the semester.

Student Absence for University-Sponsored Events and Activities

If you intend to be absent for a university-sponsored event or activity, you (or the event sponsor) must notify the instructor at least two weeks prior to the date of the planned absence. At that time the instructor will set a date and time when make-up assignments will be completed.

Social Security and FERPA Statement

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Tyler to protect the confidential nature of social security numbers. The University has changed its computer programming so that all students have an identification number. The electronic transmission of grades (e.g., via e-mail) risks violation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; grades will not be transmitted electronically.

Emergency Exits and Evacuation

Everyone is required to exit the building when a fire alarm goes off. Follow your instructor's directions regarding the appropriate exit. If you require assistance during an evacuation, inform your instructor in the first week of class. Do not re-enter the building unless given permission by University Police, Fire department, or Fire Prevention Services.

Student Standards of Academic Conduct

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated against any student who engages in scholastic dishonesty, including, but not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

- i. "Cheating" includes, but is not limited to:
 - copying from another student's test paper;
 - using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test;
 - failure to comply with instructions given by the person administering the test;
 - possession during a test of materials which are not authorized by the person giving the test, such as class notes or specifically designed "crib notes". The presence of textbooks constitutes a violation if they have been specifically prohibited by the person administering the test;
 - using, buying, stealing, transporting, or soliciting in whole or part the contents of an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program;
 - collaborating with or seeking aid from another student during a test or other assignment without authority;
 - discussing the contents of an examination with another student who will take the examination;
 - divulging the contents of an examination, for the purpose of preserving questions for use by another, when the instructor has designated that the examination is not to be removed from the examination room or not to be returned or to be kept by the student;
 - substituting for another person, or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take a course, a test, or any course-related assignment;
 - paying or offering money or other valuable thing to, or coercing another person to obtain an unadministered test, test key, homework solution, or computer program or information about an unadministered test, test key, home solution or computer program;

- falsifying research data, laboratory reports, and/or other academic work offered for credit;
 - taking, keeping, misplacing, or damaging the property of The University of Texas at Tyler, or of another, if the student knows or reasonably should know that an unfair academic advantage would be gained by such conduct; and
 - misrepresenting facts, including providing false grades or resumes, for the purpose of obtaining an academic or financial benefit or injuring another student academically or financially.
- ii. “Plagiarism” includes, but is not limited to, the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another’s work and the submission of it as one’s own academic work offered for credit.
- iii. “Collusion” includes, but is not limited to, the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing academic assignments offered for credit or collaboration with another person to commit a violation of any section of the rules on scholastic dishonesty.
- iv. All written work that is submitted will be subject to review by plagiarism software.

UT Tyler Resources for Students

- UT Tyler Writing Center (903.565.5995), writingcenter@uttyler.edu
- UT Tyler Tutoring Center (903.565.5964), tutoring@uttyler.edu
- The Mathematics Learning Center, RBN 4021, this is the open access computer lab for math students, with tutors on duty to assist students who are enrolled in early-career courses.
- [UT Tyler Counseling Center](#) (903.566.7254)