



**Care of the Chronically Ill
NURS 3615
Spring 2025**

Scheduled Class Days and Times:

Tyler: Thursday 0800-1045am

Longview: Thursday 1300-1530pm

Palestine: Thursday 0830-1115

Instructor's Name: Erica Conway, MSN, RN

Phone: 903-565-5715

Email: econway@uttyler.edu*

Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 1030-1200 and available via appointment, email, and/or Zoom.

Instructor's Name: Lavada Fields, MSN, RN

Phone: 903-570-9868

Email: lfields@uttyler.edu*

Office Hours: Wednesday and Thursday 1030-1200 and available via appointment, email, and/or Zoom.

Instructor's Name: Caroline Hardee, MSN, RN

Office: Longview – LUC 230

Phone: 903-445-5960 (cell)*

Email: chardee@uttyler.edu*

Office Hours: Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and available by appointment, email, conference call, and/or Zoom.

Instructor's Name: Kara Jones, DNP, RN

Office: PAL 118

Phone: 903-727-2303

Email: kjones@uttyler.edu*

Office Hours: Thursdays 1300-1600 and available via appointment, email, and/or Zoom.

Instructor's Name: Jalisha Wesley, MSN, RN

Email: jwesley@uttyler.edu

Office Hours: (Virtual) Thursday: 11 AM - 12 PM and 3 PM- 5 PM CST and available via appointment, email, and/or Zoom

Course Description: This course introduces nursing care required for individuals who have been diagnosed with chronic physical or mental conditions. Emphasis is on using evidence-based practice for professional collaborative management of chronic illness. A variety of clinical experiences will be used to apply caring and evidence-based professional nursing care for persons with chronic conditions.

Prerequisites: NURS 3605 AND 3309

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

- 1) Professionalism: Demonstrate professional behavior and ethical decision-making processes considering the unique needs of patients with chronic health issues.
- 2) Patient-Centered Care: Select and apply a plan of care that is patient-centered and holistic, reflecting the specialized needs of patients dealing with chronic health conditions.
- 3) Evidenced-Based Practice (EBP): Recognize the role of evidence-based practice in providing safe and effective care for the chronically ill patient.
- 4) Informatics & Technology: Examine the importance and use of informatics and technology in delivering quality care and developing astute clinical decision-making skills in the chronic care environment.
- 5) Quality Improvement: Compare quality improvement initiatives for chronic health conditions and its relation to the improvement of patient outcomes and healthcare delivery systems.
- 6) Teamwork and Collaboration: Demonstrate effective inter-professional communication skills to achieve quality patient care through collaborative efforts focused on chronic care considerations.
- 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 chronic disorders.
- 8) Leadership: Examine the effect of leadership and patient advocacy on nursing practice directed to the chronically ill patient.
- 9) Safety: Apply appropriate safety measures that reduce patient safety risks and fosters a safe working environment in the chronic care setting.
- 10) Strengths: Determine how Strengths (signature talent themes) influence the role of the student nurse and clinical decision-making.

Required Textbooks and Readings:

ATI Engage Adult Med-Surg (online textbook) will be utilized as the official textbook for this course.

Purchase ATI Products as outlined per course requirements.

Technical resources: Laptops/electronic devices are required for testing with ATI. Notebooks and tablets are not compatible for ATI Products.

Graded Course Requirements Information

Assignments and Weights/Percentage/Point Values

Criteria for Evaluation:	Percentage of Grade:
ATI Proctored Assessment	10%
Clinical Total (Includes clinical assignments and evaluation)	12.5%
Group Project	5%
Weekly Quizzes	2.5%
Exams (5-unit exams & 1 final exam weighted evenly)	70%

Grading Scale:

Specific guidelines and grading criteria for all assignments are in the Modules. 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

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% in order 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 course work.

Artificial Intelligence in course work: In this course, we may use AI tools (such as ChatGPT and Copilot) to examine how these tools may inform our exploration of the class topics. You will be notified as to when and how these tools will be used, along with guidance for attribution. Using AI tools outside of these parameters violates UT Tyler's Honor Code, constitutes plagiarism, and will be treated as such.

Grade Appeals: Although the university policy allows 60 days for grade appeals, the School of Nursing follows a stricter timeline of 10 days to facilitate students' timely progression through

the curriculum. In the case of extenuating circumstances, please consult the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for guidance.

Academic Integrity: Cheating of any kind, as defined in Section 8 of the UT Tyler Manual of Policies and Procedures (MOPP) for Student Affairs (<https://www.uttyler.edu/mopp/>), will not be tolerated. Consequences may include:

- reprimand
- exam failure
- course failure
- expulsion from the Nursing program
- expulsion from the University
- other consequences as assigned

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.
- 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.

Grade Replacement: 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 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.

Important Course Dates:

Classes Begin: 1/02/25

Census Date (withdraw without penalty): 1/08/25

Last Date to Withdraw: 2/05/25 Please contact your advisor to discuss withdrawing from the course and notify your course instructor.

Last day of class: 4/28/25

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

Date	Activity	Lecture Topics	Assignments
Week 1	Skills Check-offs-Tuesday 1/7 per sign up Orientation & Class 1/9 @ 0800-1045 Medication calculation exam 1/10	Med calculation Alterations in Hematologic Function	Student Affirmation Form, Integrity Statement & ATI Quiz ALL due 1/12 @11:59pm
Week 2	IV lab day 1/13 or 1/14 per lab schedule Class 1/16 @ 0800-1100 Math retakes after class on 1/16 bring laptops	Cancer Alterations in Immunity and Inflammatory Process	ATI Week Quiz due 1/19 @11:59pm
Week 3	Exam 1, 1/22 @0800-930 Class 1/23 @0800-1045	Alterations in Gas Exchange and Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange	ATI Week Quiz due 1/26 @11:59pm
Week 4	Simulation 1/29 per lab schedule Class 1/30 @ 0800-1045	Alterations in Immunity and Inflammatory Process	ATI Week Quiz due 2/2 @11:59pm
Week 5	Exam 2, 2/5 @ 0800-0930 Class 2/6 @0800-1045	Alterations in Cardiovascular Function and Perfusion	ATI Week Quiz due 2/9 @11:59pm

Week 6	Simulation 2/12 per lab schedule Class 2/13 @0800-1045	Alterations in Cardiovascular Function and Perfusion	ATI Week Quiz due 2/16 @11:59pm
Week 7	Exam 3, 2/19 @ 0800-0930 Class 2/20 @ 0800-1045	Alterations in Endocrine Function	ATI Week Quiz due 2/23 @11:59pm Group Project due 2/23@11:59pm
Week 8	Simulation 2/26 per schedule Class 2/27 @0800-1045	Alterations in Kidney Function and Elimination	ATI Week Quiz due 3/2 @11:59pm ATI Med-Surg First Practice test online due 3/2 @11:59pm
Week 9	Simulation 3/5 per lab schedule Class 3/6 @0800-1045	Alterations in Neurologic Function and Alterations in Spinal Cord Function	ATI Week Quiz due 3/9 @11:59pm ATI Med-Surg Second Practice test online due 3/9 @11:59pm
Week 10	Exam 4, 3/12 @0800-1100 Class 3/13 @ 0800-1045	Alterations in Digestion and Bowel Elimination	ATI Week Quiz due 3/16 @11:59pm
Week 11	GI Lab-3/26 Class-ATI Proctored Exam in class on 3/27 @0800-1045	Wellness to Illness Continuum and Alterations in Immunity and Inflammatory Process	ATI Week Quiz due 3/30 @11:59pm
Week 12	Exam 5, 4/2 @0800-1100 Class 4/3 @0800-1045	Cancer	ATI Week Quiz due 4/6 @11:59pm ATI Proctored remediation due 4/6 @11:59pm
Week 13	ATI Retakes 4/9 @0800-930 Class 4/10 @0800-1045	Cancer and Alterations in Kidney Function and Elimination	
Week 14	Comprehensive Final Exam 4/16 Time TBA		

Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates: *Detailed information will be provided in class*

Readings-Please refer to Canvas Course for all assigned 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 \(Links to an external site.\)](#) 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.

"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".

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>.