



**Nursing in Nontraditional Environments (NiNE)**  
**NURS 4311**  
**Spring 2025**

**Scheduled Class Days and Times: Tuesdays 0830-1130**

**Room: To Be Announced**  
**Zoom Link: To Be Determined**

**Instructor's Name:** Dr. Cami Jo Tice-Harouff, DNP, APRN, FNP-C  
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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.

**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, as well as 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 mandatory training is held over a weekend. 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% |
| a. 10% classroom attendance         |     |
| b. 10% for the overnight Simulation |     |
| c. 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.
- 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 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.

**Graded Course Requirements Information:**

- 1) 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 Wednesday and should be constructive and respectful.
- 2) If you are unable to attend those classes in person, portions of the discussion boards may require you to videotape your skills, including shelter making and casualty assessment.
- 3) 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.

Artificial Intelligence in Course Work: Refer to the UT Tyler website for more details at <https://www.uttyler.edu/digital-learning/ai/>

**Important Course Dates:**

Classes Begin: Thursday, 01/02/2025

Census Date (withdraw without penalty): Tuesday, 01/14/2025

Last Day to Withdraw: Tuesday, 03/11/2025 \*\*Please contact your advisor to discuss withdrawing from the course and notify your instructor.

Last Day of Class: Friday, 04/18/2025

**School of Nursing Policies and Additional Information can be found at the website below.**

[https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/student\\_guide\\_and\\_policies.php](https://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/college/student_guide_and_policies.php)

**Student Resources and University Policies and Information are provided in Canvas.**

**Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates:**

**See Canvas Course for dates and readings.**