# NURS 4460.01 RURAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING FOR THE RN
## COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2025

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Course Coordinator:** Melissa Vander Stucken, MSN, RN
**Office Location:** online
**Office Hours:** By appointment, contact via email
**Office Phone:** 903-886-5315
**Office Fax:** 903-886-5729
**University Email Address:** melissa.vanderstucken@tamuc.edu
**Preferred Form of Communication:** Email
**Communication Response Time:** One (1) day

### COURSE INFORMATION

#### Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings

**Textbook(s) Required:**

Stanhope, M. & Lancaster, J. (2022). *Foundations for population health in community/public health nursing* (6th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Elsevier.

Online resources and articles as directed.

**Other Learning Materials Required:**

None

#### Course Description

This course explores rural community health nursing, focusing on historical development, philosophy, health care systems, epidemiology, and individuals, families, and specific aggregate groups. Applies theoretical and empirical knowledge in using the nursing process in rural community settings to promote, maintain, and restore health. Focuses on transcultural nursing concepts, rural, and home health care delivery. Diverse roles of the community and public health nurse are examined, and a rural community assessment is completed using research and data processing skills.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Incorporate nursing principles that demonstrate effective communication and respect and openness for ethnic diversity and socio-cultural practices of clients and colleagues both local, national and international.
2. Implement the nursing process with specified populations to formulate and prioritize community health nursing diagnosis or concept to modify health behaviors or conditions.
3. Apply the concepts of epidemiology and levels of prevention to analyze an identified health problem.
4. Identify global health issues and the determinants of health affecting the issues.
5. Identify and examine the stages of disaster and the role of nurses at the local, state, national and international levels.
6. Demonstrate collaboration and teamwork, interprofessional communication, respect for other disciplines, and understanding of roles and responsibilities in the assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of health care for individuals, families, and populations.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using the learning management system and using Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

### Instructional Methods

**Formative/Summative Assessments:**

This course includes both formative activities and assignments (practice) for the class and summative (graded) assessments for the clinical. The formative activities and assignments are designed to guide your learning and are not included in the course grade. Formative activities and assignments are recommended but not required for course completion. Formative activities and assignments provide practice and the opportunity for instructor feedback prior to completing the graded summative assessments. The summative assessments allow you to demonstrate competency and are required as part of the course grade.

This is an online course without lecture requiring students to complete online activities, independent practice, and individual study to be successful. Course objectives may be met through individual study using suggested resources, active involvement in course activities, formal and informal exchange of ideas with classmates and colleagues regarding specific topics, as well as utilizing critical thinking skills. Teaching methods include seminar

discussion, independent study of texts and library resources, computer-assisted instruction, audio-visual aids, and the assignments listed. While the professor will provide guidance and consultation, the student is responsible for identification of learning needs, self-direction, seeking consultation when needed, and demonstration of course objectives.

**Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course**

- Logging onto the course website daily during the week.
- **Checking emails at least daily.**
- Updating semester calendar with communicated changes.
- At least three hours of weekly study.
- Review of examinations.

**GRADING**

The pacing guide dates for all course (class) assignments are noted on the Course Calendar. Assignments are to be submitted in D2L unless otherwise noted. Calendar dates are a guide to keep the student moving through the course and are noted as pacing dates in the modules. All work must be submitted with satisfactory score by the end of course date.

Final grades in this course use the following grading scale:

A = 90%-100% (Exceeds Expectations)
B = 75-89% (Meets Expectations)
Below 75% (Needs Improvement and will retake the course)

**Note: A minimum grade 75 is required to pass the course.**

| **Formative** Activities (not graded) ||
|---|---|
| Module 1 | Public health Nursing in Practice Assignment |
| Module 2 | Community Assessment & Education Assignment |
| Module 3 | Vulnerable Populations and Rural/Migrant Health Assignment |
| Module 4 | None |
| Module 5 | Environment & Epidemiology Assignment |
| Module 6 | None |
| Module 7 | Disaster Management Assignment |

Grades will be determined as follows:

| Summative Assessments - Clinical | | Percent Grade |
|---|---|---|
| Module 1 | **Public Health Nursing** Clinical | 10% |
| Module 2 | 1. **Community Assessment-Windshield** Assessment & Interviews | See Module 5 |
| | 2. School of Nursing **Clinical Journal** | 10% |
| | 3. School of Nursing **Clinical Presentation** | 15% |
| Module 3 | None | |
| Module 4 | **Making Tough Choices** Assessment | 15% |
| Module 5 | **Community Assessment-Health of Community/**Synthesize & Present | 25% |
| Module 6 | **Outbreak Surveillance** Assessment | 10% |
| Module 7 | **Stop Disaster Simulation** Assessment | 15% |
| | | **100%** |

**All SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS DUE <u>BY 2359 ON 02/27/2025</u>.**

**Submissions:**
Successful completion of the assessment will enable the student to meet the student learning outcomes and competencies. The course outline/schedule is included to guide the student to complete all tasks during the course. You may submit assignments early. Students who do not complete assignments and do not demonstrate competency will receive a needs improvement grade for the course and be required to retake the course. Competency for all exams is defined as 75%. Competency for all written assessments and performance assessments is 80%.

**Paper Submissions:**
All documents submitted online are to be in .docx, .rtf, or .pdf format in a single submission. No other formats (JPEG, GIF, PDF, etc.) will be accepted. Assignments need to be submitted in a maximum of one document per assignment. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a grade of "0" on the assignment.

### Assignments and Assessments

The pacing guide dates for all course (class) assignments are noted on the Course Outline. Assignments are to be submitted in D2L unless otherwise noted. Calendar

dates are a guide to keep the student moving through the course. All work must be submitted with satisfactory score by the end of course date.

There is a variety of assignments for this class to accommodate different learning styles.

**Formative:**
>**Module Assignments**
>>Module 1: Public Health Nursing in Practice Assignment
>>Module 2: Community Assessment & Education Assignment
>>Module 3: Vulnerable Populations & Rural/Migrant Health
>>Module 5: Environment & Epidemiology
>>Module 7: Disaster Management

>The purpose of these assignments is to review and learn information on the basic concepts of various modules and to locate and utilize current research support for various issues. By putting these concepts into your own words, you are more likely to recall and use the information in your future nursing practice.

**Summative:**

***For clinical assessments with residents, patients or on-site at facilities, you need to dress professionally and indicate that you are a student in the nursing program at East Texas A&M University.***

>**Module Assessments**
>>Module 1: Public Health Nursing Clinical
>>Module 2: 1) Community Assessment-Windshield Assessment & Interviews, 2) School Nursing Clinical Journal, 3) School Nursing Clinical Presentation
>>Module 4: Making Tough Choices
>>Module 5: Community Assessment-Health of Community/Synthesize & Present
>>Module 6: Outbreak Surveillance
>>Module 7: Stop Disasters Simulation Assignment

>The purpose of these assessments is to obtain required clinical hours for the course and to review and learn information on the basic concepts of various modules and to locate and utilize current research support for various issues. By putting these concepts into the student's own words, the student is more likely to recall and use the information in their future nursing practice. Submit the assessments to the drop box within the module.

# COURSE SPECIFIC PROCEDURES/POLICIES

## Nursing Student Guide

Specific information for the nursing student regarding the nursing program and current policies and procedures can be found here:
http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/colleges/educationHumanServices/departments/nursing/Current%20Students/BSNstudentguidebook/default.aspx

Students must adhere to standards of professional and academic conduct. Academic misconduct involves any activity that tends to compromise the academic integrity of the University, or subvert the educational process, including, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student or the attempt to commit such an act. Students are responsible for their own academic honesty and for reporting violations of academic honesty by others. (Nursing Student Conduct Code--See the BSN Student Guide)

## Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

## Interaction with Instructor Statement

Class It is expected that you will check your D2L course and email at least **DAILY** for communication from the instructor. Communication between faculty and students is important and taken seriously. Preferred communication method is by email the East Texas A&M University email system, accessible within the D2L course. All students will be treated with collegial respect and are expected to communicate likewise in a professional manner. Students should check their university email accounts daily for course updates and communication with the instructor.

It is expected that assignments will be graded and returned to the student within two (2) weeks of submission.

## Class Attendance

Class attendance for online courses is defined as completing module activities and is expected. As an adult learner and responsible professional, the student is responsible for reading and completing assignments. It should not be expected that all material will be covered by the instructor.

# TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

## LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS).  Below are technical requirements

LMS Requirements:
https://community.brightspace.com/s/article/Brightspace-Platform-Requirements

LMS Browser Support:
https://documentation.brightspace.com/EN/brightspace/requirements/all/browser_support.htm

Zoom Video Conferencing Tool
https://inside.tamuc.edu/campuslife/CampusServices/CITESupportCenter/Zoom_Account.aspx?source=universalmenu

## ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

## Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found here:

https://community.brightspace.com/support/s/contactsupport

## University Specific Procedures

### Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.  The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the Student Guidebook.
http://www.tamuc.edu/Admissions/oneStopShop/undergraduateAdmissions/studentGuidebook.aspx

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum:
https://www.britannica.com/topic/netiquette

### TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the Attendance webpage and Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01.
http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx

http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf

### Academic Integrity

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

[Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/documents/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyForm.pdf](#)

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

[http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateschool/faculty/GraduateStudentAcademicDishonestyFormold.pdf](#)

[http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf](#)

## Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

**Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: [studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu)
Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)
[http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/](#)

## Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or

veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url: http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

## Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



The Counseling Center at A&M-Commerce, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.tamuc.edu/counsel

## NURS 4460 Rural and Community Health Nursing for the RN – Spring 2025

| Module | Course Content | Resources | Assignments (Formative/No Grade) | Assessments (Summative/Graded) | Pacing Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Start Here** | • **Welcome video**<br>• **Syllabus**<br>• **Course orientation**<br>• **Competency Review** | Syllabus<br>Competencies | | | **January 16, 2025** |
| **1**<br>**Public Health Nursing: History & Current Practice** | • Public Health Nursing & Population Health<br>• History of Public Health and Public & Community Health Nursing<br>• US and Global Health Care<br>• Nursing Practice at the Local, State, and National levels in public health | Chapter 1-3, 28, & page 114 Text and PowerPoint Slides | *1) Public Health Nursing in Practice* | • *Public Health Nursing – Clinical* | **January 19, 2025** |
| **2**<br>**Community Assessment** | • Community Assessment & Evaluation<br>• Health Education in the Community<br>• The Nurse in the Schools | Chapter 13, 14, & 31 Text and PowerPoint Slides | *1) Community Assessment & Education Assessment*<br>*Assignment* | • *Community Assessment-Windshield Assessment & Interviews*<br>• *School Nursing Clinical Journal*<br>• *Schol Nursing Clinical Presentation* | **January 26, 2025** |

*The syllabus/schedule are subject to change.*

| Module | Course Content | Resources | Assignments (Formative/No Grade) | Assessments (Summative/Graded) | Pacing Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **3** **Vulnerable Populations 1** | • Health Equity & Care of Vulnerable Populations<br>• Rural Health & Migrant Health | Chapter 23 & 24 Text and PowerPoint Slides | *1) Vulnerable Populations & Rural/Migrant Health* *Assignment* | | **February 2, 2025** |
| **4** **Vulnerable Populations 2** | • Poverty, Homelessness, Teen Pregnancy, and Mental Illness<br>• Alcohol Tobacco, & Other Drug Problems in the Community<br>• Violence & Human Abuse | Chapter 25-27 Text and PowerPoint Slides | | • *Making Tough Choices* | **February 9, 2025** |
| **5** **Epidemiology & Infectious Disease** | • Environmental Health<br>• Epidemiologic Applications | Chapter 8 & 10 Text and PowerPoint Slides | *1) Environment & Epidemiology* *Assignment* | • *Community Assessment - Health of Community/ Synthesize & Present* *Assessment.* | **February 16, 2025** |

| Module | Course Content | Resources | Assignments (Formative/No Grade) | Assessments (Summative/Graded) | Pacing Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **6**<br>**Infectious Disease & Outbreak Surveillance** | • Infectious Disease Prevention & Control<br>• Communicable & Infectious Disease Risks<br>• Public Health Surveillance & Outbreak Investigation | Chapter 11,12, & 17 Text and PowerPoint Slides | | • ***Outbreak Surveillance*** *Assignment* | **February 23, 2025** |
| **7**<br>**Disaster Management** | • Disaster Management | Chapter 16 Text and PowerPoint Slides | ***1) Disaster Management*** *Assignment* | • **Stop Disasters Simulation** Assessment | **THURSDAY, February 27, 2025**<br><br>**<u>ALL</u> summative assessments due by <u>*2359*</u> THIS DAY.** |