



BSN Program
NURS 3414: Health Assessment across the Lifespan
Syllabus

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COURSE INFORMATION

Materials- Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:

Textbook(s) Required:

Jarvis, C. (2011). *Physical examination & health assessment* (6th Ed.). St. Louis: Saunders (ISBN-10: 1437701515)

Jarvis, C. (2011). *Student Laboratory Manual for Physical Examination & Health Assessment*. (6th Ed.). St. Louis: Saunders. (ISBN: 1437714455)

Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab): <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

Recommended Text

Jarvis, C. (2011). *Pocket Companion for Physical examination & health assessment* (6th Ed.). St. Louis: Saunders. (ISBN-10: 1437714420)

Prentice Hall Real Nursing Skills: Physical and Health Assessment. (2006) Prentice Hall. (CD-ROM boxed set) ISBN: (0-13-191525-8).

COURSE DESCRIPTION (4 credit hours)

Concepts and principles underlying assessment of the health status of individuals are presented with emphasis placed on interviewing skills, health histories, and the physical and psychosocial findings in the well person. Communication and assessment skills are developed. Students obtain health histories, perform physical and psychosocial assessments, establish a database, and formulate initial nursing plans using the nursing process.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify principles of history taking in the assessment process of individuals.
2. Demonstrate physical examination skills according to established criteria.
3. Document problems and needs in individuals from data discovered during the health history and physical examination.
4. Compare and contrast the roles and responsibilities of the nurse in the process of health assessment and health

promotion.
5. Demonstrate responsibility for independent learning.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Learning Experiences and Teaching Methods:

Course objectives may be met through individual study using suggested resources, active involvement in classroom activities, formal, and informal exchange of ideas with classmates and colleagues regarding specific topics as well as utilizing critical thinking skills. Teaching methods include lecture, seminar, discussion, small group work, 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 and demonstration of course objectives.

Grading

Grades will be determined as follows:

Exams (3)	20% each	60%
Chapter Quizzes (12)	Average of all chapter quizzes	12%
Complete Health History	5%	8%
Skills competency check-off #1	10%	10%
Skills competency check-off #2	10%	10%

Grading Scale

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 75-79

D = 67-74

F = 66 and Below

Unit exams: Three Unit exams are scheduled for the course. See the course schedule for the date, time and content of each exam. Exams are NOT comprehensive and are timed.

Chapter Quizzes: Short, 10-question multiple choice quizzes will be given at the beginning of each weekly class over the assigned textbook chapters for that week. See the course schedule for the chapter quizzes.

Complete Health History: One complete history will be done during the semester.

Skills Competency Check-off: A two-part skills and documentation check-off will be administered during the course of the semester, one-half at mid-term and one-half at the end of the semester (See the Performance Evaluation Skills Competency Check-Off for systems covered). In order to pass the course, the student must receive a score of **75%** on each check-off demonstrating competency in the performance of the exam and the documentation of the findings. In the event that the competency check-off is failed (that is, an overall score of **<75%** is earned) remediation will be prescribed to improve the student's skills in areas which were not competently performed or documented. After the remediation, a complete repeat of the check-off will be done.

1. Remediation of a failed skills competency check-off must be completed **before** the last day of classes.
2. When a student fails a check-off, and then undergoes remediation, the average of the two scores will be recorded as his/her grade for that check-off.
3. Remediation may be undertaken **ONLY** if a skills competency check-off is failed, **NOT** to improve a passing check-off grade.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

This course will be enhanced using eCollege, the Learning Management System used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To login to the course, go to: <http://leo.tamuc.edu/login.aspx>.

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu

The following hardware and software are necessary to use eCollege.

- Internet access/connection-high speed recommended (not dial up)*
- Word Processor (MS Word, or Word Perfect)*

Our campus is optimized to work in a Microsoft Windows environment. This means our courses work best if you are using a Windows operating system (XP, Vista, or 7) and a recent version of Microsoft Internet Explorer (6.0, 7.0, 8.0, or 9.0).

Your courses will also work with Macintosh OS X or better along with a recent version of Safari (5.1 is now available). Along with Internet Explorer and Safari, eCollege also supports the Firefox browser (3.0) on both Windows, and Mac operating systems.

It is strongly recommended that you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to eCollege, click on the “myCourses” tab, and then select the “Browser Test” link under Support Services.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Communication between faculty and students is important and taken seriously. Preferred communication methods are through individualized faculty office hours, email, or office phone. If a phone call is not answered, please leave a message and send an e-mail using the direct e-mail link on the course home page. You will be treated with collegial respect and you are expected to communicate likewise in a professional manner.

The Americans with Disability 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
Gee Library 132
Phone (903) 468-8148
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Student Conduct Code – Refer to the BSN Student Guide

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.

CLASS

1. **Class Cancellation:** In the event that a class is canceled, the student is expected to do the readings and complete the objectives for that day. The content will still be included on examinations. The material in this syllabus and dates identified in the Course Calendar are subject to change.
2. Class attendance is expected. The students should notify course faculty in advance of any absence.
3. Exam dates are listed in each course syllabus, and the student is expected to be present for exams. In the event that the student will be absent, the course instructor must be notified in advance. Failure to do so will result in the student receiving a zero for the missed exam or quiz.
4. As an adult learner and responsible professional, the student is responsible for reading and completing assignments prior to class and for being prepared to participate in discussions over the assigned material. It should not be expected that all material will be covered in class. Students are expected to come to class prepared.
4. Assignments must be handed in on time. Assignments submitted late without prior arrangement with the classroom instructor will receive a zero.

Classroom Behavior

Students must refrain from classroom distractions (e.g. talking to each other, eating, texting, using phones, entering late or moving excessively during class). Children are not allowed in the classroom at any time. Students causing distractions will be asked to leave the classroom and may be subject to disciplinary action. Cell phones must be placed on vibrate or turned off.

Use of Electronic Devices

The use of electronic devices, including laptops and voice recorders, must be approved by the course faculty prior to class. Laptops not being used to take notes should be closed. The use of any unapproved electronic devices during a test/quiz or test/quiz review will result in the student receiving a zero for that test/quiz.