Course Information Form (CIF)

Course Code: LPN 117

Course Title: Nursing Pharmacology

Department: Nursing
PCS Code: 1.2 - Occupational/Technical Instruction
CIP Code: 51.3901
Repeatability: 0

Effective Date: Summer 2026

Credit Hours

Catalog Notation: 3-0-3
Credit Hour Distribution:

Lecture: 3	Lab: 0	Clinical: 0	**Total: 3**

General Course Information

Catalog Description

Introduction to principles of nursing pharmacology and pharmacological agents relating to managing disease states. Nursing-specific interventions pertaining to medication administration and nursing practice.

General Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will understand the basic principles of pharmacology, including the legal and ethical aspects of medication administration and the principles of drug action. The student will identify basic drug categories commonly encountered by nurses and demonstrate the knowledge required to safely administer medications.

Minimum Placement Levels

English	Reading	Math
Placement out of ENG 099	Placement out of CCS 099	Placement out of MAT 072

Prerequisites

Credit or concurrent enrollment in LPN 111, LPN 114, and BIO 121
Admission into the LPN program

Methods of Evaluation

1 medical calculation test, 10-12 quizzes, and 1-3 objective exams.

Instructional Materials and Additional Supplies

Pharmacology Clear and Simple, 5th Edition, ISBN 13-9781719651196

Course Content

General Learning Outcomes (GLOs)

- Communication: Students will demonstrate the ability to read, write, listen, and speak effectively.
- Reasoning and Inquiry: Students will demonstrate the ability to solve problems using deductive reasoning and logic, quantitative reasoning, or the scientific method.
- Technology: Students will demonstrate the ability to evaluate, select, and appropriately use current and emerging tools.

Course Segments and Student Learning Outcomes

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Introduction: Nursing Math	1. Utilize appropriate conversions to practice drug dosage calculation.	6	0	0
Basic Concepts	1. Describe differences between OTC and prescription drugs. 2. Recognize and verbalize select drug regulations, standards, and organizations.	3	0	0
Therapeutic and Pharmacologic Classifications	1. Describe differences between generic, chemical, and trade names. 2. Verbalize the different classifications and schedules of drugs, including pregnancy categories.	3	0	0
Drug Administration	1. Describe various methods to give medications: internal, topical, and parenteral. 2. Verbalize rights of medication administration, abbreviations, and reactions.	2	0	0
What Happens After a Drug Has Been Administered?	1. Verbalize and explain the process of absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion.	1	0	0
The Nursing Process; Pharmacology Basics	1. Define terms, concepts, and basic processes associated with physiologic effects of medication therapy. 2. Describe basic physiologic processes involved with absorption and elimination of medications. 3. Utilize available resources to update personal knowledge of medications. 4. Describe drug schedules, regulation, and approval.	2	0	0
Lifespan Considerations; Medication Errors; Drug Administration	1. Describe legal/regulatory issues related to medication administration. 2. Describe the nursing role in medication therapy as it relates to: promoting physiologic and psychological adaptation; documenting therapeutic or non-therapeutic effects; selected legal and ethical aspects of medication therapy; major issues/concerns in medication therapy across the lifespan; and application of the nursing process. 3. Describe nursing responsibilities related to documentation and patient teaching. 4. Evaluate influences of medications on body systems using Gordon's Functional Health patterns in the nursing process.	2	0	0
Major Drug Groups/Classifications: for bacterial and viral infections	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	3	0	0

Course Segment	Learning Outcomes	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
Major Drug Groups/Classifications - Analgesics/Anesthetics: for seizures, neuromuscular diseases	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	3	0	0
Major Drug Groups/Classifications - Central Nervous System; Psychotherapeutic Drugs: emotional, mood, behavioral disorders, anxiety and insomnia	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	2	0	0
Major Drug Groups/Classifications - Cardiovascular Medications: heart failure, angina, MI, stroke, hypertension	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	3	0	0
Major Drug Groups/Classifications: for shock, anaphylaxis, dysrhythmias	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	3	0	0
Major Drug Groups/Classifications: neoplasias	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	3	0	0
Major Drug Groups/Classifications: anticoagulants/hematology disorders, inflammation and fever	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	3	0	0
Major Drug Groups/Classifications - Gastrointestinal System	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	3	0	0
Major Drug Groups/Classifications - Respiratory System	1. Describe characteristics of major drug groups and selected individual medications in terms of the following: mechanism(s) of action; drug effects, therapeutic use, side effects and adverse effects, toxicity and management of overdoses, and interactions; and nursing responsibilities related to administration, monitoring, and teaching.	3	0	0

Total Contact Hours

Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Clinical Hours
45	0	0