

Course Syllabus

COURSE : RNSG 2404-151 (4:3:2)
 SEMESTER: Fall 2026
 CLASS DAYS: Online
 CLASS TIMES: No Class Time

Name	Phone Number	Email	Office	Hours
Jessica Williams MSN, RN, Course Leader	806.716.2977 (o)	jlwilliams@southplainscollege.edu	AH100C	By appointment

“South Plains College improves each student’s life.”

GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

It is the responsibility of each student to be familiar with the content and requirements listed in the course syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will provide an in-depth introduction to basic concepts and fundamental principles of human pathophysiology for advanced undergraduate students. This course will evaluate the study of the structure and function of human anatomy, including the neuroendocrine, integumentary, musculoskeletal, digestive, urinary, reproductive, respiratory, and circulatory systems. Content is specialized to follow the classical division between general pathology and systemic pathology. The aim of the course is to provide the student with a systematic approach for understanding disease and rational therapeutic design. Pathophysiology bridges basic science and clinical practice with an emphasis on integrated mechanistic understanding of the molecular, structural, and functional alterations in cells, tissues, and organ systems that underlie human disease.

This course is an online course meaning Blackboard will be utilized predominantly for content and communication. The student is expected to check the Blackboard course frequently (as in every day) to check for new messages, access content, get assignment postings, take quizzes, and view changes to the calendar, schedule or content should this become necessary.

If you are having difficulty accessing or using any components of Blackboard please use the following contact information. For specific help email Amy Shriver ashriver@southplainscollege.edu or call 806-716-2962. For an email address that reaches everyone in the Instructional Technology department, please use blackboard@southplainscollege.edu.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Identify the essential features of basic disease processes.
2. Interpret the clinical manifestations of specific diseases in terms of etiology and pathogenesis.
3. Describe the relationship between normal anatomy and physiology and alterations produced by disease.
4. Recognize basic pathophysiologic concepts.

5. Describe the impact of health promotion, disease prevention, and risk reduction on selected pathologies.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Refer to the SPC student handbook. Refer to the “Honesty Policy” located in the student handbook and appendix for examples of plagiarism. Violations of the honesty policy include cheating during testing, plagiarizing another’s work, and falsifying records will result in failure of the course. It is the aim of the faculty of South Plains College to foster a spirit of complete honesty and a high standard of integrity. The attempt of a student to present his or her own work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, including possible suspension.

Cheating - Dishonesty of any kind on examinations or on written assignments, illegal possession of examinations, the use of unauthorized notes during an examination, obtaining information during an examination from the textbook or from the examination paper of another student, assisting others to cheat, alteration of grade records, illegal entry or unauthorized presence in the office are examples of cheating. Complete honesty is required of the student in the presentation of all phases of coursework, including all quizzes, exams, and all assignments.

Plagiarism - Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism. Any student who fails to give credit for quotations or essentially identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines, websites such as: blogs, journals, or articles, other referenced works, from themes, reports, and/or other writings of a fellow student, is guilty of plagiarism. If there is any suspicion of work completed by Artificial Intelligence (A.I.), the student and their work may be questioned, and if proven that A.I. was used for any assignment will be considered guilty of plagiarism. If a student does not meet the Turn it in and AI usage percentage, or if they repeat a semester and reuse their assignment work from a previous semester; their work will be investigated. **If the student’s work is positive for plagiarism the student may get a zero (0) on their assignment, be counseled and placed under contract for the remainder of their time in the course. If the student is found guilty for plagiarism a 2nd time they may be dismissed from the course.**

Turn it in Percentage: 25% or less

AI usage Percentage: 15% or less

AI Syllabus statement: **AI use is allowed in the Course with proper referencing.**

Students are welcome to explore generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT, to seek support for their assignments or other activities. However, students should follow the “verify everything” approach to the content generated by these AI tools. These tools learned about the models from the public internet, which means they may reproduce substantial text from other sources. It is the student’s responsibility to check the original sources to be sure they are not plagiarizing someone else’s work. Students should also cross-check the content and citations generated by these tools to ensure they are accurate and properly referenced.

All submitted work must be produced by the students themselves. Use of a generative AI tools such as ChatGPT to complete an assignment constitutes academic misconduct. Only use AI as a resource not to complete the entire assignment. Each assignment the students will use the AI Usage Sheet and document AI criteria and Student information.

If a student is found cheating or plagiarizing the instructor will fill out the Student Conduct Reporting Form on the SPC website.

https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?SouthPlains&layout_id=20

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Teaching and learning methods with the use of Blackboard, may include online lecture, presentation, group discussion, use of audiovisuals, on-line information, PowerPoints, chapter reviews, reading, written assignments, exams, pop-quizzes, and case studies.

COMMUNICATON

Communication between faculty and students is important and taken seriously. Instructors recognize and understand the commitment to students in this course. Students are responsible for making appointments and asking questions to clarify any questions or procedures. Preferred communication methods are through individualized faculty office hours, email, or office phone and occur during regular hours. If a phone call is not answered, please leave a message and send an e-mail link on Blackboard course page or SPC Microsoft email. Allow 24 hours for a response during weekdays and 48 hours during weekends and holidays. When responding you will be treated with collegial respect and students are expected to communicate likewise in a professional manner.

SPECIFIC COURSE INFORMATION TEXT AND MATERIALS (If a newer edition is available, the newer is the book of choice)

TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS

Required Resources

In Course Resource on Bibilu on right side of Blackboard to retrieve eBook.

Hard Copy Book : Huether, S.E., & McCance, K.L. (2021). *Understanding Pathophysiology* (7th ed.), Mosby. ISBN: 9780323639088**

Recommended: American Psychological Association. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (7th ed.), Washington, DC: Author. ISBN:9781433832161

**Text should be carried at your local bookstore or Evolve website:

<https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/store?role=student>

ASSIGNMENTS

Syllabus Acknowledgement:

Students are expected to read, take quiz, and submit an acknowledgement via Blackboard the they have read and understand the syllabus by the end of the 1st week of school. If you have any questions please email the instructor.

Blackboard Module Exams:

Student will be required to complete each module exam listed on the class schedule for 15% of the final grade. Module exams vary in the number of questions; however, the student will receive 1 minute per question to complete the exam. Exams are located in the Blackboard for each week. Module examinations will be open-book and taken from the student's home or preferred location and are due to be completed by the dates listed on the class schedule. The student will have 1 attempt to take the exam, the best score will be recorded. These exams are not to be done in groups, but individually. Once entered the student must finish the exam in one setting; if a student exits the exam it will automatically submit. It is the student's responsibility to notify the facilitator if technical difficulty occurs during the examination **immediately** through SPC email. **Without**

proper notification within 24 hours, access will not be granted, and possible questions missed will not be reviewed.

During the exam NEVER click the Back or Forward. If the screen freezes the student may try the Refresh button or log out and immediately back into Blackboard. Let the screen resolve when saving an answer before clicking next. Exam reviews are not permitted for this course. There are no “dropped” grades or extra credit assignments in this course. It is student’s responsibility to keep up with all assignments on calendar.

Policy on Exam Administration:

Exams will be administered according to the schedule set by the course facilitator documented in the course syllabus. Any changes to the exam schedule will be at the discretion of the course facilitator.

To better prepare the student for the licensure exam testing format, unit, and comprehensive exams will be administered as follows:

- Questions will be given to the student one at a time.
- The student must answer and save the answer before going to the next question.
- The student will not be allowed to return to previous questions.
- Any question not saved by the student will be marked wrong.
- There are no “dropped” grades in this course.

Blackboard Module Pretests and Quizzes:

The student will be required to complete Blackboard pretests accounting for 15% of the final grade.

Pretests vary in the number of questions provided on Blackboard. The student will receive 3 attempts to complete each pretest prior to the due date. The pretests are open book and are not to be done in groups, but individually. Students must finish the pretest in one sitting once entered. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the facilitator if technical difficulty occurs immediately through SPC email or via text messaging. Evolve modules will have a link on Blackboard. It is student’s responsibility to keep up with all assignments on calendar.

Final Concept Map:

Each student will complete one-individualized concept map accounting for 20% of the final course grade.

Concept mapping is a diagrammatic method of teaching and learning that allows students to conceptualize relationships between risk factors, disease process, and clinical manifestations of the disease, diagnostic procedures, and interventions for treatment of the disease process. Each student will choose one topic from a list provided by the instructor for their concept map to develop a complete and thorough concept map of a disease process. Every student will have a different topic. Students may find the concept map assignment list, example of concept mapping, and a rubric template on Blackboard under Course Content, Concept mapping. This assignment will require for student to upload a completed map on Blackboard, provide a video summary of their topic via video resource such as PowerPoint, Prezi., Canva, or etc. When presenting the student must show their face while they are presenting. After presenting, the student will be required to use a video resource such as PowerPoint, Prezi., Canva. Etc. of their choice to reply to two fellow students about their presentation. This is due by the dates listed on the class schedule to the assignment drop box located on the left-hand column of your Blackboard tool bar. It is student’s responsibility to keep up with all assignments on calendar.

The Final Concept Map and Replies must be completed by the due date listed on the class schedule. The student must notify the instructor before the due date if the student anticipates the assignment will be late. Failure to upload the final concept map by the due date to the Blackboard assignment link will automatically result in a 50-point deduction on Day 1 that it is late. Day 2 past the due date the student will receive a zero for the assignment. All students will complete their own map and are required to submit individual concept maps to the assignment submit tab for grading. Failure to submit individual assignments will

result in a deduction. **It is the student's responsibility to make sure their uploaded work is downloadable for the instructor to grade. All uploaded work needs to be in .ppt.**

Final Exam:

Final Exam is worth **20%** of the course grade. Students will take final via blackboard. This is a timed test and must be completed within the time allotted. During the exam NEVER click the Back or Forward. If the screen freezes the student may try the Refresh button or log out and immediately back into Blackboard. Let the screen resolve when saving an answer before clicking next.

Video Discussion Board Forum and Case Study:

This section accounts for 30% of the final course grade. Students will be required to **complete their own discussion and reply to two-three of their peer's discussion** questions on the board forum as well as to reply to a peer that commented on the student's discussion weekly to receive full credit. Students may find the grading rubric on Blackboard under Course Content, Discussion Board Forum module. This assignment is due by the dates listed on the class schedule. Failure to complete the discussion board by the due dates may result in a zero. There are no makeups for discussion boards as this is an interactive assignment with peers and must be completed during the assigned time frame. It is the student's responsibility to locate the discussion forum in blackboard; if a student is unable to view the forum the student should notify the course facilitator on the first day of the forum and notify information technology (IT). **It is student's responsibility to keep up with all assignments on calendar and to complete all assignments in a timely manner.**

Every other week will consist of a video concept map or a case study with replies to 2 or more students and response to at least one:

- **Video Case Study:** Case study assignments are 2 parts:
 - Case Study: Answer the discussion question(s) in essay style. Must be completed as a Word document provided on Blackboard in Assignments. All information must be written with correct grammar and punctuation. **May only use 2 quoted sentences, the rest need to be in students own writing from their research with citations.** Other sentences need to be information in your own words with references cited.
 - **References:** Must include 2 or more scholarly references. One reference must be the course textbook and scholarly medical journal sources. **All AI resources will need to be identified using AI Usage sheet. Only allowed to have AI reference. Do not copy and paste AI information, must add text in your own words.** The in-text reference and reference page must be in APA 7th ed. formatting. All references can only be 5 years old, anything older will not be counted within the points.
 - **Case Study Discussion:** Must respond on Discussion Board, what you picked, why you picked, what you learned from each case study. Use All Discussion Criteria as a guide. Use ALL DISCUSSION replies to classmate Criteria.
- **Concept Map Video and Discussion:** The concept map must be completed as a PowerPoint and have a video discussing your concept map. All topics of map must be referenced. Must include 2 references. One reference must be the course textbook and one scholarly source. The in-text reference and reference page must be in APA 7th ed. formatting. If using AI for research than you need to use the AI usage sheet.
- **All Discussion replies to classmates Criteria:** Student must reply to 2 of their peer's discussions with at least 100-word count text, commenting on their discussion answer or concept map pathology in the Blackboard discussion board. In addition to peer replies, the student must also reply to back to their peer's response from individual discussion. If no peers reply to the student's discussion, then the student will need to reply to a 3rd peer's discussion to receive full credit. Overall, 3 or more responses should be made for discussion credit.
- **Videos:** Can be made with any video platform that allows the student show their face and where everyone can hear their verbal presentation. All information must be presented. **It is the student's responsibility to upload work in PowerPoint or on discussion board. This allows the instructor to provide feedback on document.**

AI Usage Sheet

**This is to help understand the students AI usage and how they incorporated information and research into their work. This sheet will be added to the rubric as part of your grade.*

AI Criteria	Student Information
1. Generator Used for research <i>Which Generator did you use? (ChatGPT, Gemini, etc.)</i>	
2. Prompt Used in AI Generator: <i>What phrase or question did you type into AI generator to get your information?</i>	
3. Reasoning for prompt: <i>Why did you feel you needed to use this for your research?</i>	
4. Information gathered from AI Generator and where did you add to your work: <i>What information did you use from generator that you added into your work?</i>	

Blackboard Lecture :

Lecture will be provided on Blackboard by an instructor through PowerPoint, PowerPoint voiceover, YouTube videos, Notebook LM, or end of chapter review, as an extra learning tool. Lectures and PowerPoint will help students make connections to the weekly subjects and give additional information for students to add in their discussion. It is student's responsibility to keep up with all assignments on calendar.

Late Assignments and Extra Credit:

Work is due on the assigned dates and times in Central Standard Time (CST). Students should contact faculty prior to the due date and time if they anticipate material will be late. Please note that contacting faculty will not guarantee the receipt of an extension for the assignment. Due to the time constraints within this course, there are no allowances for extra credit assignments or resubmissions of an assignment. Please allow enough time for preparation and submission of each assignment prior to the scheduled due date.

GRADING POLICY

The grade for this course will be determined upon completion of the following components:

Blackboard Module Exams	15%
Blackboard Module Quizzes & Assignments	15%
Final Concept Map	20%
Final Exam	20%
Discussion Board Forum	30%
Final Grade Total	100%

Course grades are based on the following scale:

A= 90-100%	Excellent
B= 80-89%	Good
C= 70-79%	Average
D= 60-69%	Below Average
F= 59%	Below Failing

TO CALCULATE YOUR OVERALL AVERAGE: DO NOT ROUND

- A. Take your **Module Exam** and multiply it by 0.15. *Example: Grade of 81 x 0.15 = 12.15*
- B. Then take your **Pretest and Quizzes Average** and multiply it by 0.15 *Example: Grade of 84 x 0.15 = 12.6*
- C. Then take your **Discussion Board Forum** and multiply it by 0.2. *Example: Grade of 80 x 0.2 = 16*
- D. Then take your **Final Concept Map** and multiply it by .25: *Example: Grade of 88 x .25 = 22*
- E. Then take your **Final Exam** and multiply it by 0.25. *Example: Grade of 90 x 0.25 = 22.5*
- F. *Add: A+B+C+D+E together to get your overall course average: 12.15+12.6+16+22+22.5=84.35 NO ROUNDING OF AVERAGE FOR FINAL GRADE.*

CIVILITY

While there are no classroom meetings for this course, students are expected to demonstrate respect and civility towards faculty and other students in an online environment. Students are expected to assist in maintaining a virtual classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have the opportunity to gain information from the learning environment; students are prohibited from engaging in any form of distraction, disrespect, inappropriate language or behavior in online interactions. Inappropriate behavior in the virtual classroom will be dealt with by the course faculty on an individual basis. **Please use the faculty email as the primary source of communication and give your instructor 24 hours to answer your email.** There are no office hours for this course.

Intellectual Exchange Statement

In South Plains College courses, the instructor will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group difference and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Lubbock Centers (located at the Lubbock Downtown Center) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302.

Non-Discrimination Statement

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360

Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations, you must submit a [Title IX pregnancy accommodations request](#), along with specific medical documentation, to the Health and Wellness Center. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact the Health and Wellness Center at 806-716-2529 or email dburleson@southplainscollege.edu for assistance.

CARE (Campus Assessment, Response, and Evaluation) Team

South Plains College is committed to ensuring the safety, health, and well-being of its students and community. To support its campus community SPC has a CARE Team. This is a dedicated group of campus professionals responsible for assessing and responding to students who could benefit from academic, emotional, or psychological support, as well as those presenting risk to the health or safety of the community. If you see someone experiencing challenges, appearing distressed, posing a threat to their safety or someone else's safety, or causing a significant disruption to the SPC community, please submit a [CARE Team referral](#). You may also submit a referral for yourself if you would like additional support. NOTE: In cases where a person's behavior poses an imminent threat to you or another, contact 911.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Government Code 411.2031, et al. authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College 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 South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1

COVID-19

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or get tested for COVID-19.

- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing
- Fever or chills
- Muscles or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and smell

Please also notify DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN, Associate Director of Health & Wellness, at dedens@southplainscollege.edu or 806-716-2376

1. SPC will follow the recommended 5-day isolation period for individuals that test positive.
 - a. **Please note that day 0 is the date of positive test. Day 1 begins the first full day after the date of positive result.**
2. COVID reporting
 - a. Please have students and employees notify DeEtte Edens if they have tested positive to verify dates before returning to class or work.
 - b. The home tests are sufficient but students need to submit a photo of the positive result. The date of test must be written on the test result and an ID included in the photo. If tested elsewhere (clinic, pharmacy, etc.), please submit a copy of the doctor's note or email notification. Results may be emailed to DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN at dedens@southplainscollege.edu.
 - c. A student is clear to return to class without further assessment if they have completed:
 - The 5-day isolation period, symptoms have improved and
 - they are afebrile for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
3. Please instruct students and employees to communicate with DeEtte Edens prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 5-day isolation.
4. Exposed individuals will not be required to quarantine. If exposed, SPC does request individuals closely monitor themselves. If an individual does become symptomatic, please do not attend class or work and be tested.