

Course Syllabus

COURSE TITLE: VNSG 2410 Nursing in Health and Illness III (Level 3 Adult Health Nursing)
SEMESTER/YEAR: Fall 2026
CLASS TIMES: Thursday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm
LAB TIMES: Not required
INSTRUCTOR: Erin Hennesay MSN, RN-BC
OFFICE LOCATION: Building 8, room 815.
OFFICE HOURS: **Please make an appointment via email.**
Tuesday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Wednesday 1:30 – 4:00 pm, and Friday 8:00 am -12:00 pm
(by appointment only) *1st 8 weeks only – Wednesday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm*
PHONE AND EMAIL: 806-716-4621
ehennesay@southplainscollege.edu
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthPlainsCollegeVocationalNursingProgram>

“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. **

Prerequisite Courses: VNSG 1400, 1409

Co-requisite (concurrent) courses: VNSG 2461, 1334, 1219, 1331

COURSE DESCRIPTION (WECM)

Continued study in the principles of growth and development, primary health care needs of the patient across the life span, disease processes, and therapeutic nursing interventions. This class is also viewed as an NCLEX prep course.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (DECS)

At the completion of the semester students will:
1. Become a member of the profession
2. Provider of Patient-Centered Care
3. Become a Patient Safety Advocate
4. Become a member of the health care team
5. See textbook specific objectives for each chapter

COURSE OBJECTIVES - Outline form (C-5, C-6, C-7, C-8, C-15, C-16, C-17, C-18, C-19, C-20) (F-1, F-2, F-7, F-8, F-9, F-10, F11, F-12)

At the completion of this course the student will:
1. Describe normal body functions with that of pathological variations.
2. Discuss disease process, assessment, lab data and diagnostics.
3. Assist in formulation of a plan of care utilizing the nursing process for medical-surgical conditions.
4. Provide patient/family education.
5. Demonstrate use of nursing process regarding patient care, nursing interventions and drug therapy
6. Discuss normal aging, system changes, common disease processes, lifestyle changes, common issues and needs during the aging process.
7. Discuss the principles of nutrition, the digestive process, food nutrients, diet therapy and diet modifications.
8. Apply sound nursing principles and concepts to multiple patient situations in a variety of clinical settings.
9. Be fluid in the use of medical terminology.
10. Be present and punctual for all classes with no more than 2 (two) absences.
11. Must pass the course with a minimum of 76 average.

EVALUATION METHODS

Computer-based quizzes and exams, written exams, assignments, quizzes, and other projects assigned.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

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 any student to present as his or her own any work which he or she has not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offender liable to serious consequences, possibly 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 presenting all coursework phases. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, final examinations, daily reports, and term papers. **This also includes sharing answers on homework.**

Usage of or sharing of test questions discovered anywhere besides those provided within the course for unfair advantage on exams is also considered cheating (this includes Quizlet, nurse labs, Studoco, or other free or pay access websites). If found, the site and instructor should be notified.

Plagiarism - Offering the work of another as one's own, without proper acknowledgment, is plagiarism; therefore, any student who fails to give credit for quotations or identical expression of material taken from books, encyclopedias, magazines, and other reference works, or from themes, reports, 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 will be considered guilty of plagiarism.

VERIFICATION OF WORKPLACE COMPETENCIES

No external learning experience provided. Successful completion of the DECS competency statements at the level specified by the course (Level Objectives) will allow the student to continue to advance within the program. Upon successful completion of the program, students will be eligible to take the State Board Exam (NCLEX) for Vocational Nurse licensure.

BLACKBOARD

Blackboard is an e-Education platform designed to enable educational innovations everywhere by connecting people and technology. This educational tool will be used in this course throughout the semester.

Please calculate your grade according to the criteria in this syllabus.

FACEBOOK

The Vocational Nursing Program has a Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/SouthPlainsCollegeVocationalNursingProgram> in addition to the South Plains College website. "Liking" the South Plains College Vocational Nursing Program Facebook page is not mandatory, nor are personal Facebook accounts, to access this page.

SCANS and FOUNDATION SKILLS

Refer also to Course Objectives. Scans and Foundation Skills attached.

SPECIFIC COURSE INFORMATION

TEXT AND MATERIALS: Required Textbook(s):

Access to ATI testing

Davis Advantage for NCLEX-PN. ISBN-13: 978-1-7196-4458-7

Williams, L., & Hopper, P. (2019). *Understanding Medical Surgical Nursing*, (7th ed.), F.A. Davis. ISBN #978-1-7196-4458-7 **with the supplemental Davis Advantage Resource code.**

Williams, L., & Hopper, P. (2023) *Study Workbook for Understanding Medical Surgical Nursing*, (7th ed.), F.A. Davis. ISBN #978-1-7196-4459-4

VanLeeuwen, A., & Bladh, M. (2023). *Davis's Comprehensive Manual of Laboratory & Diagnostic Tests with Nursing Implications*. (10th ed.). F.A. Davis. ISBN # 978-1-7196-4612-3

Venes, D. (Ed.) *Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary*. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis Company. ISBN 978-0-7196-4285-9

Ford, S. M. (2022). *Introductory clinical pharmacology*. Wolters Kluwer (12th ed.).

Vallerand, A., & Sanoski, C. (2027). *Davis Drug Guide for Nurses*, (20th ed.). F.A. Davis. ISBN # 9781719653879

These books and online resources are required; it is not a suggestion. This was on your required list before school started!! You cannot do your assignments or study without them!!

ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM ITEMS

Students should come to class prepared with pens, pencils, and a notebook for taking notes or completing quizzes or assignments in class. Students should be prepared to take notes on lecture material if they choose. The PowerPoints are posted on Blackboard; students must print them prior to class if desired. Class time will not be given for printing notes.

In the event of a computer outage, quizzing or testing will be completed via SPC issued iPads. Students are expected to bring their individual **SPC issued** iPad and charger **every day to class**. Failure to do so may result in a missed exam. **Personal iPads and laptops are not permitted in the classroom.**

EMERGENCY MESSAGES

The student should notify his/her family that in case of an emergency during the normal class schedule, they should call the Nursing Office at (806)716-4623 or (806)716-4626. Class will not be interrupted unless it is an emergency, so they must identify themselves and say it is an emergency to get immediate action.

The student should notify his/her family that in the case of an emergency during clinical rotations, they should call and leave a message or text (who they are and whom they need to contact for an emergency) to the number or numbers provided to them in the clinical course syllabus and/or on the clinical course schedule.

Withdrawing from all classes

If a student wishes to withdraw from all courses, they should initiate that process with the Advising Office. They can schedule an appointment with an advisor by visiting <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/admission-aid/advising/spcadvisors.php> or by calling 806-716-2366. In addition, please notify Ms. Steffey by email.

ATTENDANCE POLICY (*READ CAREFULLY)

Class Attendance

Students must attend all classes to be successful in a course. The student will be administratively withdrawn from the course when more than **2 absences** occur.

Because of the fast pace of this course within the Vocational Nursing Program and as stated in the Vocational Nursing Student Handbook, **makeup work is not accepted in this course**. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have “Never Attended” by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of “X” or “F” as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student’s responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student’s responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student’s online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate, and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

(http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=47&navoid=1229#Class_Attendance)

Attendance Philosophy

Research has proven that academic achievement for each student is enhanced when the student has regular and punctual attendance. To foster accountability, to match the work environment policies, and to foster learning and understanding, attendance is mandatory in the Vocational Nursing Program. Understanding that illnesses and unavoidable problems do arise, the VNP does allow for some absences within the program. Faculty do not ask why a student is absent because they are an adult learner. **Faculty also do not provide make up classes or repeat lectures for students who miss a class. Students who are absent should obtain missed lecture content and information from a fellow classmate.**

4.1-A. Class Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes to be successful in a course. Learning is fostered in the classroom environment. Missing even one lecture/class activity can negatively impact student performance; therefore, classroom attendance is mandatory, and students are accountable to attend and be on time for class. Students must be in their seats ready for class at the scheduled time.

Attendance is taken for each class by signature page or via an oral call by the instructor, or possibly by head count; it may be taken several times during a class period. A student who is not present at any point when attendance is taken will be marked “absent.” A student is not allowed to disrupt the class due to tardiness. A student who is late and arrives after the door is closed may come into the classroom quietly to hear the lecture, BUT the student will still be marked as “absent”. Students who are late for an exam will not be allowed to take the exam and are counted as “absent”. Students who do not return to class after an exam are counted as “absent.” If the student is asked to leave the classroom for any reason (sleeping, talking or other inappropriate behavior), the student is given an absence. Students who “forget” to sign in are counted as absent.

A student who exceeds **2 absences** in this course does not meet the course objectives and will be withdrawn from the Vocational Nursing Program. If the student has a documented emergency that leads to exceeding **2 absences**, the student will be responsible for notifying the instructor. The student must meet with and present evidence to the instructor and program director regarding the reasons for all absences. The instructor and program director will review and determine if a true emergency existed for each of the absences. Failure to plan (childcare, transportation, traffic, tardiness) is not an eligible emergency. There are absences available on each course in case one of these needs arises. However, exceeding absences is grounds for dismissal. Should you use an absence, please be aware that if you

encounter a true emergency later in the semester and you have already used your absence for a non-emergency, the attendance policy will be upheld, and you may be dismissed from the VNP. The decision of the instructor and program director is final.

As a matter of courtesy and professional behavior, a student who is going to be absent must email the course instructor and inform the instructor of the pending absence.

Breaks are given during the lecture time. Because we must closely monitor student movement in the building, you may only have a break when one is given. Coming in and out of the classroom during class/lab causes a distraction. If you leave the classroom or lab for any reason outside of the assigned break time, you may be counted as absent by instructor discretion. Students should use break times wisely by going to the bathroom, getting refreshments, etc. rather than spending time on cell phones and then wanting to go to the bathroom when class starts. If you are not back at the designated time after a break, you are counted absent.

COVID policy: See VN Student Handbook

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, please do not attend class and either seek medical attention or test 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. Proof of a positive test is required. A home test is sufficient, but students must submit a photo of the positive result. The date of the 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.

- A student is clear to return to class without further assessment from DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN if they have completed the 3-day isolation period, symptoms have improved, and they are without fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Students must communicate with DeEtte Edens, BSN, RN prior to their return date if still symptomatic at the end of the 3-day isolation.

(See student handbook for Full list of Covid policies)

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 and get tested.

Should a student become ill (example of illness: fever; nausea/vomiting that is *not* due to pregnancy; diarrhea or any other communicable disease). A physician's release must be submitted when the student is treated by a physician. (per Handbook policy)

Absences are recorded for the full day if a class is scheduled for the full day. If a student leaves before the end of the class period, the student is marked "absent" for the day. A student who misses the morning session may attend the afternoon session to get the information, but the student is still marked as "absent" for the day. There are no "half-day" absences. If the student is asked to leave the classroom for any reason (sleeping, talking, or other inappropriate behavior), the student is given an absence and the subsequent point deduction.

Attendance is occasionally taken by a sign in sheet. Students who "forget" to sign in are counted as absent. Attendance will be recorded by the instructor for required Zoom meetings.

Students are given numerous days off for holidays and Spring/Fall breaks, not including weekends. In addition, classes are over by 4:00 p.m. This should give students ample time to take care of business, and schedule medical and other necessary appointments. As a matter of courtesy and professional behavior, a student who is going to be absent should email or call the course instructor and inform the instructor of the pending absence.

- **On exam days, the test will start at the designated time. There are no tardies allowed. If you are late, it is an absence, and you will receive a zero for the exam. See “missed exam” for more details. You may enter after the exam is complete to participate in class activity but will still be considered absent.**

4.1-B Tardy: Tardiness is not accepted in the Vocational Nursing Program. Students are either present and on time or they are absent. It is disruptive to students who are on time for a tardy student to enter the classroom with books and backpacks. It also demonstrates a lack of caring and lack of respect for classmates for the tardy student to disrupt class. The LVN program is a professional program, **tardiness is not acceptable!** **If a student is tardy, they will be counted absent.** The student may still join the class if the door is open, if the door is closed, the student should wait until it is opened before entering the classroom. See Exam policy regarding expectations on tardiness for exams.

4.1-C. Attendance Records: Because the student is an adult learner, each student should keep his/her own record of absence. Faculty is under NO obligation to inform a student of absences; the student will be notified when he/she no longer meets program objectives because of excessive absences, and the student is being withdrawn. *Should the student believe a discrepancy exists, the student should submit the notice in writing to the course instructor within 24 hours of notification.*

ASSIGNMENT POLICY

All assignments must be completed by the assigned due date. Late work will receive a zero. **Assignments are tied to course learning objectives and are required to be completed before the Final Exam is taken in order to exit the course, even if the assigned grade is a zero.** The grade will not be changed upon submission of late work.

The student is responsible for being informed of class progress and assignments and coming to class prepared to participate in discussion, turning in assignments due, and/or taking the quiz or test scheduled for that day. **Reading any assigned material assists the student in listening to the lecture with a higher degree of acuity and participating in class discussions more effectively.** A student cannot expect to understand what is being said in class when s/he has had no previous contact with the ideas or terms related to a given topic.

Students should retain a photocopy or computer-accessible file of all assignments turned in. Always have a backup copy. All work is submitted via the Blackboard classroom, ATI or any other method per instructor instructions or directions.

Assignments are not accepted by email. You must submit the assignment in the appropriate location (Blackboard, ATI, etc.) depending upon the assignment **and it is your responsibility** to make sure that you do not upload blank documents or incorrect documents and that your document **can be opened on a PC because not all Mac files are able to convert.** If you submit a blank document or file that cannot be opened, it will not be accepted, unless you inform the instructor at least two hours before the deadline. If within this time, the instructor can clear the previous attempt and allow the student to resubmit before the deadline. Again, it is your responsibility to make sure it is compatible, not blank and submitted appropriately.

Workbook/Study Guide: The workbook is designed to give learners of all styles the opportunity to enhance learning this material. There may be homework assigned using the Study guide that will be turned in. The handbooks that accompany the textbooks offer the students different learning styles or ways of comprehending information. Students struggling to understand the text should refer to these additional books. Students may also access the published website for additional help. Answers to the study guide are provided in a binder in the office. They may not be removed from the office or photographed for copyright purposes. If a chapter is missing, notify the instructor.

Focused Review: ATI Comprehensive Predictor focused review will be assigned and will be posted on Blackboard. ATI Comprehensive Predictor focused review is subject to change at the instructor's discretion. **Focused Review for the ATI Comprehensive Predictor exams must be turned in before the Final exam for the student to take the final.**

COMPUTER USAGE

Students will be expected to utilize computers to access assignments, classroom resources and for exams. Although current educational research still confirms that the best learning/notetaking system is paper and pen (Mueller & Oppenheimer, 2014), in keeping with current technological trends, the faculty will allow usage of the **SPC issued iPads** in the classroom setting (cell phones and personal electronic devices remain prohibited). All registered students are supplied with a working email account from South Plains College. To take exams, students must have their username and password. Students must also have SPC issued iPads with them at all times. iPads may be used for testing. If a student does not have their SPC issued iPad when needed for an exam, a grade of a zero will be given.

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO KNOW THEIR SPC STUDENT USERNAME AND PASSWORD.

CLASSROOM COMPUTER POLICY

The following guidelines apply:

- iPads must be fully charged for use in the classroom
- Devices may be charged during the lunchtime or before/after class
- Computers may not be in the classroom during exams
- The individual student is solely responsible for the security of each device.
- **Current course class materials are the only things that should be pulled up on the computer during class**
- **Students who are shopping, answering emails, playing games, or engaged in other types of computer activities during the lecture will be barred from computer use in the future.**
- Students must follow the SPC guidelines regarding internet access and computer use.
- All notifications should be **off** and keyboards on silent.
- Each instructor can cancel computer use in the individual course or for a specific session based on the curriculum presented.
- **Should computer usage become too distracting for the class or interfere with student learning (success), this policy can be canceled without notice.**

COMPUTER LAB USAGE

The computer lab may be used by students during scheduled open hours or as assigned by an instructor. Printer paper will not be provided for students to print materials but students may seek assistance from faculty or staff to request lab paper from the college if needed. Students may not ask any faculty or staff to make copies for them. Lack of computer lab paper is not an excuse for not having homework assignments, skills lab sheets, or any other required documents. Students should come prepared for class. The use of TikTok is prohibited on SPC devices and WiFi. TikTok may not be used for online assignments of any kind.

CELL PHONES

DECs: Member of a Profession

VIOLATION: Unprofessional Conduct

POLICY: Cell phones are not permitted in clinical. Cell phones must be placed in their assigned cubby during class and prior to entering the skills lab.

1. Each student will have an assigned cubby to place their cell phone in. Prior to class starting, cell phones are required to be turned off and placed in the assigned cubby. This also applies to the computer lab during testing. Students who do not follow this policy and are found to be dishonest demonstrate unprofessional conduct and disciplinary action will be taken, which may include dismissal.
2. "Smart" watches/fit bits are prohibited.

Please note that new National Council of State Boards of Nursing guidelines (which directs the NCLEX) is now requiring that all electronic devices be sealed in a plastic bag during testing and that violations will cause the candidate to fail the exam!

UNIT EXAMS

Exams are a measurement of learning, and while they do not measure ALL learning, exams are the instruments used in the academic setting to measure learning. Because of the nature of this material and nursing, ALL the information in this course is important. Someday, the student in the role of the vocational nurse may be the only person to stand between the patient and harm or death. Therefore, the student is NOT merely studying to pass the exam but studying to intervene on behalf of the patient.

By advancing to this course, the student has had all basic medical-surgical concepts through the Level 1 and Level 2 courses. This course aims to stimulate higher critical thinking and increase nursing judgment in preparation for the NCLEX. The student is expected to have maintained the previous body of knowledge from earlier coursework for use within this course. The fundamental knowledge WILL NOT be reviewed in this course. It is the student's responsibility to review and maintain knowledge from each course for appropriate application. There will not be projects or assignments to replace a low exam grade. This is the third semester, and it should not be needed by this point.

Exams may cover information given during lectures, handouts, and assigned readings of the texts. All exams can be cumulative. At course completion, a comprehensive final examination will be given. Exams will be in the form of, but not limited to, multiple choice, matching, select all that apply, True/False and short answer, CJE matrix, Hot spot, drag & drop, and Highlight.

Exams are administered in a campus computer lab using ATI and the lab must be reserved by the instructor in advance. Students are expected to arrive on time for exams and complete the exams within the time allowed. You will not be permitted to take your exam past the scheduled time unless arrangements are made in advance for extenuating circumstances. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have reliable internet. The door to the computer lab will be closed during testing. It will close promptly at the time the test is to start and will not reopen until all students have completed the testing.

NO HATS OR CAPS ARE TO BE WORN DURING QUIZZES AND EXAMS. BOOKS, FOOD, DRINKS, AND BACKPACKS ARE NOT TO BE IN THE ROOM DURING EXAMINATIONS.

1. Each student should know the current course averages for all classes.
2. **Students must earn a "C" (76) or better in this class for progression.**
3. Students can review all grades as they are recorded. Should the student have any questions about a specific grade or specific test question, the student must discuss this with the instructor within 48 hours (about 2 days) of notification of the grade assignment. Once the 48 hours (about 2 days) have passed without the student questioning the grade or question, **the assigned grade is final and may not be challenged at the end of the course.**
4. The Final Exam grade and a numerical course grade will be posted on Blackboard. The final course grade will be posted to Campus Connect as the transcript letter grade.
5. When possible, exams concepts will be reviewed prior to the start of a lecture (time permitting) but if that is not possible, a student may email me for an appointment to come by the office and review the exam.

Grades will not be given or discussed by email or phone.

First Exam Alert:

If the student fails the first exam in the course, the student is required to meet with Student Success Coach at least 3 days prior to the next exam. A First Exam Alert form will be sent by the instructor to the Student Success Coach (Mrs. Berryhill) and she will contact the student via email to set up an appointment to meet. This is MANDATORY.

Remediation for 2nd and 3rd Semester VN Students

Purpose

Remediation supports student success by helping students identify knowledge or skill gaps, strengthen clinical reasoning, improve academic and clinical performance, prepare for safe, competent, evidence-based nursing practice. As students progress through the nursing program, they are expected to demonstrate increasing independence, self-awareness, and professional accountability for their learning. Advanced nursing students should be able to evaluate their academic performance, recognize areas requiring additional development, and seek appropriate assistance when needed.

For advanced students, remediation is primarily student-initiated and provides faculty support while promoting independence and accountability.

When to Request Remediation:

Students are encouraged to request remediation after an exam, skill check-off, clinical experience, or other assessment when they:

- Score below 76% on an exam
- Score below 76% or are unsuccessful on a skill check-off
- Have difficulty understanding or applying concepts
- Struggle with exams, clinical judgment, or decision-making
- Notice a decline in academic or clinical performance
- Need help with study, test-taking, or clinical reasoning skills

Students are responsible for contacting faculty via email and requesting remediation within 48 hours of the grades being posted. Once the next exam is taken, the opportunity to review the previous exam with the instructor has passed (*unless prior arrangements were made with the instructor). Student may not come in and review multiple exams prior to the final exam.

Faculty-Directed Remediation

Although remediation is primarily student initiated for advanced nursing students, faculty retain the authority to require remediation when student performance raises concerns related to patient safety, clinical competence, professional judgment, or the student's ability to meet established course or program outcomes. When remediation is required by faculty, completion becomes a course requirement. If remediation is not completed by the assigned deadline, the student will not be allowed to take the next exam. The missed exam policy will apply.

Student Responsibilities

Advanced nursing students are expected to assume increasing responsibility for monitoring and managing their academic progress. Students are responsible for:

- Regularly evaluating their academic and clinical performance.
- Recognizing areas in which additional assistance is needed.
- Requesting remediation in a timely manner.
- Arriving prepared for scheduled remediation sessions.
- Actively participating in the remediation process.
- Completing agreed-upon remediation activities.
- Applying recommended strategies to future academic and clinical experiences.
- Seeking additional assistance when learning deficits persist.

Failure to request voluntary remediation does not excuse the student from meeting established course, clinical, or program requirements.

Remediation does not change or replace the original grade on an exam, assignment, skill, or clinical evaluation. Students must continue to meet all required course progression and minimum grade standards.

Professional Responsibility

As students advance through the nursing program, greater emphasis is placed on self-directed learning, professional accountability, and recognition of personal limitations. Students are expected to recognize when their

knowledge, skills, or clinical reasoning require improvement and to take appropriate action before those deficits affect patient care. These behaviors reflect expectations of professional nursing practice, in which nurses must continually evaluate their knowledge and competence and seek additional education or assistance when needed. Recognizing a learning need and seeking help is a professional responsibility—not a punishment. Developing this habit prepares students for lifelong learning and safe, competent nursing practice.

MISSED EXAMS/MAKEUP WORK:

1. There will be NO make-up exams for a missed unit exam. Since the final exam is comprehensive (meaning that it covers the entire course), the final exam grade will be substituted for the FIRST missed unit exam grade only. Should any additional unit exam be missed, a grade of “0” will be recorded. There is no make-up exam for the Final Exam.
2. **No exams will be given prior to the originally scheduled exam.**

Missed Exams due to COVID: See VN Student Handbook

The Final Course grade will not be rounded up. Example: Your average is 79.8. Your grade will be 79 which is a C.

GRADING POLICY

Final semester grades will be based on the following:

Unit Exams:	50%
Class Prep Work/ Participation, Quizzes:	10%
ATI Comprehensive Predictor	8%
Critical Thinking Exit Exam	2%
Final Exam:	30%

Grading Scale: 90-100	A
80-89	B
76-79	C
70-75	D
69 or Below	F

COMMUNICATION POLICY

Electronic communication between instructor and students in this course will utilize the South Plains College Blackboard and email systems. The instructor **will not** initiate communication using private email accounts. Students are encouraged to check SPC email regularly. Students will also have access to assignments, web links, handouts, and other vital material which will be delivered via Blackboard. Any student having difficulty accessing the Blackboard or their email should immediately contact the help desk.

Email Policy:

- Students are expected to read and, if needed, respond in a timely manner to college e-mails. It is suggested that students check college e-mail **daily** to avoid missing time-sensitive or important college messages. Students may forward college e-mails to alternate e-mail addresses; however, SPC will not be held responsible for e-mails forwarded to alternate addresses.
- **A student's failure to receive or read official communications sent to their assigned e-mail address promptly does not absolve them from knowing and complying with the official communication's content.**
- The official college e-mail address assigned to students can be revoked if it is determined the student is utilizing it inappropriately. College e-mail must not be used to send offensive or disruptive messages nor to display messages that violate state or federal law.
- Instructors make every attempt to respond to student emails during regular college business hours when faculty are on campus. Instructors are not required to answer emails after hours or on weekends.
- Students who use email inappropriately to faculty, students, staff, or others will be placed on probation for the first offense; and dismissed from the program for a second offense.

Texting Faculty: Students should *not* text faculty via the faculty cell phone. Written communication should be by email, or the student may call the office phone. The faculty cell phone is for contact during clinical hours ONLY and should not be used outside the clinical experience. Students who text faculty will be placed on probation for the first offense and dismissed from the program for the second offense.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Rules and regulations relating to the students at South Plains College are made with the view of protecting the best interests of the individual, the general welfare of the entire student body and the educational objectives of the college. As in any segment of society, a college community must be guided by standards that are stringent enough to prevent disorder, yet moderate enough to provide an atmosphere conducive to intellectual and personal development. A high standard of conduct is expected of all students. When a student enrolls at South Plains College, it is assumed that the student accepts the obligations of performance and behavior imposed by the college relevant to its lawful missions, processes, and functions. Obedience to the law, respect for properly constituted authority, personal honor, integrity, and common sense guide the actions of each member of the college community both in and out of the classroom. Students are subject to federal, state, and local laws, and South Plains College rules and regulations. A student is not entitled to greater immunities or privileges before the law than those enjoyed by other citizens. Students are subject to reasonable disciplinary action as the college administration may consider appropriate, including suspension and expulsion in appropriate cases for breach of federal, state, or local laws, or college rules and regulations. This principle extends to conduct off-campus which is likely to have adverse effects on the college or on the educational process which identifies the offender as an unfit associate for fellow students.

Any student who fails to perform according to expected standards may be asked to withdraw.
Rules and regulations regarding student conduct appear in the current Student Guide.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (*Read Carefully)

Students must complete the Syllabus Acknowledgment on Blackboard. This verifies that the student has read, understands, and agrees with the content of this syllabus. This is a contract between you and the instructor.

This is due not later than the start of the second day of class.

- *If a student's cell phone goes off during class, the student may be asked to leave. If they are in an exam – they will be given the highest grade of "50", even if on the last question of the exam.*

COURSE DISCLAIMER

This course will challenge the student to use nursing judgment. It is designed to challenge the student to go beyond facts to understand larger patterns and relationships related to patient care and illness. The focus is on student-centered learning, integrated learning activities, learning outcomes related to conceptual learning, and higher-level critical thinking. The student is expected to take responsibility for his/her own learning, since nursing will require the student to be a self-directed learner for the rest of their nursing career.

ATI COMPREHENSIVE PREDICTOR EXAM

Third semester students will also be required to complete ATI modules and a Comprehensive Predictor Examination.

COMPREHENSIVE PREDICTOR GRADING RUBRIC

(Using a combination of the practice and proctored assessments to achieve 10% of the course grade.

This sample assumes a course worth 100 points.)

PRACTICE ASSESSMENT			
4 points			
Complete Practice Assessment A. <i>Remediation:</i> • Minimum 1-hour Focused Review on initial attempt • For each topic missed, complete an active learning template as part of the required remediation process.* Take Post Study Quiz (if available)** and complete an active learning template for each topic missed.		Complete Practice Assessment B. <i>Remediation:</i> • Minimum 1-hour Focused Review on initial attempt • For each topic missed, complete an active learning template as part of the required remediation process.* Take Post Study Quiz (if available)** and complete an active learning template for each topic missed.	
STANDARDIZED PROCTORED ASSESSMENT			
95% or above Passing predictability = 4 points	90% or above Passing predictability = 3 points	85% or above Passing predictability = 1 point	84% or below Passing predictability = 0 points
Remediation = 2 points: • Minimum 1-hour Focused Review • For each topic missed, complete an active learning template as part of the required remediation process.*	Remediation = 2 points: • Minimum 2-hour Focused Review • For each topic missed, complete an active learning template as part of the required remediation process.*	Remediation = 2 points: • Minimum 3-hour Focused Review • For each topic missed, complete an active learning template as part of the required remediation process.*	Remediation = 2 points: • Minimum 4-hour Focused Review • For each topic missed, complete an active learning template as part of the required remediation process.*
10/10 points	9/10 points	7/10 points	6/10 points
Proctored Assessment Retake***			
No retake required	No retake required	Retake required/recommended	Retake required/recommended

*Handwritten Active Learning Templates are preferred.

**Post-study quiz questions may be provided to a student based on specific student knowledge gaps.
(Major Content Areas 75% or less. 0 to 50 quiz items possible for additional remediation.)

***If a retake of the Proctored Assessment is required and the student moves up a level on the retake, the student will earn one additional point for each level advanced.

Focused Review specifics are per instructor's discretion and may not be reflected in the above table.

To Be Successful in this course: *Because this information is VITAL to becoming a safe and effective vocational nurse, the student MUST commit to learning this information as thoroughly as possible. The BEST way to do this is through diligent DAILY study and weekly review!*

STUDENT SUCCESS: Repetition and study are the ONLY WAYS for students to retain the volume of information contained in this course! You MUST study outside of the classroom if you want to succeed.

Textbook: This textbook is designed for independent learning and contains many activities to help you learn! The Key terms and definitions are the best places to start. Students should make flashcards of these key terms and carry them around for quick study and review. There is a study guide to help with learning as well. Davis Advantage has self-quizzing to help study as well as ATI.

NCLEX Review Book: It is recommended that the student purchase an NCLEX review book or online resource that will reinforce test-taking tips and provide numerous review questions.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO STUDY:

- COMMIT to your career choice—which means committing to this class. Decide you WANT to learn this information and you will.
- Study for at least an hour every day! Do not wait until the night before or the morning of an exam and expect to learn all the information presented! Daily study helps you understand and place information in long-term memory.
- Read the chapters prior to class and put effort into your class prep work. — Really think, process the information, and contemplate how it would be useful in caring for the whole patient.
- Plan weekly reviews of old material. Set aside some time (maybe on a Saturday) and quickly go through your old notes from previous units—remember there will be a comprehensive final. Remember, you must know the foundational knowledge that began in Level 1 and continued in Level 2.
- Take NOTES in class!
- The first time you have less than a desirable grade, make an appointment with me to discuss what you are doing! Do not wait until it is almost the final—it is too late then!

“I resolve to treat all who enter with respect, dignity and consideration.”

“I resolve to place caring for patients as our primary and highest concern.”

“I resolve to conduct myself with the highest ethical and professional standards in dealings with colleagues, other staff members and faculty.”

“I resolve to respect the facility and its reputation to include being a faithful steward of our capabilities and resources.”

“I will strive to be a mentor and role model to other students.”

(Adapted from UMC Code of Conduct SPP#PAS-3)

Every Student will:

- Conduct themselves in an ethical manner (acting in ways consistent with what society and individuals typically think are good behaviors)
- Conduct themselves with honesty, integrity, and fairness.
- Treat others with kindness, care, and empathy.
- Comply with all applicable laws, regulations, policies, and procedures
- Report in good faith suspected violations

(Adapted from UMC General Compliance Standards and Behaviors Policy)

Erin Hennesay MSN, RN-BC

Vocational Nursing Instructor

SPC Vocational Nursing Program – Reese Center

ACCOMMODATIONS

For college policy statements related to Intellectual Exchange Statements, Disabilities Statements, Non-Discrimination Statements, Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statements, CARE, Campus Concealed Carry Statements, COVID-19, or the use of AI-artificial intelligence, visit <https://www.southplainscollege.edu/syllabusstatements/>.

Be aware you must still hold a LTC to carry on our campus. Also, there is a NO Carry Policy at all within ANY clinical facility.

FOUNDATION SKILLS

BASIC SKILLS—Reads, Writes, Performs Arithmetic and Mathematical Operations, Listens and Speaks

F-1 Reading—locates, understands, and interprets written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules.

F-2 Writing—communicates thoughts, ideas, information, and messages in writing and creates documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts.

F-3 Arithmetic—performs basic computations; uses basic numerical concepts such as whole numbers, etc.

F-4 Mathematics—approaches practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques.

F-5 Listening—receives, attends to, interprets, and responds to verbal messages and other cues.

F-6 Speaking—organizes ideas and communicates orally.

THINKING SKILLS—Thinks Creatively, Makes Decisions, Solves Problems, Visualizes and Knows How to Learn and Reason

F-7 Creative Thinking—generates new ideas.

F-8 Decision-Making—specifies goals and constraints, generates alternatives, considers risks, evaluates, and chooses the best alternative.

F-9 Problem Solving—recognizes problems, devises, and implements a plan of action.

F-10 Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye—organizes and processes symbols, pictures, graphs, objects, and other information.

F-11 Knowing How to Learn—uses efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills.

F-12 Reasoning—discovers a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and applies it when solving a problem.

PERSONAL QUALITIES—Displays Responsibility, Self-Esteem, Sociability, Self-Management, Integrity, and Honesty

F-13 Responsibility—exerts a high level of effort and perseveres towards goal attainment.

F-14 Self-Esteem—believes in own self-worth and maintains a positive view of self.

F-15 Sociability—demonstrates understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings.

F-16 Self-Management—assesses self accurately, sets personal goals, monitors progress, and exhibits self-control.

F-17 Integrity/Honesty—chooses ethical courses of action.

SCANS COMPETENCIES

C-1 **TIME** - Selects goal - relevant activities, ranks them, allocates time, prepares, and follows schedules.

C-2 **MONEY** - Uses or prepares budgets, makes forecasts, keeps records and adjusts to meet objectives.

C-3 **MATERIALS AND FACILITIES** - Acquires, stores, allocates, and uses materials or space efficiently.

C-4 **HUMAN RESOURCES** - Assesses skills and distributes work accordingly, evaluates performance and provides feedback.

INFORMATION - Acquires and Uses Information

C-5 Acquires and evaluates information.

C-6 Organizes and maintains information.

C-7 Interprets and communicates information.

C-8 Uses computers to process information.

INTERPERSONAL—Works with Others

C-9 Participates as a member of a team and contributes to group effort.

C-10 Teaches others new skills.

C-11 Serves Clients/Customers—works to satisfy customer's expectations.

C-12 Exercises Leadership—communicates ideas to justify position, persuades and convinces others, responsibly challenges existing procedures and policies.

C-13 Negotiates—works toward agreements involving exchanges of resources; resolves divergent interests.

C-14 Works with Diversity—works well with men and women from diverse backgrounds.

SYSTEMS—Understands Complex Interrelationships

C-15 Understands Systems—knows how social, organizational, and technological systems work and operate effectively with them.

C-16 Monitors and Corrects Performance—distinguishes trends, predicts impacts on system operations, diagnoses system performance and corrects malfunctions.

C-17 Improves or Designs Systems—suggests modifications to existing systems and develops new or alternative systems to improve performance.

TECHNOLOGY—Works with a Variety of Technologies

C-18 Selects Technology—chooses procedures, tools, or equipment, including computers and related technologies.

C-19 Applies Technology to Task—understands overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment.

C-20 Maintains and Troubleshoots Equipment—prevents, identifies, or solves problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies.

Course Schedule

Located on Blackboard