

### Course Syllabus

COURSE: VNSG 2410 4:4:0 Nursing in Health and Illness III (Level 3 Medical-Surgical Nursing)  
SEMESTER: SUMMER 2020  
CLASS TIMES: Online  
LAB TIMES: Included in class time  
INSTRUCTOR: Korbi Berryhill, MSN, RN, CRRN  
OFFICE: Reese Center, Building 5, Room 501—currently closed  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 1-3 p.m.; online  
OFFICE PHONE: 806-716-4719  
E-MAIL: [kberryhill@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:kberryhill@southplainscollege.edu)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthPlainsCollegeVocationalNursing>

*"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: 1400, 1409

Co-requisite (concurrent) Courses: VNSG 2662, 1334, 1219, 1133

### 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 viewed as an NCLEX prep course.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (DECS)

At the completion of the semester students will: (based on the Differentiated Essential Competencies of Texas Board of Nursing [DECS])
1. Become a Member of the Profession
2. Provider of Patient-Centered Care
3. Be a Patient Safety Advocate
4. Become a Member of the Health Care Team

**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, F-11, F-12)

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

### EVALUATION METHODS

Examinations, homework assignments, written assignments, quizzes, and other projects as 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 the presentation of any and all phases of coursework. This applies to quizzes of whatever length, as well as final examinations, to daily reports and to term papers.

**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 essentially 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.

## VARIFICATION OF WORKPLACE COMPETENCIES

No external learning experiences provided. Successful completion of the DECS competency statements at the level specified by the course objectives allow the student to complete the course and complete the program if all other concurrent coursework is satisfactory. Upon successful completion of the program, students will be eligible to write the NCLEX-PN examination for 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 as a reporting tool and communication too.** Students should be aware that the "total" points noted on this education platform does not reflect the actual grade of the student because it does not take in to consideration the percentages of each grade. 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; this Facebook page will be used to keep students up-to-date on program activities, South Plains College announcements and will help with program recruitment. "Liking" the South Plains College Vocational Nursing Program Facebook page is not mandatory, nor are personal Facebook accounts, in order to access this page.

## SCANS and FOUNDATION SKILLS

Refer also to Course Objectives. Scans and Foundation Skills attached

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## SPECIFIC COURSE INFORMATION

### TEXT AND MATERIALS

Williams, L., & Hopper, P. (2019). Understanding Medical Surgical Nursing, (6th ed.), F.A. Davis.  
ISBN #978-0-8036-6898-0

Williams, L., & Hopper, P. (2019) Study Workbook for Understanding Medical Surgical Nursing, (6<sup>th</sup> ed.), F.A. Davis.  
ISBN #978-0-8036-6900-0

Watkins, C. J. Pharmacology Clear & Simple, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. FA Davis, ISBN 978-0-8036-2588-4

Taber's Encyclopedia

Leeuwen, A. (2017) Davis's Comprehensive Handbook of Laboratory Diagnostic Tests with Nursing Implications, 5th edition, Davis, ISBN 978-0-8036-3664-4

Vallerand, A. (2019) Davis's Drug Guide for Nurses, 16<sup>th</sup> edition, Davis ISBN 978-0-8036-2837-3

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY (\*READ CAREFULLY)**

### **Class Attendance**

Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student will be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of 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 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](http://catalog.southplainscollege.edu/content.php?catoid=47&navoid=1229#Class_Attendance))

**ATTENDANCE PHILOSOPHY** (as noted in the Student Vocational Nurse Handbook): Research has proven that academic achievement for each student is enhanced when the student has regular and punctual attendance. In order 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 inquire as to why a student is absent because the student is an adult learner. Faculty also do not make up classes or repeat lectures for students who miss a class; students who are absent should obtain missed information from a fellow classmate.

**A STUDENT MAY HAVE NO MORE THAN 3 ABSENCES IN THIS COURSE. ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ABSENCE, THE STUDENT IS WITHDRAWN as a clinical failure.**

In keeping with fostering NCLEX review, attendance will be taken by the completion of Attendance Questions on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week. The student will find the questions on Black Board. There is an example provided. The student will answer the questions and email their answers in a Word Document attachment to Mrs. Berryhill no later than 2359 on the day assigned. This is NOT group work; the student should not verify/discuss answers with classmates.

The student will be marked absent for any of the following:

- (1) the questions are not submitted by 2359 on the assigned day
- (2) the questions are incompletely answered or do not follow the required format
- (3) the answers closely resemble those of another student (plagiarized)

**DO NOT DISCUSS** the questions with another classmate! The temptation to share answers or use the same wording is too great! The whole purpose of this is to help you prepare for the NCLEX! If a student is suspected of plagiarizing a classmate's answers, both students will be brought before the Vocational Educational Standards Committee for possible dismissal.

Attendance NCLEX questions will cover all content the student has had to this point, including legal/ethical, cultural, religious, skills, mental health, mental illness, disease processes and maternal-child. The intent is to help the student practice NCLEX questions.

## **ASSIGNMENT POLICY**

All assignments must be completed by the assigned due date. Late and/or incomplete work will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be recorded.

It is the responsibility of the student to be informed of class progress and assignments and to come to class prepared to participate in discussion, to turn in any assignments due, and/or take the quiz or test scheduled for that day.

Because of the fast pace of this course within the nursing program NO MAKE UP WORK is accepted.

There are two assignments for this course. One is due at the beginning of the course; one at the end.

The first assignment is to (1) complete a self assessment on strengths and weaknesses and (2) develop a plan for NCLEX practice questions. It was once estimated that nursing students should review a minimum of 4,000 practice questions prior to taking the NCLEX. This practice does not happen just before taking the exam. The student should plan on answering a number questions per day. This is especially important for students who will be having the didactic courses up front of the semester and clinical in the afternoon. Please find the information for this assignment on BlackBoard.

The second assignment, due at the end of the semester, is to develop a NCLEX Fact Sheet. This should be comprised of facts that you need to remember in order to answer NCLEX questions. The Fact Sheet should include (but not limited to) VS, hematology values, electrolyte values, chemistry values, ABGs, acid-base balance, drug schedules, therapeutic drug levels, anticoagulant therapy, conversions, drug classifications (suffixes), major s/s of disease processes—anything that the student feels needs an often and quick review. The student can do this in a table, a pamphlet, a list—any format that the student feels will be helpful. This assignment may be complied over the course and is due at the end of the course.

Bonus Assignment: Students who feel their grade may need a boost may do an additional assignment that will be included in the grading. This assignment will be to develop a Power Point Presentation over a mental illness. The student must sign up for this project no later than week 3 of the course. The PPT will be due on Week 6 Monday. These Power Points will be shared with the class for a review for all.

### **COMPUTER USAGE**

Students will be required to access course materials via Black Board.

### **COMPUTER LAB USAGE**

Currently the campus computer labs remain closed due to the Covid-19 crisis. Some computer labs may become available in Building 8 over the course of the summer.

### **FAQ page**

Questions that come in over subject content will be posted on a FAQ page on Black Board to benefit the class. When a student has a question about subject content, chances are that other students will also have the same question. The student's name will not be applied to the question so that privacy is maintained.

(Please note: this is different than the student asking course directions, personal or other non-subject related questions)

### **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 of nursing, ALL 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 the behalf of the patient.

By this course, the student has had all basic medical-surgical concepts through the Level 1 and Level 2 courses. The aim of this course is to stimulate higher critical thinking and increased 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.

Exams will be given via Black Board through Proctorio. Students will be given a range of times for the exams to be taken except for the Final Exam which will be a scheduled exam. The exams will be timed once a student starts them; questions and answers will be randomized. Proctoria will monitor the exam—any appearance of cheating on the exam

will result in a “0” being recorded for that exam. Additionally, the student will be brought before the Vocaitonal Nursing Education Committee for possible dismissal from the program. Nurses must have honesty and integrity.

Exams may cover information given during lecture, handouts, and assigned reading of the texts. At the completion of the course a written *comprehensive* final examination will be given. Exams will be in the form of essay multiple choice, matching, select all that apply, and completion.

1. Grades will be posted on Black Board as soon as they are available.
2. Each student should know current course averages for all classes.
3. **Students must earn a “C” (75) or better in this class for completion**
4. Students have the opportunity to 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 of notification of grade assignment. Once the 48 hours 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. The final exam may not be reviewed.**
5. The Final Exam grade and a numerical course grade will NOT be posted on BlackBoard. The final course grade will be posted to MySPC as the transcribed letter grade.

#### **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.
2. **No exams will be given prior to the originally scheduled exam.**

#### **GRADING POLICY**

Students must earn an overall grade of 75 or better in this course section to pass.

**Final semester grades will be based on the following:**

**Unit Exams, assignments: 70%**

**Final Exam: 30%**

Grading Scale:	90-100 A
	80-89.9 B
	75-79.9 C
	70-74.9 D
	69 or Below F

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

#### **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 on a regular basis. 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:**

- A. 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.
- B. A student’s failure to receive or read official communications sent to the student’s assigned e-mail address in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the official communication.
- C. 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
- D. 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.

- E. Students who use email inappropriately to faculty, students, staff or others will be placed on probation for the first offense; 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, office phone, or personal notes. The faculty cell phone is for contact during the 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.

## COURSE DISCLAIMER

This course will challenge the student to use nursing judgment 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 required the student to be a self-directed learner for the rest of the nursing career.

Korbi Berryhill MSN, RN, CRRN  
Vocational Nursing Program Director  
South Plains College – Reese Center

### ACCOMMODATIONS

**4.1.1.1. Diversity Statement** In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences 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 diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

**4.1.1.2. 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, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

**4.1.1.3 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.

**4.1.1.4 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 Director of Health and Wellness. 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 Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

**4.1.1.5 OPTIONAL STATEMENT - Campus Concealed Carry Statement** Texas Senate Bill - 11 (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.

### 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 best alternative.

F-9 Problem Solving—recognizes problems, devises and implements 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 [Secretaries Commission Achieving Necessary Skills]**

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 makes adjustments 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 performances 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 operates effectively with them.

C-16 Monitors and Corrects Performance—distinguishes trends, predicts impacts on system operations, diagnoses systems 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: see Black Board**

**PLEASE EMAIL THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TO ME BY 2359 ON 5/4/2020:**

*I \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in your name) have read the syllabus for Health and Illness III. I understand the course requirements, attendance policy, assignments, testing, and understand that I am expected to take responsibility for my own learning.*