

Lassen Community College Course Outline

VN-50 Pharmacology

4.0 Units

I. Catalog Description

This course introduces the principles of pharmacology, focusing on the safe administration of medications, accurate dosage calculations, and an understanding of major drug categories. Students will learn to apply pharmacological concepts in diverse healthcare settings while promoting equity in medication administration, addressing patient-specific factors such as age, culture, and socioeconomic status. Emphasis is placed on developing a thorough understanding of medication safety and the principles of safe administration. Students will focus on mastering accurate dosage calculations, understanding drug interactions, recognizing potential side effects, and implementing safety protocols to prevent medication errors. This knowledge is essential for ensuring patient well-being and delivering competent, responsible care in a clinical setting.

This is a web-enhanced course, access to a computer with internet access is required.

VN 50 is offered as a concurrent course with VN 51 and VN 52 during the first term of the program. A course grade of D or below will result in failure in all concurrent courses.

To continue progressing in the nursing program, students must complete all coursework and required hours, achieve a final class grade of at least 75%, and score 75% or higher on the final exam.

Diversity Statement

Diversity and inclusion are fundamental pillars of the Lassen Community College Health Science & Medical Technology programs. We are dedicated to cultivating an environment where all individuals feel respected, valued, and empowered. By embracing diverse perspectives and promoting an inclusive culture, we aim to foster the development of healthcare professionals who are culturally aware and equipped to provide compassionate, equitable care to diverse populations and communities.

Prerequisites(s): Acceptance into the LCC LVN Program including successful completion of the following with a C or above:

1. ENGL C1000 – Academic Reading and Writing
2. COMM C1000 – Introduction to Public Speaking
3. STAT C1000 – Introduction to Statistics

4. ES 1 – Introduction to Ethnic Studies
5. BIOL 21 – Human Anatomy with Lab
6. BIOL 22 – Human Physiology with Lab
7. PSY 18 – Human Development – A Life Span
8. ASL 1 – American Sign Language (or 3 units from area C)

Co-requisite(s): VN 51 & VN52

Additional Course Information

Transfer Status:

- NT

Total Number of Hours by Instructional Method:

- 58 Hours Lecture 136 Out of Class Hours, 204 Total Hours of Instruction

Scheduled:

- Every Fall

II. Coding Information

Repeatability: Not Repeatable

Grading Option: Graded only

Credit Type: Credit - Degree Applicable

TOP Code: 120100

III. Course Objectives

A. Course Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Summarize pharmacological principles as they pertain to different classifications of medications used in the clinical setting.
2. Identify the indication and side effects for various medications used in clinical practice.

B. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Analyze the legal considerations impacting medication administration across diverse healthcare settings.
2. Examine the influence of cultural beliefs on medication use throughout the lifespan.
3. Accurately calculate medication dosages for a variety of patient populations.

IV. Course Content

A. Outline of Topics

1. Pharmacology and Nursing Process
2. Patient teaching and health literacy
3. Legal aspects affecting the administration of medications
4. Foundations and principles of pharmacology

5. Lifespan and cultural modifications
6. Self-care aspects of over-the counter products, herbal therapies and drugs for health promotion
7. Preparing and administering medications
8. Allergy and respiratory medications
9. Anti-infective medications
10. Antivirals, antiretroviral and antifungal medications
11. Antineoplastic medications
12. Cardiovascular and renal medications
13. Central and peripheral nervous system medications
14. Medications for pain management and anesthesia
15. Anti-inflammatory, musculoskeletal and antiarthritis medications
16. Gastrointestinal medications
17. Hematologic medications
18. Hormones and steroids
19. Immunologic medications
20. Topical medications
21. Vitamins and minerals
22. Review of computation of doses
23. Nursing care plan and medications
24. Pharmacology review

V. Assignments

- A. Appropriate Readings
 1. Representative texts as assigned by instructor.
- B. Writing Assignments
 1. Drug cards
- C. Expected Outside Assignments
 1. Weekly reading assignments in the texts and journals
 2. Drug cards
 3. Weekly masteries
- D. Specific Assignments that Demonstrate Critical Thinking
 1. Drug cards
 2. Mastery assignments

VI. Methods of Evaluation

The student must maintain a 75% in the class and must the final exams with a 75% or better to continue in the nursing program.

Traditional Evaluation

Term paper (topic choice, thesis statement, outline, bibliography, rough draft, final draft), homework, classroom discussion, essay, journals, lab demonstrations and activities, multiple choice quizzes, and participation.

VII. Methods of Delivery

- Traditional Classroom Delivery
- Correspondence Delivery
- Hybrid Delivery
- Online Delivery

Traditional Classroom Delivery

Lecture, discussion, audio/visual aids, demonstration, group exercises, guest speakers, lab, individualized programs and other as needed.

VIII. Representative Texts and Supplies

- A. 500 3X5 cards and case
- B. Lipincott CoursePoint+ for Ford: Roach's Introductory Clinical Pharmacology, Twelfth Edition ISBN: 978-1-9751-8688-3
- C. vSim for Nursing | LPN/LVN - Laerdal Medical and Wolters Kluwer Health ISBN: 978-1-9751-9006-4
- D. Davis's Drug Guide for Nurses –18th Edition ISBN: 13: 978-1719646406
- E. Lippincott NCLEX-PN Pass Point, Wolters Kluwer Health ISBN: 978-1-4698-7210-0

IX. Course Status

- 1. Current Status: Active
- 2. Original Approval Date: 5/26/2005
- 3. Course Originator:
- 4. Board Approval Date:
- 5. Chancellor's Office Approval Date:
- 6. Revised By: Christi Myers
- 7. Curriculum/Academic Standards Committee Revision Date: 11/05/2024