

Common Course Outline

NURN 110
Introduction to Pharmacology
2 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description: Provides instruction in basic pharmacology and drug administration skills needed for safe and effective medication administration. Content includes all components of drug preparation and administration including the essential drug knowledge needed to adequately assess and evaluate drug effects in the adult client. Opportunities to practice drug preparation and administration procedures will be provided in NURN 103 Foundation of Nursing Practice. The Neuman System Model is the framework for the study of client care.

Prerequisites: Admission to Practical Nursing Program; LVM2 or successful completion of MATH 082; LVR2 or successful completion of RDNG 052; LVE2 or successful completion of ENGL 052 or ESOL 052; eligibility for ENG 101.

Overall Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student will demonstrate safe and effective medication administration. The student will be able to:

1. Apply legal and ethical standards for practical nursing practice, with guidance, when preparing and administering drugs;
2. Prioritize basic nursing care, with guidance, for clients experiencing common recurring internal and external stressors related to selected drug administration;
3. Integrate, with guidance, principles and concepts from the Neuman System Model and the nursing process when determining nursing implications for clients receiving selected drugs;
4. Participate, with guidance, in a team relationship with licensed professional health care providers to assure safe and effective drug administration;
5. Use critical thinking skills, with guidance, to assist in planning holistic care for clients receiving selected drugs during primary, secondary, and/or tertiary levels of prevention;
6. Identify, with guidance, the effects of physiological, psychological, socio-cultural, developmental and spiritual variables on clients receiving selected drugs;
7. Explain, with guidance, the significance of cultural and ethnic factors when administering drugs to clients;
8. Describe, with guidance, how one's own behavior, attitude, and values influence interactions with others;
9. Use basic elements of therapeutic communication, with guidance, when discussing medications with clients systems;
10. Create an educational plan related to selected drugs, with guidance, to assist client systems to attain, maintain and/or retain system stability;

11. Implement established protocols, with guidance, to protect client systems and others when administering injectable and intravenous drugs;
12. Utilize technology, with guidance, to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of drug administration;
13. Demonstrate, with guidance, accuracy in charting drug administration on client records;
14. Demonstrate, with guidance, professional health care workforce behaviors;
15. Seek direction, with guidance, from appropriate licensed health care professionals when drug administration adversities occur; and
16. Assure unlicensed health care personnel are aware of any implications for care related to client drug regime.

Major Topics:

- I. Drug Standards and Legislation
- II. Drug Nomenclature/Classification
- III. Drug Action
- IV. Factors Influencing Drug Action
- V. Abbreviations
- VI. Medication Orders
- VII. Systems of Weight and Measure
- VIII. Approximate Dose Equivalence
- IX. Drug Dose Calculations
- X. Safe Drug Administration
- XI. Medication Compliance
- XII. Legal Aspects of Administering Medications
- XIII. Nursing Process

Course Requirements: The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in growth in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully in a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, the Practical Nursing Program maintains high academic standards and expects students to be partners in the learning process and accept responsibility for their individual growth.

Writing: The individual faculty member will determine specific writing assignments.

Grading theory: Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member but will include interim and comprehensive final examinations in the lecture portion of the course.

Note: An average of 70% on exams is required prior to the addition of any other graded assignments.

Grading clinical: Clinical performance will be graded as satisfactory or unsatisfactory.

Note: Students must achieve a satisfactory performance level in clinical and theory for satisfactory completion of the course.

Individual faculty members may include additional course outcomes, major topics, and other course requirements to the minimum expectations stated in the Common Course Outline.

Other Course Information: This course is required for the 42-46-credit certificate in Practical Nursing. Satisfactory completion of this course is required to progress to the next sequential level in the nursing program.

Methodologies used to teach and learn in this course include: lectures, individual and cooperative group learning projects, skill demonstrations, computerized self-study, and videos.

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high-quality learning experience that results in growth in knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function successfully as a transfer student, in a career and as a citizen. To accomplish this goal, we maintain high academic standards and expect students to accept responsibility for their individual growth by attending classes, completing all homework and other assignments, participating in class activities and preparing for tests.

We take seriously our responsibility to maintain high-quality programs and will periodically ask you to participate in assessment activities to determine whether our students are attaining the knowledge, attitudes, and skills appropriate to various courses and programs. The assessment activities may take many different forms such as surveys, standardized or faculty-developed tests, discussion groups or portfolio evaluations. We ask that you take these activities seriously so that we can obtain valid data to use for the continuous improvement of CCBC's courses and programs.