Introduction to Medical Terminology (HSC3535)

COURSE SYLLABUS

Tentative Spring 2013 - syllabus found in eLearning overwrites this one

Course Overview

This distance learning course is designed to familiarize students with the basics of vocabulary used in the medical and health professions. Students will employ a systematic, word-building approach to master the complex terminology of the medical field. The self-paced approach requires excellent time management skills, computer skills, and commitment by the student. The coursework will be presented through the textbook. Required online exercises and tests for each course unit will be submitted electronically.

Course Coordinator Contact Information

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*All communication will be within eLearning for grading/tracking purposes. See Class Communication section below and Communication content page in eLearning for more information.

Required Texts/Materials

Two Options:

- Online only: Essentials of Medical Language, ConnectPlus access, Spring 2013 Section
  - Purchase using a credit card at the ConnectPlus website
  - There is a free trial period (two weeks) for those needing more time in purchasing the textbook and ConnectPlus. Please go to the ConnectPlus website and register, selecting the Free Trial.

OR

  - ISBN: 978-007-7480325
    - Make sure you get the version that has the access code to ConnectPlus!

Prerequisites or Corequisites

A working knowledge of how to use personal computers, including knowledge of word-processing and Internet searching.

Course Description

This Web-based course is based on a textbook with online content found within eLearning and at the ConnectPlus website for the textbook.

Most students see this course as a valuable vocabulary skill class and a personal health content class. Students have also used this course to prepare for the GRE, MCAT, DAT, VCAT, and other professional school admission examinations.
This course is open to students from various programs, including Health Sciences, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Pre-professional, Nursing, and Health, Leisure, and Sports programs. This course may fulfill elective course credits in those programs. Please meet with your advisor prior to enrollment to ensure the course meets any anticipated graduation requirements in your particular program.

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes

This course meets the following programmatic goals for technical elective courses in the School of Allied Health and Life Sciences. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

- **Critical Thinking:**
  - Identify roots, prefixes, suffixes, and abbreviations or "fracturing" of new terms to make retention of medical terms easier.

- **Communication:**
  - Employ medical terminology accurately when describing anatomical structure and function, pathological conditions, laboratory tests, and clinical procedures.

Fulfillment of these goals will be assessed using examination scores for Content and scores on individual and group assignments for Communication. For the purposes of programmatic assessment, the following mastery levels will be used:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SKILL MASTERY LEVEL</th>
<th>CRITICAL THINKING</th>
<th>COMMUNICATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Student completes all self-assessment quizzes and examinations in a timely manner and takes a lead role in applying content to each assignment. Student makes no spelling or grammar errors related to course content. Student consistently demonstrates clarity of thought process in using medical terminology. Student demonstrates excellent ability to grasp medical terminology and to think logically to synthesize appropriate conclusions.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student shows clear expression of ideas in writing with proper spelling and grammar and an ability to integrate medical terminology into their work. Student draws conclusions and states opinions using medical terminology correctly. Student makes every attempt to integrate previous comments and suggestions regarding how to improve communication skills.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Exceeds Expectations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Very Good-Excellent</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Student demonstrates basic level of understanding of terminology and ability that rarely surpasses expectations.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student demonstrates only adequate implementation of above Very Good-Excellent characteristics.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meets Expectations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Satisfactory</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Below Expectations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Unsatisfactory</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student demonstrates critical inability to grasp medical terminology or to think logically to synthesize appropriate conclusions.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Student maintains a lack of adherence to communication guidelines, uses improper grammar and spelling, and has an inability to clearly express medical terminology in writing and other forms of communication used in the course. Student does not integrate previous comments and suggestions regarding how to improve communication skills.</strong></td>
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Topics Covered

- The Anatomy of Word Construction
- The Body as a Whole
- The Integumentary System
- The Skeletal System
- Muscles and Tendons
- Cardiovascular and Circulatory Systems
- The Blood, Lymphatic, and Immune Systems
- Respiratory System
- The Digestive System
- The Nervous System and Mental Health
- Special Senses of the Eye and Ear
- The Endocrine System
- The Urinary System
- The Male Reproductive System
- The Female Reproductive System
Special Technology Utilized by Students

- You will access the instructional content for this course through the UWF eLearning Management System (eLearning). You can access eLearning directly by using this URL: http://elearning.uwf.edu/
  - Access to eLearning is logged per course entry. If I cannot see it then you must contact ITS helpdesk and get their verification that you did, in fact, log in and take/submit items.
  - Contact ITS first! helpdesk@uwf.edu or (850) 474-2075

- Secondary Portion of the coursework will be at the ConnectPlus website http://connect.mcgraw-hill.com/class/hsc3535_sreedy_spring_2013

- Students are required to have access to consistent internet throughout the term. If you know you will be without internet for a period of time, you are required to notify your instructor ahead of time and work ahead. Notifying instructor after you come back will not be accepted. Not having internet access is not a reason for an extension!

- Students are required to complete this course utilizing the equivalent of a cable-speed modem. Completing the course modules via a telephone dial-up connection will not be possible given the audio-visual content.

- There are known maintenance periods for eLearning and ConnectPlus that you will be warned about ahead of time. You must plan accordingly. This class is open the entire semester so you are able to work ahead.

- Students will need to use the FireFox web browser for course activities within eLearning. There are too many issues with Internet Explorer and eLearning at this time. The latest FireFox can be downloaded from the following website: http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/

- Notepad or similar text editor is suggested for gathering your discussion posts. There are issues with the formatting if you copy/paste from Word into the body of your discussion post. It is best to wait until your text is in the discussion body before you format.

Class Communication

Email is not used in this class. Knowing who you are, tracking the issues, and followup is much faster if everything stays within eLearning. Email is not monitored and will cause great delays in responding to any issues you may have.

Discussion Postings: Unless a problem is personal in nature, it is easier and faster for instructors to respond to a posting in the Muddiest Points Discussion Forum, so a response can be composed that helps everyone. Instructor cannot reply to every discussion posting in other forums, but will read every posting and always offer constructive responses when necessary.

Always check the Announcements Forum, Muddiest Points Forum, and content page for information that will be helpful to everyone. If you cannot be bothered to read the instructor's instructions or previous replies, it makes it hard for us to want to take the extra time to answer your repeat question. Read through postings first!

Outstanding Issue Quiz: If a problem is with a graded item or is personal in nature, post an attempt to the Outstanding Issue Quiz, a special UNGRADED quiz (click the Quizzes link located under the eLearning banner). Use of this quiz has increased efficiency and tracking of issues on a student/course basis and is the preferred method of private and grade-related communication. Return to this quiz to read instructor feedback.

Documentation Dropbox: Documentation may be requested on these private matters. This documentation is to be uploaded to the Documentation Dropbox for tracking purposes.

More information and step-by-step instructions can be found within eLearning under Important Course Information content pages.

Grading/Evaluation - tentative

There may be a need for flexibility this term on the grading breakdown as this is a new textbook with new online content. Students will be notified ahead of time of any change in percentage distribution.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>~15 ConnectPlus website activities: Chapter LearnSmart activities (100% completion required), Chapter Review activities (at least 30 points required), Chapter Practice</td>
<td>93 - 100 A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>90 - 92 A-</td>
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**Class Meeting**

This is a fully online course within UWF's eLearning system AND the ConnectPlus website, taken by students local to the main UWF campus in Pensacola, FL, and by students from overseas. In fairness to all students enrolled in this course, there are no face-to-face lectures or office hours - all course materials and assistance will be provided electronically.

Your first stop is to go to the Content Area (click on the Content link under the eLearning banner) and click on the Start Here page (also linked here). On this page is key information on how the course is laid out in eLearning and includes links tutorials for working in an online environment. If you are new to online learning, be sure and review these tutorials.

Then proceed to read through the Important Course Information content pages. This is where the Course Syllabus, Course Schedule and other important information can be found.

The course is broken into Modules. See the Course Schedule within eLearning for deadlines to each module. Information and your assignments for each module are found within the Content Area. Modules are not the same as weeks nor are they the same as Chapters! Always review the Course Schedule for and Content Area for breakdowns.

This course assumes a workweek with the schedule indicated on the Course Schedule link under Important Course Information. Using this schedule, each week, you would log into the course site and click on the Content link located under the eLearning banner for assignments related to that week. You should also look ahead to see scheduling dates for any tests, assignments or forum participation sessions. Online exams should be taken during the time frames indicated. Similarly, assignments should be posted or uploaded during the times indicated. More information on testing procedures and assignments will be available as these dates approach in the semester.

**Deadlines**

All class activities are specified in each Module Overview and Assignment content pages with exact details of the activities' deadlines and instructions. All deadlines are by Fridays 11:59pm CST (by eLearning’s clock!) as outlined on the Course Schedule

**Late Policy**

You are allowed ONE extension. You must request this extension before the NEXT module closes. Meaning if you missed Spelling Chapters 6 & 7 from Module 6, you have until the end of Module 7 to ask for an extension. Module 8 it is too late. You will be given until the end of that module (Module 7 to complete your unfinished work).

Technical issues do not constitute a reason for extension! You are given plenty of time and attempts to work on things, do not wait until the last minute!

If it is time for Exam 2, it is too late to ask to take Exam 1!!

If you have taken one attempt of an exam then you have taken the exam, no extensions given to take second attempt for any reason.

**Compliance with UWF Policies on Satisfactory Progress:**

If you have a question regarding the UWF policies for assignment of grades of 'W' or 'I', please visit the UWF Withdrawal Policy or the UWF Incomplete Grade Policy.

**Expectations for Academic Conduct/Plagiarism Policy**
Academic Misconduct Policy [Web]

Plagiarism Policy [PDF]

It is the philosophy of The University of West Florida that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the University. Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

In addition, any behavior that interferes with the conduct of a class is classified as disruptive behavior and will not be tolerated. Although not exhaustive, examples of disruptive behavior would include: inappropriate or threatening online postings or e-mails, etc.

Quality Assurance

This course is reviewed during the semester and in an ongoing basis for quality by assessment personnel within the School of Allied Health and Life Sciences (SAHLS) to meet national standards established by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Council on Education for Public Health, and/or to address quality enhancement initiatives of SAHLS. Student feedback is also vital to this process. When reviewing our programs, our accrediting partners expect to see 100% participation in the State-of-Florida mandated SUSSAI (State University System Student Assessment of Instruction) evaluations. Thus, at the end of the semester, we need to hear from the folks that enjoyed the class and from the folks that have suggestions for improvement (ok, and from the folks that want to fill out the survey as quickly as possible with no comments to share!). BUT, we do need to hear from each and every student in this class, and we value your input.

When SUSSAI evaluations are ready for you to complete, you will see a News posting in the course. Please take a few minutes to complete the evaluation on this course and feel free to contact Connie Works at (850) 474-3080 or cworks@uwf.edu if you require any technical assistance! Please be assured that all evaluations that are completed online are of a confidential matter. Your name, student number, and e-mail address will not be revealed to your instructor, department, or college. Only one evaluation per course per student can be submitted. Please do not delay completing the evaluation when the time approaches. Due to the significance of this information, I will not be able to pre-release grades in eLearning if we are not close to the 100% participation goal before finals week. Thank you!

Online Test Taking Guidelines

Please do not begin any timed, online exam/quiz in the course that may overlap with the eLearning maintenance window. The eLearning maintenance window runs 3:00-6:00 am CST (Central Standard Time) each day. If you initiate an exam that overlaps with this time and experience any technical errors, your recorded score is likely to be close to 0 for such an attempt. There are no exceptions to this policy.

If you experience any other technical problems or errors during any timed exam that does not overlap with the eLearning maintenance window, you are required to notify the Helpdesk immediately at helpdesk@uwf.edu or (850) 474-2075. Failure to contact the HelpDesk to report the problem will result in a grade of 0 automatically being assigned. If you are unable to get immediate assistance from the HelpDesk during the exam, but have documented the problem in an email or voice mail, you may attempt to restart the exam using the same browser, or attempt to re-enter the exam with another browser. If you are still unable to restart the exam and continue with saving, please note that for your final submitted score to be recorded, you MUST still prove that you documented the original technical problem with the HelpDesk via helpdesk@uwf.edu or (850) 474-2075. Failure to do so will result in an automatic grade of 0 being assigned.

Assistance

Students with special needs who require specific examination-related or other course-related accommodations should contact Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC), sdr@uwf.edu, (850) 474-2387. SDRC will provide the student with a letter for the instructor that will specify any recommended accommodations. Students needing assistance are to contact Student Disability Resource Center every semester.

Every effort will be made to accommodate the special needs of disabled students. Please inform the instructor privately during the first week of class to indicate your particular needs. All such accommodations are officially arranged through the Office for Disabled Student Services and a letter from this office must accompany your request.