



Course Syllabus

Course title: Holistic Nursing Assessment and Skills

Class section: NURS - 143 - X03

Term: 2025W

Course credits: 3

Total hours: 60

Delivery method: In-Person

Territorial Acknowledgement

Camosun College respectfully acknowledges that our campuses are situated on the territories of the Łək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Kosapsum) and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We honour their knowledge and welcome to all students who seek education here.

Instructor Details

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Instructor Statement

As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.

Instructor Office Hours

Office:	Hours:
CHW	Your instructor will provide their specific office hours

Course Description

Course Description:

Learners continue to learn evidence-informed health assessment across the lifespan, with a focus on professional, holistic nursing practice. Through experiential learning, simulation, and demonstration of skills, participants will continue to gain knowledge, skills, and abilities foundational to nursing practice. Learners expand understanding of physical, mental, spiritual, and social assessment skills, technologies, and nursing interventions for the promotion of health and healing. Skills include medication administration, oxygen administration, and newborn assessment. Learners will develop effective communication and documentation of assessment and nursing interventions for an interprofessional team is expanded. Learners will apply course concepts, principles, and nursing decision making while performing psychomotor skills.

Prerequisites:

All of:

- C in NURS 110
- C in NURS 132
- C in NURS 142
- C in NURS 160
- COM in NURS 180

And one of:

- C in BIOL 152

- C in BIOL 150. Can be taken instead of BIOL 152. BIOL 150 must be paired with BIOL 151.

And one of:

- C in ENGL 151
- C in ENGL 161
- C in ENGL 163
- C in ENGL 164

Pre or Co-requisites:

All of:

- C in NURS 133

And one of:

- C in BIOL 153
- C in BIOL 151. Can be taken instead of BIOL 153. BIOL 151 must be paired with BIOL 150.

Course Learning Outcomes / Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course a student will be able to:

1. Describe and perform all components of holistic health assessments, across the lifespan
2. Describe and perform all components of a newborn's assessment
3. Demonstrate skills in taking a health history, with cultural sensitivity
4. Demonstrate competency and safety in performing select nursing interventions
5. Demonstrate safe, evidence-informed medication administration through a variety of routes
6. Demonstrates safe oxygen administration, including related assessments and evaluation
7. Document general survey, assessments and psychomotor skills using appropriate terminology and format

Course Materials - Required

Astle, B.J., Duggleby, W., Potter, P.A., Stockert, P.A., Perry, A.G., & Hall, A.M. (2024). *Canadian fundamentals of nursing* (7th ed.). Elsevier.

Cobbett, S. L., Perry, A. G., Potter, P. A., Ostendorf, W. R., & Laplante, N. (2025). *Perry and Potter's Canadian clinical nursing skills & techniques* (2nd ed.). Elsevier.

Keenan-Lindsay, L., Sams, C., & O'Connor, C. L. (2022). *Perry's maternal child nursing care in Canada* (3rd ed.) Elsevier.

Kunyk, D., Peternelj-Taylor, C., Austin, W., & Boyd, M. A. (2023). *Psychiatric & mental health nursing for Canadian practice* (5th ed.). Wolters Kluwer.

Additional readings and resources at the discretion of faculty. Each module contains an “In Preparation” section on D2L. For the most current reading list, please visit the module’s page on D2L

Basis of Student Assessment

Basis of Student Assessment

Assignments, due dates, criteria for evaluation, and weighting of assignments will be discussed during the first two weeks of the semester. All students are provided a Course Syllabus at the beginning of the term with student assessment information provided.

Learners must demonstrate competence and be approved by the lab instructor for each skill before being able to perform the skill in clinical practice. If a learner misses a lab class, it is the learner’s responsibility to study the theory and to practice the missed skill. Students who miss a lab (skill) are required to arrange a time to demonstrate competence in the skill and be approved by the lab instructor before performing the skill in nursing practice. Students have until the end of the exam period to demonstrate the skill, otherwise their grade for the lab course will be an F.

This course is graded by the Standard Grading System.

Course Schedule, Topics, and Associated Preparation / Activity

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Week	Content
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Week	Content
Week 1	<p>Introduction to Holistic Nursing Assessment and Skills</p> <p>Review Documentation module from Nursing 142</p> <p>Primary and General Survey</p> <p>Begin Numeracy Module</p> <p>Start: The Complete Subjective Health Assessment (Health History)</p>
Week 2	<p>The Complete Subjective Health Assessment (Health History)</p> <p>Focused Problem Assessment</p> <p>Pain Assessment</p> <p>Principles of Safe Medication Administration</p>
Week 3	<p>The Integumentary System</p> <p>The Musculoskeletal System</p> <p>Application of Heat and Cold</p> <p>Medication Administration: Oral (tablets) and Transdermal (creams & ointments) medications</p> <p>Numeracy Practice Quiz (not for marks)</p>
Week 4	<p>Head and Neck Region: Eye, Ear, Nose, & Throat and regional lymphatic system</p> <p>Medication Administration: Ophthalmic, ear, & nasal medications; and oral liquid formulations</p>
Week 5	<p>Mid Term Exam</p> <p>Head and Neck Region: Neurological system</p> <p>Medication Administration: Administering to a client with dysphagia and Hazardous medications</p>
Week 6	<p>Mental Health System – Withdrawal Risk</p> <p>Medication Administration: Administration of sublingual and buccal medications</p> <p>Medication Administration: Administration of Controlled Drugs, including Narcotics</p> <p>Rest of class for catching up</p>
Week 7	Reading Break

Week	Content
Week 8	Thoracic Region: The Respiratory system Medication Administration: Inhaled Medications Medication Administration: Introduction to Oxygen therapy
Week 9	Medication Administration Video Skill Assignment Thoracic Region: Cardiovascular system The Extremities: The Peripheral vascular & lymphatic system Medication Administration: Transdermal Patch
Week 10	Abdominal Region: Gastrointestinal system Medication Administration: Rectal medications
Week 11	Abdominal Region: Genitourinary system Medication Administration: Vaginal medications Nutritional Screening and Assessment Numeracy Practice Quiz (not for marks)
Week 12	Mental Health Assessment Newborn assessment
Week 13	Integration: Bedside Assessment Review week
Week 14	Skills Testing
Exam Week	Final Exam

Evaluation of Learning: Weighted

Assignments, due dates, criteria for evaluation, and weighting of assignments will be discussed during the first two weeks of the semester. All students are provided a Class Syllabus at the beginning of the semester with student assessment information provided.

Description	Weighting	Date
Midterm Exam	20%	Week 5
Med admin Skill Video with self-evaluation	20%	Week 9
In-person assessment skills test	25%	Week 14

Description	Weighting	Date
Final Exam – during finals week	35%	Exam Week
Successful demonstration of ALL skills: Students must successfully demonstrate all skills contained within the course prior to the final day of exam week.	Pass/Fail	
TOTAL	100%	

Assignments

Should there be written assignments, unless otherwise noted, they must be typewritten and adhere to APA 7th edition writing and referencing format. Please refer to your Course Manual, Camosun College grading policy, and the Department of Nursing Handbook. Note that the grading policy incorporates APA format, spelling, grammar, and quality of critical thinking in the assigned grades.

Late assignments will be deducted 2% per day, weekend and holiday days included. Assignment details will be provided in the first two weeks of the course.

NOTE: Min passing grade for this course C

Camosun's Grading Systems

<https://camosun.ca/registration-records/student-records/camosun-grading-systems>

Grade Reviews and Appeals

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the **Grade Review and Appeals policy** for more information.

<https://camosun.ca/sites/default/files/2021-08/e-1.14.pdf>

The Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) is part of Camosun's Student Affairs unit. CAL coordinates academic accommodations and provides related programs and services to students with documented disabilities.

Students who require academic accommodations are expected to request and arrange accommodations through CAL in a timely fashion. While we understand that not all accommodation needs are known to students at the beginning of a course, accommodations cannot be provided unless the proper process is followed through CAL and an accommodation letter has been released to the instructor. Students are responsible for providing CAL with the proper documentation prior to the beginning of a course.

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required.

Deadlines can be reviewed on the CAL exams page

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning/academic-accommodations-exams>

Please consult the CAL webpage for more information:

<https://camosun.ca/services/academic-supports/accessible-learning>

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) is an evolving technology that brings potential benefits but also substantial risks. While GenAI tools have the ability to transform how we work and learn, it is essential for the college community to adapt to these changes in a thoughtful and secure way.

When using GenAI tools, students should ensure proper citation and attribution guidelines are followed. This includes acknowledging AI assistance in reports, presentations, or any external communications. Clear citation helps build trust, ensures ethical use, and reduces the risk of misinformation or copyright issues.

For citation support visit the college's citation style guide.

<https://camosun.libguides.com/cite>

Artificial Intelligence: A Guide for Students

Visit the following website to learn about AI use in academic settings.

<https://camosun.libguides.com/artificialintelligence/home>

Course Guidelines & Expectations

Class Guidelines and Expectations

To honour BCCNM professional standards, the Health Professions Act, and our legal affiliation agreements with health authorities, students cannot practice skills and assessments in the nursing practice areas until they have learned the theory and practiced that skill or assessment in the nursing lab.

Lab Expectations and Rules

The labs are heavily used. The listed expectations and rules will make the labs run smoother for everyone.

1. The lab must be treated and maintained like a hospital nursing unit.

2. Students must adhere to the clinical attire and dress codes identified in the HHS and the program Handbooks.
3. Dolls, beds, bedside tables, and medication carts must be left clean, tidy, and free of garbage at the end of each lab.
4. At the end of each lab, the teacher basket will only contain items for reuse. Do not place garbage in the teacher baskets.
5. Do not “borrow” materials from other teacher baskets. Extra supplies are primarily located on the marked cart and secondarily on the room storage shelves. Instructors can alert lab staff if supplies are needed.
6. Please re-use and recycle when possible. Lab staff will advise what materials can be recycled or returned for reuse. Place All SHARPS in the sharps containers.
7. Items intended for sharing across lab groups are to be replaced neatly on the appropriate shelves.
8. Absolutely NO Food or Drink is permitted in the labs, with the exception of water in a sealed container. Water containers must be kept in the center of the room, away from the bedside.
9. When supplies are running low, please notify the instructor who can then notify the lab staff.

Thank you for your cooperation in the above listed rules and expectations.

Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and Cheating

For information on **Camosun College policy regarding academic dishonesty**, cheating, and consequences please read the **Student Conduct Policy E-2.5** on the Camosun College website: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf>

For information on **Camosun College policy on plagiarism** please see **Policy Supporting Document E-2.5.1** on the Camosun College website: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.1.pdf>

School or Departmental Information

Students are required to read and are accountable for the College policies (outlined below) and practicum guidelines as described in the School of Health and Human Services (HHS) and program handbooks.

Clinical and Practice Placements in HHS

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/hhs-programs/practicums>

School of Health and Human Services (HHS)

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-1#top>

BSN Program Handbook

<https://camosun.ca/programs-courses/school-health-and-human-services/information-health-and-human-services-students-5>

Student Responsibility

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

College Policies

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to follow the college's [Academic Integrity policy](#), and be honest and ethical in all aspects of their studies. To help you understand these responsibilities review the online [Academic Integrity guide](#).

The college's [Academic Integrity policy and supporting documents](#) detail the process for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and need accommodations contact the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL). CAL will arrange the appropriate academic accommodations so you can participate in all academic activities. Visit the [CAL website](#) for more information

Academic Progress

The [Academic Progress policy](#) details how the college monitors students' academic progress and what steps are taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the college's academic progress standards.

Acceptable Technology Use

The [Acceptable Technology Use](#) policy outlines how students are expected to use college technology resources, this includes using your own devices on the college's network. The use of the college resources in a way that violates a person's right to study in an environment free of discrimination, harassment or sexual violation is prohibited.

Course Withdrawals Policy

For details about course withdrawal see the [Course Withdrawals policy](#). Be aware of the [deadlines for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refunds](#).

Grading Policy

To learn more about grading see the [Grading Policy](#).

Grade Review and Appeals

The process to request a review of grades is outlined in the [Grade Review and Appeals policy](#).

Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

If you have experienced a serious health or personal issue, you may be eligible for a [medical/compassionate withdrawal](#). The [Medical / Compassionate Withdrawal Request form](#) outlines what is required.

Sexual Violence

If you have experienced sexual violence on or off campus, you can get support from the Office of Student Support. The Office of Student Support is a safe and private place to talk about what supports are available and your options for next steps. Visit the [sexual violence support and education site](#) to learn more or email oss@camosun.ca or phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-370-3841.

Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)

Camosun expects students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Review the [Student Misconduct Policy](#) to understand the college's expectations of conduct.

Looking for other policies? See [Camosun College Policies and Directives](#)

Services and Supports

Services are free and available to all students.

Academic Supports Centre for Accessible Learning English, Math and Science Help Centres Library Writing Centre & Learning Skills	Enrollment Supports Academic Advising Financial Aid and Awards Registration Tuition and Fees
Health and Wellness Counseling Fitness and Recreation Office of Student Support	Applied learning Co-operative Education and Career Services Makerspace

The [Centre for Indigenous Education Centre and Community Connections](#) provides cultural and academic supports for Indigenous students.

[Camosun International](#) provides supports to international students.

[The Ombudsperson](#) provides an impartial, independent service to ensure students are treated fairly. The service is a safe place for students to voice and clarify concerns and complaints.

If you have a mental health concern, contact Counselling. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

Changes to this Syllabus

Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change the course content or schedule. When changes are necessary the instructor will give clear and timely notice.