



**Biology Department
Biology 253 Pathophysiology for Nursing 2
Spring 2009
COURSE OUTLINE**

INTRODUCTION

Biology 253 is the second half of a two-semester course for students in the second year of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program. The course focuses on the basic concepts of pathophysiology that are used to define dysfunction of the major organ systems.

This document contains important information specifically on the pathology part of the course. Read through it carefully and take note of directives and other advisory information. The second component of the course is nursing applications, for which you will receive a separate course package. The course is taught jointly by Faculty from Biology and Nursing.

Biology 253 integrates both pathophysiology and nursing applications. The intent is to enable students to apply theoretical knowledge to nursing practice. Use of diagnostic tests, some pharmacology and treatment regimes will be included with each unit of study.

A good prior understanding of the physiology and associated anatomy of the organ systems being discussed is essential for success in this course, as this forms the basis for studying pathophysiology. There will be no time to review or re-teach physiology and anatomy in class. You must review this information on your own before commencement of lectures on the appropriate organ system. While this is important for all students in class, it is particularly so for students who might have completed anatomy and physiology more than a year or two ago.

During the course, you will obtain information from several sources including lectures, class discussions, textbooks, websites, client profiles, current journal articles and clinical practice. Do not rely exclusively on any one, or only some of these sources. Attending lectures regularly is necessary to succeed in this course. Relying exclusively on class notes obtained from a colleague or through other means, will generally NOT ensure success in this course because important discussion occurs in class to supplement the notes. This course outline lists the various topics that will be studied in the pathophysiology part of the course. You are encouraged to review these topics in the textbook before classes and to consolidate information obtained in lectures with that in the textbook after each class. Some of the topics involve self-study (indicated in the outline) and will not be taught in class. Self-study topics are the student's responsibility and are examinable. All required information on self-study topics is available in the prescribed textbooks. Guidelines on how to approach each topic will be posted on the course website.

Students often find this course challenging because it is both content and concept driven. There is a large volume of information to deal with. In addition, the course involves skills that some may not be adequately experienced in e.g. critical thinking, problem solving, integrating and assimilating information, and working with clinical scenarios. Since these skills develop with experience, applying them regularly to course content is important. Your text books are good resources for clinical scenarios. Refer to the CD ROM and websites accompanying the books.

Any student not enrolled in a full course load for the current semester MUST arrange to meet with the Instructor in the first week of term.

Active cell phones are a nuisance and distraction to all members of the class, including the Instructor. Biology 253 is a “cell phone-free” class. You are required to TURN OFF all cell phones before commencement of class. Failure to comply with this class rule would be considered a serious infringement and can lead to further action in terms of the College’s Academic Conduct Policy.

Wherever possible, establish the following standard format for each disease that you study:

- a brief introduction to the disease (i.e. disease type, eg inflammatory, immune-based)
- etiology
- pathophysiology
- major manifestations (not an exhaustive list; where possible try and explain why these occur)
- diagnosis
- treatment / management

Here are some Dos and Don’ts to assist you in completing the course successfully:

Do

- attend lectures regularly and understand what is being discussed
- read up on each topic before class and consolidate lecture notes with information from the textbook before the next class
- keep abreast of the course by working through course material as the course progresses
- pay particular attention to basic concepts and foundational information
- become familiar with the appropriate anatomy and physiology of each organ system studied
- check the course website regularly and familiarize yourself with the information posted there
- take responsibility for your own learning
- consult the Instructor if you experience difficulty with the course
- maximize your marks for the nursing applications assignment which is written under non-exam conditions with abundant availability of and access to resources
- learn how to process information from clinical scenarios
- develop and use a time management plan

Don’t

- let course material accumulate expecting to work through it just before an exam – you will be overwhelmed
- memorize information, especially if you don’t understand the material
- expect to be “spoon-fed” or “coached” to pass examinations

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

On successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of basic, foundational concepts of disease processes
- recognize and explain how and why normal physiology is altered in the pathogenesis of the diseases you have studied
- correlate disease with treatment and nursing management in your patients
- explain in simple terms the major features of a patient’s disease to the patient.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Larry Anthony
Location: F340A
Phone: 370-3388
E-mail: anthonyl@camosun.bc.ca
Website: <http://online.camosun.ca/>

Office hours: Mon 11:30 – 12:20
Tue 11:30 – 12:20, 1:30 – 2:20
Thu 11:30 – 12:20

IMPORTANT NOTE: I understand that the scheduled times will not fit into everyone's schedules. ***This should not deter you from trying to visit me in my office!*** My schedule will be posted on my office door. I can be available at almost any time that I'm not already in class or lab. Simply arrange an appointment by phone or e-mail and I'll be ***very pleased*** to meet with you at a mutually convenient time.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Porth, C.M. and Matfin, G. (2008). Pathophysiology. Concepts of Altered Health States. 8th edition Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

OPTIONAL TEXTBOOK

Kipp, B. and Kirk, J.A. (2008). Study Guide for Pathophysiology. Concepts of Altered Health States 8th edition. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

(See nursing applications course package for details of other required textbooks)

OTHER RESOURCES

The course website is an important resource. It contains useful information to assist you in progressing successfully with the course. Class notes will not be automatically distributed, but downloadable PowerPoint notes will be posted as they are available. Every effort will be made to have notes available on the morning before class. It will be your responsibility to print these if you so choose. Guidelines on self-study topics will be posted as the course unfolds. The website will also contain other information, such as exam marks. It is the student's responsibility to visit the site regularly. Follow the instructions indicated to log in to the Biology 253 course website.

EVALUATION

Quizzes (2)	10%
Assignment	20%
Midterm Exam	30%
Comprehensive Final Exam	40%

Note that writing all exams and submission of completed assignments is compulsory. Even though a final course mark of 60% and above might be achieved, if all the above activities are not satisfactorily completed, an F grade will be assigned for the course.

Tests and exams will include both the pathophysiology and nursing applications components of the course. However, the overall weighting will reflect the disparity in number of lectures for each component, with nursing applications comprising approximately 33% of total evaluation. While some examination questions will require return of factual information, others will involve interpretation and

assimilation of information often based on clinical scenarios. If you wish to practice working through clinical scenarios, refer to your textbooks and the accompanying CDs.

Tests and examinations must be written at the scheduled time unless there is a medical or other emergency that prevents you from doing so. You must notify the Instructor before the examination and submit a doctor's note that clearly indicates the doctor's evaluation that you were unable to write the examination. Your attention is specifically drawn to the examination policy in the College calendar which state that exams must be written at the scheduled time except in cases of emergencies. Exams will **NOT** be deferred for holidays or pre-booked flights. Examinations cannot be written **BEFORE** the scheduled date and time. Minor illnesses not requiring the attention of a medical professional **DO NOT QUALIFY** as medical emergencies.

LETTER GRADES

The following conversion from percentage to letter grade will be used for this course:

A+ = 90 – 100%	B = 73 – 76%	D = 50 – 59%
A = 85 – 89%	B– = 70 – 72%	F = 0.0 – 49%
A– = 80 – 84%	C+ = 65 – 69%	
B+ = 77 – 79%	C = 60 – 64%	

Although the pass mark for Biology 253 is 60%, in order to transfer to the University of Victoria, you must maintain a cumulative GPA of at least C+.

As a learning and evaluation tool, the client profile assignment will be used to link the pathology and nursing components of the course. There will be one individual client profile during the semester contributing 20% of the total course mark. See information in the nursing applications course pack for details of the assignment.

You are encouraged to consult the Instructors if you require assistance or experience difficulty with the course. Do not wait until just before the examination.

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. Information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at

<http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

Your attention is drawn to the academic conduct policy of the College. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registrar's Office, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-&-support/e-2.5.pdf>