

# Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title: PHRM215 Introduction to Pharmacology

Number of Credits: 3

Course Description: This course is designed to start the journey into pharmacology by introducing terminology, basic concepts, laws affecting practice and common medications used.

Pre-/Co- requisites: AH134 Medical Disorders  
AH171 Medical Terminology

## Course Objectives:

- Classify the sources of drugs, examine their pharmacokinetic processes and analyze the variables that affect drug actions and effects.
- Understand the principles of safe drug administration, calculations and pharmacological considerations throughout the lifespan.
- Apply the principles that support the moral, ethical and legal responsibilities of the health care practitioner in administering medications safely and accurately.
- Identify the actions and appropriate doses of commonly used medications for common diseases and disorders of each body system.
- Identify drug interactions, side effects, adverse reactions and contraindications of commonly used medications and appropriate interventions.
- Interpret medication orders and understand potential errors to bring to the attention of the provider if necessary.
- Understand the laws governing drug administration and legal implications.

Instructor: Lindsey Siemens, PA-C

Office/Office Hours: Online / By appointment

Email/Contact: Use the Course Messages tool on the left sided panel in Blackboard. I usually try to respond within 24-48 hours.

Textbook: Understanding Pharmacology for Health Professionals (Sixth Edition) by Susan M. Turley  
ISBN 13: 978-0-13-683140-2

It will also be helpful to have a recent drug book of choice to use for quick reference. You may also choose to use an app for your phone, such as Epocrates. This is something you will use a lot in practice as well.

## Course Requirements:

- Students are expected to read the chapters for the week, as well as any other posted links or articles.
- Students are responsible for checking email, course announcements and discussions regularly.
- Students are expected to participate in discussion board posts in a meaningful way. These are worth points and need to be thought through.

- Students are required to complete all assignments, quizzes and exams. These are all due by the end of the course. I recommend staying on task with the work each week so it does not get overwhelming and difficult to complete.
- Upon course completion, a letter grade is awarded. Final grade is based on the total number of points awarded for the course and is calculated using total points earned divided by total points available.
  - A = 94 – 100%
  - B = 85 – 93%
  - C = 75 – 84%
  - D = 65 – 74%
  - F = 0 – 64%

General Education Competency/Learning Outcome(s) OR CTE Competency/Department Learning Outcome(s): Employ industry-specific skills in preparation for workplace readiness

Relationship to Campus Focus:

This course specifically relates to the *Technology* aspect of the campus' focus. Students will recognize how technology plays an important part in the healthcare arena, including the evolution of computerized systems to improve patient safety in the use of pharmacology and medication administration.

Classroom Policies:

- All students have 16 weeks to complete the course. The course ends at 11:59 p.m. central time on the last Friday of the term.
- Assignments, including discussions, are indicated within the course contents and are mandatory. All assignments must be submitted by the due date listed within the course (usually Saturday nights at 11:59 p.m. central time) or a grade of zero will be given for the uncompleted and/or late assignments.
- Exams are timed. When time has expired, the exam will shut off and be automatically submitted. Students should properly prepare for each exam and allow plenty of time to complete and submit the exam prior to the due date (generally 11:59 p.m. Saturday night). Anything received after 11:59 p.m. the night of the due date will be considered a late submission, and a grade of zero will be awarded. No exceptions. Students are not allowed to “preview” an exam.
- The student may not use the textbook, notes, or other resources when taking exams, this includes receiving assistance from other students, family, friends or acquaintances. This is considered cheating and will be handled according to the *Academic Integrity* policy.
- All students are expected to complete an evaluation (survey) at the end of the course.

Student Email Policy:

Dakota College at Bottineau is increasingly dependent upon email as an official form of communication. A student's campus-assigned email address will be the only one recognized by the Campus for official mailings. The liability for missing or not acting upon important information conveyed via campus email rests with the student.

#### Academic Integrity:

According to the DCB Student Handbook, students are responsible for submitting their own work. Students who cooperate on oral or written examinations or work without authorization share the responsibility for violation of academic principles, and the students are subject to disciplinary action even when one of the students is not enrolled in the course where the violation occurred. The Code detailed in the Academic Honesty/Dishonesty section of the Student Handbook will serve as the guideline for cases where cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties have occurred.

#### Disabilities or Special Needs:

Students with disabilities or special needs (academic or otherwise) are encouraged to contact the instructor and Disability Support Services.

#### Title IX:

Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students and for the College as a whole. Please be aware that all DCB employees (other than those designated as confidential resources such as advocates, counselors, clergy and healthcare providers) are required to report information about such discrimination and harassment to the College Title IX Coordinator. This means that if a student tells a faculty member about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence, or other related misconduct, the faculty member must share that information with the College's Title IX Coordinator. Students wishing to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility can find a list of resources on the DCB Title IX webpage.

AI Student Policy: Unless otherwise indicated in the course syllabus, or in individual instructions for course assignments, or in the absence of the express consent of the course instructor, students are not allowed to utilize generative AI to help produce any of their academic work. Any violation of this policy will be considered an act of academic dishonesty as outlined within the Dakota College Code of Student Life.

**Student responsibilities:**

- Responsible to follow the syllabus and assignment instructions regarding use of generative AI for all academic work
- Obtain permission of the instructor prior to the use of generative AI that is outside of the syllabus or assignment instructions. Provide appropriate rationale for how the use of generative AI will enhance the learning experience for the assignment.
- In instances where generative AI is permissible, appropriately cite the generative AI program used and indicate where in the assignment it was used, in a brief submission statement.

**Faculty responsibilities:**

- Determine if the use of generative AI could enhance student learning in any assignment of project.
- Clearly indicate in all course syllabi if generative AI is allowable for any academic work.
- If allowable, give specific parameters for how and when generative AI may be used.
- If a violation of generative AI for the individual course/syllabus is suspected, discuss the concern with the student. If violation is still suspected, inform the appropriate semester coordinator/program director.

Tentative Course Outline:

Introduction to Pharmacology

Drug Testing, Forms and Measurements

Prescriptions and Therapeutic Use of Drugs

GI Drugs

Analgesics and Musculoskeletal Drugs

Respiratory Drugs

Cardiovascular Drugs

Hematologic Drugs

Anti-Infective Drugs

Urinary Drugs

Reproductive Drugs

Neurologic Drugs

Psychiatric Drugs

Endocrine Drugs

Integumentary and Ophthalmic Drugs

Cancer Drugs, Vaccines

Emergency Drugs, IV fluids, Blood and Blood Products, Anesthetics