

# *Introduction to Pharmacology*

Course Number: PHRM 215 – Introduction to Pharmacology

Number of credits: 3 Credits

Course Description: This course provides a framework to understand medications and their administration. It is appropriate for a variety of health care practitioners, including nurses, medical assistants, pharmacy technicians, and health professionals seeking continuing education. Students are introduced to an extensive body of knowledge within a limited time frame through a concise yet adaptable format. They will examine drug classifications through their indications, side effects, precautions, and interactions, and become familiar with the steps in calculating dosages and administering medications through various routes.

Prerequisites: AH 171 – Medical Terminology  
AH 134 – Medical Disorders

Course Objectives:

1. Classify the sources of drugs, examine their pharmacokinetic processes, and analyze the variables that affect drug actions and effects.
2. Understand the principles of safe drug administration, calculations, and pharmacological considerations throughout the lifespan.
3. Apply the principles that support the moral, ethical, and legal responsibilities of the health care practitioner in administering medications safely and accurately.
4. Identify the actions and appropriate doses of commonly used medications for common diseases and disorders of each body system.
5. Identify drug interactions, side effects, adverse reactions, and contraindications of commonly used medications and appropriate interventions.
6. Interpret medication orders correctly, and state the proper procedures for documenting drug administration and for reporting medication errors.
7. Understand the laws governing drug administration and legal implications.

Instructor: Susan E Indvik BSN, RN

Class Schedule: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 12:00- 12:50 pm. Class attendance and participation is mandatory.

Office Hours: Students may speak with the instructor during the hours of 9:30-1:30 M-W-F or via email. Phone: Office (701) 228-5460.

Email: Please contact me via the email within the course or [susan.e.indvik@dakotacollege.edu](mailto:susan.e.indvik@dakotacollege.edu)

Lecture Schedule: Please see course outline for the content schedule

Textbook(s): *Essentials of Pharmacology for Health Professions (8th edition)* by Ruth Woodrow, Bruce J. Colbert & Davide M. Smith. ISBN-13: 978-1-285-07788-8

*Study Guide to Accompany Essentials of Pharmacology for Health Professions (8<sup>th</sup> edition)*

Students are also required to purchase a recent drug handbook. These are available at DCB bookstore.

**Class Requirements:**

All students are expected to abide by the following course policies:

1. Class attendance is mandatory. If possible, please let the instructor know 1 hour prior to the start of class if you will be missing a class.
2. Be respectful of other students. This course is offered over IVN so there are students from multiple classrooms.
3. Personally, complete all assignments, quizzes, and exams, no plagiarism will be allowed and 1<sup>st</sup> offense will result in a zero and second offense will result in a class failure.
4. Read all assigned textbook chapters PRIOR to class.
5. Come to class prepared.
6. No cell phone use during class time.
7. Test will not be returned but will be available upon request to discuss.

**Tentative Course Outline:**

Week 1 - Chapter 1 & 2

Week 2 – Chapter 3 & 4

Week 3 – Chapter 5 & 6

Week 4 - Chapter 7 & 8

Week 5 – Chapter 9 & 10

Week 6 – Chapter 11 & 12

Week 7 – Chapter 13 & 14

Week 8 – Chapter 15 & 16

Week 9 – Chapter 17 & 18

Week 10 – Chapter 19 & 20

Week 11 – Chapter 20 & 21

Week 12 - Chapter 22 & 23

Week 13 – Chapter 24 & 25

Week 14 – Chapter 26 & 27

Week 15 – Review for Final

Week 16 – Final drug cards due and Final

**Grading Scale:**

90-100 A  
80-89 B  
70- 79 C  
60- 69 D  
< 59 F

**General Education Goals/Objectives:** This course is not a general education course.

Relationship to Campus Theme:

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.

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 emails 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:

All students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity. Students must complete all work themselves. Cheating or plagiarism is a serious offense and is subject to disciplinary action by the instructor and the college administration. Please see campus policies online. All references used must be properly cited. APA format only.

Disabilities/Special Needs:

Please inform the instructor within the first week of classes if any assistance is required due to disabilities or special needs.