HSCI 1301 Medical Terminology
Spring 2026 Syllabus
Sul Ross State University

| **Lecture**: | Online via Blackboard | **Instructor:** | Dean Culpepper, Ph.D. |
| | | **Email:** | Dean.culpepper@sulross.edu |

Use your SRSU e-mail account, sign your email, and type "HSCI 1301" in the subject line.

Office hours: Please email me at any time. I will respond within 24 hours (up to 48 hours on weekends).

TEXTBOOK: OER Textbook- Medical Terminology
Medical Terminology – Simple Book Publishing (pressbooks.pub)

OPTIONAL: Any good medical dictionary, such as Stedman's, Taber's, or Dorland's Medical Dictionary

Course Description:
This course offers a comprehensive introduction to medical terminology, designed to equip students with the skills necessary to understand and use the language of healthcare effectively. The curriculum focuses on a systematic approach to breaking down complex medical terms into their component parts, making the learning process more manageable and intuitive. This course is designed to provide a solid medical terminology foundation that students can build upon in future healthcare courses, emphasizing both language components and anatomical context.

This is an online course. Each student is required to have a functioning computer for the entirety of the semester. Having computer problems does not exempt students from completing work by the due date. If your system goes down, find another computer to submit your quizzes/exams before the due date. It is strongly suggested that they be submitted early to avoid any technical difficulties.

Course Learning Objectives (CLOs). Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:
CLO1. Identify medical prefixes, word roots, and suffixes.
CLO2. Analyze words structurally by defining elements and meanings.
CLO3. Begin to explore the various terms and definitions pertaining to the body as a whole.
CLO4. Communicate medical terminology clearly to improve the culture of safety in patient care.

BLACKBOARD: I use Blackboard for course announcements/communication, and grade postings. Therefore, you should log onto Blackboard **frequently** for the latest announcements and updates.

GRADING:

Student Introduction	5%
Chapter Quizzes	30%
Chapter Homework	30%
Final Exam (1 @ 100 pts)	35%
TOTAL	100%

Assignments: Due dates are listed in the syllabus, as well as on Blackboard; the QUIZZES, HOMEWORK, and FINAL EXAM must be submitted by 11:59 pm on their respective due dates.

Late Assignment Policy. Students are expected to complete all coursework within the timeframes noted in this syllabus and posted on Blackboard under each week listed. Because this is an online course, it is important to follow the timeframes outlined in the schedule. Communication is the key! Unless otherwise arranged, no late work will be accepted.

Faculty Email Response Time. I will respond to email messages within 24 hours during the week and 48 hours on weekends and holidays. Those from personal email addresses could be blocked and/or not received, so please email using your SRSU student email to ensure timely delivery.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Dates (opens & closes)	Topics	Homework	Due Date by 11:59 PM
1	Jan 14- Jan 18	Introduction to Medical Terminology	**Student Introduction**	**Jan 16**
2	Jan 20-25	Word Parts and Language Rules (Ch. 1)	Assignment 1	Jan 25
3	Jan 26-Feb 1	Body Structure and Organization (Ch 2)	Assignment 2 **Quiz 1**	Feb 1
4	Feb 2- Feb 8	Integumentary System (Ch. 3)	Assignment 3	Feb 8
5	Feb 9 - 15	Musculoskeletal System (Ch. 13 & 14)	Assignment 4 **Quiz 2**	Feb 15
6	Feb 16-22	Cardiovascular System (Ch. 9)	Assignment 5	Feb 22
7	Feb 23 -March 1	Blood, Lymphatic, and Immune System (Ch. 10 & 11)	Assignment 6 **Quiz 3**	March 1
8	Mar 2 - 8	Respiratory System (Ch. 4)	Assignment 7	March 8

9	March 16 -22	Digestive System (Ch. 12)	Assignment 8 Quiz 4	March 22
10	March 23	Urinary System (Ch. 5)	Assignment 9	March 29
11	March 30- April 5	Reproductive System (Ch. 6, 7, & 8)	Assignment 10 Quiz 5	April 5
12	April 6 -12	Endocrine System (Ch. 17)	Assignment 11	April 12
13	April 13-19	Nervous System (Ch. 16)	Assignment 12	April 19
14	April 20-26	Special Senses (Eyes and Ears) (Ch. 15)	Assignment 13 Quiz 6	April 26
15	April 27 – May 3	Review and Reinforcement Activities		
16	May 4-5	Final Exam and Course Wrap-Up		May 5
	FINAL EXAM **opens Monday, May 4 at 8:00 AM; closes Tuesday, May 6 at 1600.**			

SRSU Distance Education Statement

Students enrolled in distance education courses have equal access to the university's academic support services, such as library resources, online databases, and instructional technology support. For more information about accessing these resources, visit the SRSU website.

Students should correspond using Sul Ross email accounts and submit online assignments through Blackboard, which requires a secure login. Students enrolled in distance education courses at Sul Ross are expected to adhere to all policies pertaining to academic honesty and appropriate student conduct, as described in the student handbook. Students in web-based courses must maintain appropriate equipment and software, according to the needs and requirements of the course, as outlined on the SRSU website. Directions for filing a student complaint are located in the student handbook.

SRSU Attendance Policy. The SRSU catalog states "The instructor may, at their discretion, drop a student from a course when the student has a total of nine absences in lecture and three absences in lab. An absence is defined as non-attendance in fifty minutes of class. Exams must be taken on the scheduled exam date that will be announced at least a week prior unless other arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Academic Integrity. Students in this class are expected to demonstrate scholarly behavior and academic honesty in the use of intellectual property. A scholar is expected to be punctual, prepared, and focused; meaningful and pertinent participation is appreciated. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to: Turning in

work as original that was used in whole or part for another course and/or professor; turning in another person's work as one's own; copying from professional works or internet sites without citation; collaborating on a course assignment, examination, or quiz when collaboration is forbidden.

SRSU Disability Services.
SRSU Accessibility Services. Sul Ross State University (SRSU) is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is SRSU policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request each semester for each class. Students seeking accessibility/accommodations services must contact Mrs. Mary Schwartze Grisham, LPC, SRSU's Accessibility Services Director at 432-837-8203 or email mschwartze@sulross.edu or contact Alejandra Valdez, at 830-758-5006 or email alejandra.valdez@sulross.edu. Our office is located on the first floor of Ferguson Hall, room 112, and our mailing address is P.O. Box C122, Sul Ross State University, Alpine. Texas, 79832.

Technical Support. SRSU 24/7 Blackboard Technical Support: Toll Free: 888.837.6055. Email: blackboardsupport@sulross.edu

SRSU Library Services. Libraries
The Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library and Archives of the Big Bend in Alpine offer FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library's website, library.sulross.edu/. Off-campus access requires logging in with your LoboID and password. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or by phone (432-837-8123).
No matter where you are based, public libraries and many academic and special libraries welcome the general public into their spaces for study. SRSU TexShare Cardholders can access additional services and resources at various libraries across Texas. Learn more about the TexShare program by visiting library.sulross.edu/find-and-borrow/texshare/ or ask a librarian by emailing srsulibrary@sulross.edu.
Mike Fernandez, SRSU Librarian, is based in Eagle Pass (Building D-129) to offer specialized library services to students, faculty, and staff. Utilize free services such as InterLibrary Loan (ILL), ScanIt, and Direct Mail to get materials delivered to you at home or via email.

Classroom Climate of Respect. Importantly, this class will foster free expression, critical investigation, and open discussion of ideas. This means that all of us must help create and sustain an atmosphere of tolerance, civility, and respect for the viewpoints of others. Similarly, we must all learn how to probe, oppose, and disagree without resorting to tactics of intimidation, harassment, or personal attack. No one is entitled to harass, belittle, or discriminate against another based on race, religion, ethnicity, age, gender, national origin, or sexual preference.

Diversity Statement. I aim to create a learning environment for my students that supports a diversity of thoughts, perspectives, and experiences, and honors your identities (including race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, ability, socioeconomic class, age, nationality, etc.). I understand economic disparity, health concerns, or unexpected life events could impact the conditions necessary for you to succeed. My commitment is to be there for you and help you meet the learning objectives of this course. I do this to demonstrate my commitment to you and to the mission of Sul Ross State University to create an inclusive environment and care for the whole student as part of the Sul Ross Familia. If you feel like your performance in the class is being impacted by your experiences outside of class, please don't hesitate to talk with me. I want to be a resource for you.