SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Nursing
HSCI 2340 Pathophysiology

SEMESTER/YEAR: Spring 2026
SEMESTER HOURS: 3.0 Credits (Length: 8 Weeks)
CLINICALHOURS (if applicable): NA PREREQUISITES:

SEMESTER HOURS: 3.0 Credits
CONTACT HOURS: NA
PREREQUISITES: Acceptance to the BSN Program

FACULTY INFORMATION:

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Office Hours available: By appt please contact via email or phone

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces you to what affects our physiology and how the body adapts in a shifting environment. We look at changes in the structure and function of cells, tissues, and some organ systems (e.g., heart, lungs, skin). You will start to build the foundational knowledge of the causes and clinical indicators of disease. These concepts will help you become a better healthcare professional. This class builds on your previous coursework in medical terminology, cell biology, anatomy, and physiology. Completing this course will give you a useful understanding of how disruptions of cellular tissues and organ processes relate to the adapting human body, and our health across the lifespan

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of this course, students will be able to

CO: 1 Explain the pathophysiologic processes of select health conditions.
CO: 2 Predict clinical manifestations and complications for select disease processes.
CO: 3 Correlate lifestyle, environmental, and other influences with changes in levels of wellness.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Textbooks: (Links in course for OER Free texts)

1. OER Resource: Open RN: Nursing Fundamentals https://openstax.org/subjects/nursing

2. OER Resource: Open RN: Nursing Medical Surgical https://openstax.org/subjects/nursing

3. Pathophysiological Concepts in Nursing https://fiveable.me/pathophysiological-conceptsin-nursing

4. American Psychological Association. (2020). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. (7th Edition). (Secure references from Library)

COURSE LEARNING ACTIVITIES, ASSIGNMENTS, GRADING, AND EXPECTATIONS
LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

Evaluation of student performance is based on evidence of achievement of course objectives. Students are graded on their attendance and participation in the class, knowledge and comprehension of reading assignments, and completion of course assignments. Criteria for each course activity and assignment including grading rubrics are delineated either in the syllabus or in the modules.

Summary of Measures for Evaluations:

Course Requirements	Points
Discussion Boards x 4	20 %
Assignments x 3	30 %
Weekly Quizzes x 7	40 %
Final Exam	10 %
Total Points	100 %

Calculation of Final Grade:

The final grade is derived as a summary of the points delineated on specific rubrics for the assignments and participation. To pass the course a C (75%) or higher is required. There will be no rounding of final grade.

Grading Scale

A = 90 – 100

B = 80 – 89

C = 75 – 79

D = 70 – 74

F = 69 or below

POLICIES FOR EXAMS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Online testing/Assessments: When assigned, examinations will be given via the use of Blackboard or online-proctored exams in the canvas classroom. Instructions will be provided at the time of the examination. (see start HERE module for Respondus Lockdown browser guides and instructions).

Missed Examinations and Makeup Examinations: Faculty members must be informed immediately when a student is aware that an examination will be missed. Make-up should occur within the same week of the scheduled examination as agreed on between faculty and student. Should scheduling conflicts and/or family emergencies arise, students should contact faculty by phone, email, or text as soon as possible. If students have spoken with faculty and an agreement is reached, late make-up exams may be arranged without penalty.

Late and Make-up Assignments: To achieve the designated points for an assignment, the assignment must be submitted at or before the scheduled date and time. **Ten points per calendar day** will be deducted for late submission of assignments. Assignments will not be accepted after 3 days late. Should scheduling conflicts and/or family emergencies arise, students should contact faculty by phone, email or text as soon as possible. If students have spoken with faculty and an agreement is reached, late and make-up assignment extensions can be arranged without penalty.

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Course Schedule

(This schedule is subject to change by faculty as needed.)

Class Weeks will be from Sunday 12:00 midnight –Sunday 11:59 PM Central Time. All assigned work activities for the week must be completed by Sunday midnight unless otherwise indicated by the instructor. Discussion Boards – The initial entry for the week's discussion board must be completed by Wednesday at 11:59pm. Two substantive responses to classmates' initial entry must be completed by Sunday 11:59pm. **No Late submission on Discussion Post will be accepted.**

Week	Topics & Objectives	Learning Activities, Assignments

Week 1 Introduction to Patho and Cellular Regulation	1. Relate alterations in structure and function of cells and tissue development. (CO 1) 2. Trace the impact of alterations in defense mechanisms on homeostasis. (CO 2) 3. Summarize the impact of altered defenses on the individual. (CO 3)	Week 1-Introduction post Week 1- Discussion Post Week 1- Quiz

Week 2 Mechanisms of Defense and Tissue Integrity	1. Explore alterations in the structure and function of defense mechanisms. (COs 1 and 3) Trace the impact of alterations in defense mechanisms on homeostasis. (CO 2) 2. Summarize the impact of altered defenses on the individual. (CO 3) 3. Articulate alterations in the structure and function of the integumentary systems. (CO 1) 4. Trace the impact that alterations in the integumentary system have on the body. (CO 2) 5. Summarize the effects of alterations in the integumentary systems on homeostasis. (CO 3)	Week 2- Quiz Week 2- Assignment
Week 3 Homeostasis and Elimination	1. Articulate alterations in structure and function of the renal and digestive systems. (CO 1) 2. Trace the impact that alterations in the renal and digestive systems have on the body. (CO 2) 3. Summarize the impact of alterations in the renal and digestive systems on homeostasis. (CO 3)	Week 3- Discussion Post Week 3- Quiz

Week 4 Sensory and Cognition	1. Articulate alterations in structure and function of the neurosensory system. (CO 1) 2. Explain the impact that alterations in the neurosensory system have on the body. (CO 2) 3. Summarize the impact of alterations in the neurosensory system on homeostasis. (CO 3)	Week 4- Quiz Week 4- Assignment
Week 5 Perfusion and Clotting	1. Articulate alterations in structure and function of the cardiovascular system. (CO 1) 2. Trace the impact that alterations in the cardiovascular system have on the body. (CO 2)	Week 5- Discussion Post Week 5- Quiz
	3. Summarize the impact of alterations in the cardiovascular system on homeostasis. (CO 3)	
Week 6 Gas Exchange and Mobility	1. Articulate alterations in the structure and function of the respiratory system. (CO 1) 2. Trace the impact that alterations in the respiratory system have on the body. (CO 2) 3. Summarize the impact of alterations in the respiratory system on homeostasis. (CO 3) Articulate alterations in structure and function of the musculoskeletal systems. (CO 1) 4. Trace the impact that alterations in the musculoskeletal systems have on the body. (CO 2) 5. Summarize the impact of alterations in the musculoskeletal systems on homeostasis. (CO 3)	Week 6- Quiz Week 6- Assignment

Week 7 Hormonal and Glucose Regulation	1. Articulate alterations in the structure and function of the endocrine system. (CO 1) 2. Trace the impact that alterations in the endocrine system have on the body. (CO 2) 3. Summarize the impact of alterations in the endocrine system on homeostasis. (CO 3)	Week 7- Discussion Post Week 7- Quiz
Week 8: Putting all together	1. Explain the pathophysiologic processes of select health conditions. (COs 1, 2, 3) 2. Predict clinical manifestations and complications for select disease processes. (COs 1, 2, 3) 3. Correlate lifestyle, environmental, and other influences with changes in levels of wellness. (COs 1, 2, 3)	Week 8- Final Exam

COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

Verbal and written responses to assignments incorporate evidence that the student has read appropriate assignments and is able to articulate information that reflects individual cognition and understanding of information. Most of the course learning activities will use reflective dialogue and integrative learning approaches to expand, clarify, find meaning, or extend students' understanding of course concepts, topics, and students' investigations into practice issues and reviews of literature.

The course is designed to provide opportunities for you to participate in case analysis, demonstrate clinical reasoning, completion of e-learning assignments, and scholarly writing, make professional presentations, and engage in self-appraisal. APA format is used for written assignments.

Refer technical difficulties related to Blackboard Collaboration to IT resources as soon as possible.

Faculty and Student Picture and Biography:

Faculty will submit a picture and summary of their educational and professional experiences that prepared them to teach in respective courses to be posted online.

During the first week of class, each student must submit a picture of themselves with a brief personal and professional biography including educational and clinical experiences and any personal information that highlights why they are choosing to seek a BSN degree.

ONLINE COURSES:

Web courses (offered online) are not self-paced and require considerable work to meet requirements. Students should be prepared to devote approximately 12 hours per week to accomplish the work required for a 3-hour class (i.e., students should devote approximately the same study time for an online course as would be spent in a regular class with outside work requirements, a measure generally calculated at 3 hours outside work for each hour in class.) Students MUST have a reliable high-speed internet connection available on a regular basis for course work and other assignments whenever University computer laboratories are not open. **Computer labs are open Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m.-10 p.m., and Fri. 8 a.m-5 p.m.** University computer labs are not open on weekends and holidays, but computers are available at the Southwest Texas Junior College and Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College libraries. A student who fails to participate in assignments during any one work period may be subject to being withdrawn from class and given a grade of F. Students should regularly log in to their class.

STUDENT/FACULTY EXPECTATIONS IN THE TEACHING/LEARNING PROCESS:

Learning is a shared endeavor based upon respectful and collaborative relationships between students and faculty. The learning activities designed for this course were developed based upon the following:

1. As adult learners we are partners in learning.
2. Faculty members serve as a mentor, resource, guide, or coach and professional peer.
3. Our work and life experiences differ and serve to enrich our individual and mutual learning.
4. Each member of the class is committed to preparing for and successfully completing class learning activities.
5. Each member of the class will organize their time, learning goals, and activities to fully participate in the course and assignments.
6. Each member of the class can use computer technology and access resources via the Internet and other mobile technologies as needed for the course.

COMMUNICATIONS:

• Announcements – Check announcements each time you log onto the course.

• Course email – Check course email frequently for communications and make sure your email address is current. Faculty will respond to inquiries and comments within 24 hours Monday- Friday.

• Use of technology: If you have any technical questions, problems or concerns with Blackboard, do not spend more than 15 minutes on any technical problem, seek help immediately. **Contact the 24-7 Help Desk at: 1-888-837-2882 and/or techassist@sulross.edu.**

- Responses to emails and course postings: Please respond to faculty requests and/or communications within 24 hours. Use course or Sul Ross email & if not available, mobile phone or texting between the hours of 9 AM and 6PM if possible. Messages received on the weekends or holidays will be answered by the next working day.

- Assignments: Assignments will be reviewed and returned with feedback/grade within 4 days of submission.

- Writing and use of APA: All written assignments and bulletin board postings will be submitted using the American Psychological Association (APA) Guidelines.
  http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

- Your attendance is expected at every class meeting.

- Readings and learning activities relevant to the weekly topic are identified in the course schedule and modules.

- Scholarly and knowledgeable participation requires that you read assigned readings prior to joining the class discussions.
- If you have an emergency and cannot attend a class meeting or complete an assignment by the due date, you must contact your faculty by phone, email or text as soon as possible and make arrangements to make up the assignments.

Academic Honesty Policy:

The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials. Academic Dishonesty includes:
1.Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs, or allowing another student to copy from same.

2. Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.

3. Collaborating, without authorization, with another person during an examination or in preparing academic work.

4. Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of a non- administered test.

5. Substituting for another student; permitting any other person or otherwise assisting any other person to substitute for oneself or for another student in the taking of an examination or test or the preparation of academic work to be submitted for academic credit.

6. Bribing another person to obtain a non-administered test or information about a non-administered test.

7. Purchasing or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of a rough and/or final version of an assignment by a professional typist.

8. "Plagiarism" means the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or idea in one's own written work offered for credit.

9. "Collusion" means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit.

10. "Abuse of resource materials" means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.

11. "Academic work" means the preparation of an essay, dissertation, thesis, report, problem, a
12. Assignment, or other project that the student submits as a course requirement or for a grade.

Statement for use of AI

The rise of generative AI technologies—such as ChatGPT and DALL·E—has generated significant interest among students in our field. These tools can support a range of academic activities, including idea generation, deeper exploration of complex questions or problems, and creative engagement with course materials.

In this course, we may incorporate generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT) to critically examine how such technologies can enhance our understanding of the subject matter. You will receive clear instructions regarding when and how these tools may be used, along with appropriate guidance on attribution where applicable.

Please note: Any use of generative AI tools outside where specified guidelines permit will be considered a violation of academic integrity and treated as plagiarism.

All academic dishonesty cases may be first considered and reviewed by the faculty member. If the faculty member believes that an academic penalty is necessary, he/she may assign a penalty, but must notify the student of his/her right to appeal to the Department Chair, the Associate Provost/Dean, and eventually to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs before imposition of the penalty. At each step in the process, the student shall be entitled to written notice of the offense and/or the administrative decision, an opportunity to respond, and an impartial disposition as to the merits of his/her case.

In the case of flagrant or repeated violations, the Vice President for Academic Affairs may refer the matter to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. No disciplinary action shall become effective against

the student until the student has received procedural due process except as provided under Interim Disciplinary Action.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) STATEMENT

Sul Ross State University is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Qualified students with disabilities needing academic or other accommodations to facilitate full participation in our programs, services and activities should contact the Accessibilities Coordinator, Ferguson Hall Room 112, Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., 432-837-8203 at the Alpine campus.

GENERAL CAMPUS REGULATIONS AND CONDUCT

All students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the University's functions as an educational institution. It is also expected that all students who enroll at Sul Ross State University agree to assume the responsibilities of citizenship in the university community. Association in such a university community is purely voluntary, and any student may resign from it at any time when he/she considers the obligation of membership disproportionate to the benefits. All students are subject to university authority, and those students whose conduct is not within the policies of the University rules and regulations are subject to dismissal. Students are responsible for abiding by all published University rules and regulations. Failure to read publications will not excuse the student from the requirements and regulations described therein. The SRSU Student Handbook and other official University publications outline specific regulations and requirements.