Course Description

Introduces the student to the language used in the health record. Includes a system-by-system review of anatomic disease, operative terms, abbreviations, radiography procedures, laboratory tests, and pharmacology terms. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

This course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the language of medicine. Emphasis is placed on a generalized medical vocabulary for each organ system.

Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites

High school diploma. Completion of or concurrent enrollment in an anatomy/physiology class or permission of instructor.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- analyze medical terms by their word elements
- use accepted rules and guidelines to accurately spell, pluralize, form, divide, and pronounce medical terms
- use a medical dictionary correctly
- apply terms for directions, position, and planes of the body
- translate medical abbreviations
- independently review basic anatomy and physiology terms specific to each body system
- read and interpret clinical information from health records
- complete written assignments that demonstrate an awareness of current trends in medical practice and a comprehension of the medical terminology in context
- participate in individual and group projects and presentation which promote learning of the course content
- define pathologic, symptomatic, diagnostic, procedural and therapeutic terms specific to each body system

Major Topics to be Included

a. Word structure and word analysis
b. Body reference terms
c. Musculoskeletal System
d. Digestive System
e. Nervous System
f. Psychiatry
g. The Sense Organs
h. Cardiovascular System
i. Hematology
j. Endocrine System
k. Respiratory System
l. Urinary System
m. Male and Female Reproductive Systems