

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY  
HIM 260 – PHARMACOLOGY FOR HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (3 CR.)**

**Course Description**

Emphasizes general pharmacology for health information professions; covers general principles of drug actions/reactions, major drug classes, specific agents within each class and routine mathematical calculation needed to determine desired dosages. Lecture 3 hours per week

**General Course Purpose**

The purpose of this course is to educate students about the basics of pharmacology. Emphasis is placed on knowledge of the major drug groups which includes the drug use, dose, adverse drug reactions, and side effects that are pertinent to physiological and biochemical changes occurring during the disease and recovery state.

**Course Prerequisites/Co-requisites**

All students should have a background in anatomy, physiology, and medical terminology. HIM 111, BIO 141 and 142, NAS 150, NAS 161 and 162 or permission of the instructor.

**Course Objectives**

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- describe sources of drugs, different forms in which drugs are dispensed, and the derivation of drug names,
- discuss and perform the calculation of drug doses,
- discuss the effects of the major drug classes and their influence on the pathophysiologic and biochemical changes in disease states.

**Major Topics to be Included**

- a. History of pharmacology and the current trends in pharmacology.
- b. Legal aspects of drug dispensing and administering of drugs by licensed personnel. This will also include discussion of the prescription laws and hospital drug orders written.
- c. Pharmacology of the cardiovascular system.
- d. Pharmacology of the respiratory system.
- e. Pharmacology of the central nervous system, including sedative and stimulant medicines.
- f. Pharmacology of the gastrointestinal system, including sedatives, antidiarrheals, antinauseants, etc.
- g. Pharmacology of the genito-urinary systems.
- h. Pharmacology of the kidney and its specific effects on the homeostasis of extracellular fluid.
- i. Discussion of antimicrobial drugs and chemotherapeutic drugs.
- j. Discussion of diabetes mellitus and drugs dealing with this disease and a discussion of the new insulins.