

NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY HLT 143 – MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY (3 CR.)

Course Description

Provides an understanding of medical abbreviations and terms. Includes the study of prefixes, suffixes, word stems, and technical terms with emphasis on proper spelling, pronunciation, and usage. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

This course will introduce students to the language of the medical profession. This foundation is necessary for establishing a career in healthcare. Students will learn how to analyze a medical term by dividing it into its component parts to obtain a definition. Basic anatomy will be introduced as each body system is studied. Each chapter contains multiple exercises to be completed in the included workbook to aid and reinforce the learning process. This advanced level course is designed to prepare the student to analyze, define, pronounce, and comprehend the medical language. Upon completion of this course, the student will be prepared to continue in other health care related courses. This course serves as a prerequisite for various entry level health care positions.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

This is an Internet-based class requiring proficiency with and access to e-mail and the web and Microsoft Office.

Course Objectives

By using exercises which allow students to progress in a meaningful way, from recall and review, to word building, to comprehension, and finally to application and analysis using "real-world" case studies and medical record exercises. This approach allows the student to actively see their knowledge building and to connect what they are learning to real-life context. A robust, realistic, and relevant art program enhances the text, especially for visual-learners.

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

- a) Compare the early history of medicine to today's in relation to medical terminologies and its impact on current practice standards and laws.
- b) Pronounce medical terms properly.
- c) Identify anatomical terms in relation to body positions and body planes.
- d) Comprehend and define medical words/terms used in the medical profession.
- e) Categorize and divide medical words/terms into component parts to ascertain their meanings.
- f) Utilize the medical words/terms to build a solid foundation in terminology to succeed in a healthcare profession.
- g) Use a medical dictionary and other medical reference material to obtain definitions and pronunciations.
- h) Reinforce the study of anatomy with a review of the body systems and appropriate terminology.
- i) Recognize, spell correctly, define, and pronounce a wide variety of terms from all areas of medicine.
- j) Identify word parts (prefixes, suffixes, and combining forms), adjectives and other word parts.
- k) Recognize symptoms and medical conditions.
- l) Describe appropriate laboratory tests diagnostic procedures, surgical interventions and therapeutic procedures.
- m) Describe appropriate medications and drug therapies, specialists and abbreviations.

Major Topics to be Included

Prefixes, suffixes, word roots, combining forms, terms, case studies, common abbreviations, and anatomy, and physiology of the following body systems; terms related to common medical conditions and treatments, surgical terms and procedures, as well as special topics in human neonatology, mental health, and oncology.

- a) Introduction to Medical Terminology: Word Structure
- b) Prefixes, suffixes, and abbreviations
- c) Terms involving the body as a whole
- d) Terms related to the Integumentary System
- e) Terms related to the Digestive System
- f) Terms related to the Urinary system
- g) Terms related to the Cardiovascular and Lymphatic systems
- h) Terms related to the Blood and Immune Systems
- i) Terms related to the Respiratory system
- j) Terms related to the Male Reproductive system
- k) Terms related to the Female Reproductive system, Obstetrics, and Neonatology
- l) Terms related to the Nervous system and Mental Health
- m) Terms related to the Sensory Systems
- n) Terms related to the Musculoskeletal System
- o) Terms related to the Endocrine System
- p) Oncology and cancer terms