NUR 1141

Course Description

Course Description: This course introduces the beginning level nursing student to the concept of pharmacotherapeutics. At the completion of this course the student will have an understanding of the major drug classifications as they relate to selected concepts of nursing practice.

Prerequisite/Corequisite: Corequisites: BSC2085/2085L, MCB2010/2010L (with a grade of C or higher)

Course Outcomes:

1. Define the ethical and legal aspects of medication administration.
2. Describe the usage of drugs when administering medication to culturally diverse populations.
3. Develop a knowledge base that includes the use of the nursing process as problem solving steps in medication administration.
4. Differentiate between tolerance, resistance, withdrawal, side effects, adverse reaction, agonistic, antagonistic, cumulative, blocker, and stimulant effects in relation to drug administration.
5. Explain significant historical events contributing to the development of pharmacology. Identify major classifications of pharmacotherapeutic agents.
6. Identify special considerations for dosage related side effects when discussing “at risk” populations such as the fetus, infants, children, pregnant women, and the frail elderly.
7. Identify the correct measures to ensure the prevention of medication errors. Identify the roles of the professional nurse in relation to medication administration, in both acute care and community health settings.
8. Predict the potential for drug-drug interactions and drug-food interactions, including over the-counter (OTC) and complementary/alternative agents (CAMs).
9. Utilize critical thinking skills to determine effects on the body during all phases of drug activity (pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics).
10. Utilize effective communication skills to teach clients essential knowledge of the effects of medication administration on their health and well-being.