

**Mansfield University**  
**Department of Health Sciences, Nursing**  
**NUR 5500: Advanced Physical Assessment and Pathophysiology**  
**Across the Life Span**  
**Fall 2009**

**Course Overview**

<b>Course Number:</b>	NUR 5500
<b>Course Name:</b>	Advanced Physical Assessment and Pathophysiology Across the Life Span
<b>Course Credits:</b>	3
<b>Clinical Hours:</b>	40
<b>Placement in Curriculum:</b>	Fall semester, year one
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None
<b>Co-requisites:</b>	None
<b>Meeting Times:</b>	Online. Asynchronous. This Blackboard course can be accessed at <a href="http://www.mansfield.edu">www.mansfield.edu</a> . Look for the “Blackboard Academic System” link under the Mansfield Web Logins heading.
<b>Faculty:</b>	Jamie Klesh, Ph.D., A.P.R.N.
<b>E-mail Address:</b>	jklesh@mansfield.edu
<b>Office Mailing Address:</b>	One Guthrie Square Patterson Building, Office 207 Sayre, PA 18840
<b>Telephone Numbers:</b>	Work: 570-882-4724    Home: 607-739-6938 Fax: 570-882-6509
<b>Office Hours:</b>	To be determined by August 2009.

**Course Description:**

*Advanced Physical Assessment and Pathophysiology Across the Life Span* is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skills to perform an advanced physical examination. Physical assessment skills will be incorporated with related pathophysiological abnormalities. Interviewing techniques and basic head-to-toe physical assessment will be reviewed. The course will then concentrate on the focused systems assessments necessary for providing care to clients across the lifespan. Students will be expected to perform an advanced physical assessment upon a designated client and effectively communicate such findings. The integration of laboratory findings, pathophysiology and physical exam findings will also be addressed. (Requires 40 hours of experience with a nurse practitioner in a student's clinical focus.)

If the student's preceptor is unable to evaluate the student during this advanced physical assessment on a designated client, the exam may be videotaped as an alternative.

**Course Objectives:**

1. Apply theories and concepts from nursing and other disciplines in relation to the process of physical assessment of the individual across the lifespan.
2. Integrate the knowledge of human anatomy and physiology with the identification of clinical findings during the physical assessment process.
3. Utilize the knowledge obtained through systematic data collection to develop nursing diagnoses, to target outcome criteria, and to guide client teaching.
4. Conduct a comprehensive health history and physical assessment on a selected client using correct techniques of assessment.
5. Record data gleaned from the health history and physical assessment in a complete, concise and accurate manner.
6. Synthesize knowledge from nursing science and learning theory to demonstrate praxis teaching in the clinical arena.

**Required Texts and Readings:**

Rhoads, J. (2006). *Advanced health assessment and diagnostic reasoning*. Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams, & Wilkins.

*Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). (2009). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

A diagnostic/laboratory textbook is recommended in this course but is not required. You probably have one of these already.

Additional readings may be assigned throughout the semester.

## Course Assignments and Guidelines:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Unit I Exam  | 20%       |
| 2. Unit II Exam   | 20%       |
| 3. Unit III Exam  | 20%       |
| 4. Comprehensive Health History<br>and Complete Integrated Physical<br>Exam write-up. | 30%       |
| 5. Participation  | 10%       |
| 6. 40 clinical hours evaluated by<br>preceptor or video presentation.                 | Pass/Fail |

### Exams:

There will be three unit exams throughout the semester. **The exams will be posted under the Course Information section on Blackboard.** See the Topical Outline page for dates.

There is a time limit to complete each exam of approximately 60-90 minutes, depending on the number of questions given. These exams will typically include 40-50 multiple choice questions but may also have diagrams and/or short fill in the blank questions.

Each exam will be available on Blackboard for 38 hours (see Topical Outline). While you have this flexibility as to when you sign on to take the exam, once you start it, you MUST complete it in the allotted time frame (usually 60-90 minutes, depending on the exam).

If you are ever taking your exam and there is a malfunction that causes your exam to be interrupted, do not panic. Blackboard will most likely block you from finishing the exam. If you contact me, I can fix the problem. It is usually best to contact me by phone so that I can correct the problem more quickly. If it is not during my office hours, you can call me at home during reasonable hours of the day and evening.

Students must notify me of any intended missed examination. I would strongly encourage you to take the exams at the scheduled times. Any make-up examination is purely at the discretion of the professor and format may vary.

### Comprehensive Health History and Complete Integrated Physical Exam Write-up:

There will be an informational file regarding this assignment posted within the first couple of weeks of classes. **It will be posted in the Course Information Section.**

## **Threaded Discussions and Class Participation:**

There will be weekly (or in some cases bi-weekly) threaded discussions on the **Discussion Board** in Blackboard. The topic will typically be posted on Thursdays. You have until the following Wednesday to respond and engage with your classmates. I would discourage you from waiting until the last day to respond. The class "Participation" grade of 10% will be derived from these discussions. No late postings will be counted toward the grade. If you post your response after the new topic has been posted, it will not be counted.

These discussions should be scientific based. You may utilize information from your text or other readings. Please be sure your sources are credible and that you are referencing the work. Not all discussion boards will require referenced materials.

Each student is expected to participate in these Discussion Board queries. Your interactions should be positive and support the goals and objectives of the course. If you are unable to participate for some reason, please let me know ASAP. With the on-line format of the course, your "presence" is of utmost importance. Think deeply about your responses to your classmates postings. I would like meaningful discussion, not just pure agreement or praise. Too many times students post only comments like "I agree" or "Good job". This does not add much to the depth of the discussions.

## **Clinical Hours:**

**You should have chosen your preceptor by Friday, September 25, 2009.**

**It is important to find these preceptors as quickly as possible because getting a contract is necessary for the agency you will be working in.** These contracts can take some time to obtain. If you are having difficulty, please contact me or Dr. Janeen Sheeche, Department Chair, as soon as possible.

**The necessary paperwork for your clinical experience is located on Blackboard.** Log in and find the "My Organizations" section and click on "MSN NURSING". From there, click on the "Important Information" button. You will need the following forms and information:

### **1) Contract-Cooperating-Teacher/Preceptor Information Form**

- a. It is critical that you get this contract completed ASAP, if not already done by the time you start the course. This contract must be signed by MU's administration and the administration from the institution you choose to work with regarding your clinical time. You CANNOT start clinical experiences without this contract in place.
- b. When you have found your clinical site and have this form completed, please send it to the Department Secretary, Barb Nichols. She is located on the main campus. Her address is: 106 Elliot Hall, Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA 16933.

### **2) Responsibilities of Nurse Preceptor/Student/Faculty Form -- NUR 5500**

- a. Once you have a contract in place with an institution in which you will complete your clinical time, you will then need to have this form signed by the NP you will be working with. You CANNOT start clinical experiences without this form being signed and returned to me.

- b. My address is Jamie Klesh, PhD, APRN; One Guthrie Square, Patterson Building Office 207; Sayre, PA 18840.

**3) Preceptor Evaluation for NUR 5500**

- a. This form should be completed by your NP preceptor at the conclusion of your clinical experience. This form must be completed and returned to me by the end of the semester or your grade cannot be processed.

**Course Grading:**

<b>Acceptable Performance</b>	<b>Marginal Performance</b>	<b>Unacceptable Performance (Failing)</b>
A = 95-100	B- = 83-84	C- = 76-77
A- = 90-94	C+ = 80-82	D+ = 73-75
B+ = 87-89	C = 78-79	D = 70-72
B = 85-86		D- = 66-69
		F = 65 & below

**Unit Outline:****Unit I:**

- ❖ Interviewing and History Taking Strategies
- ❖ Physical Examination Strategies
- ❖ Documentation Strategies
- ❖ Providing Care for Diverse Patient Populations
- ❖ Integumentary Disorders
- ❖ Eye Disorders
- ❖ Ear Disorders
- ❖ Nose, Sinus, Mouth, and Throat Disorders

**Unit II:**

- ❖ Respiratory Disorders
- ❖ Cardiovascular Disorders
- ❖ Gastrointestinal Disorders
- ❖ Endocrine Disorders

**Unit III:**

- ❖ Male Genitourinary Disorders
- ❖ Female Genitourinary Disorders
- ❖ Musculoskeletal Disorders
- ❖ Neurological Disorders
- ❖ Mental Health Disorders

## Course Policies and Other Information:

### General Information/How to Access Help:

The main MU website ([www.mansfield.edu](http://www.mansfield.edu)) can lead you to most of the information you need. Specifically related to graduate education questions are a couple of websites you might find useful. First is the Graduate Studies website (<http://www.mansfield.edu/~graduate/>). From that site there is a “Questions and Answers” link that you may find useful. (<http://www.mansfield.edu/~graduate/QuestionsandAnswers.htm>)

Secondly, you may find important information related to the MSN program once you have logged into Blackboard. Find the “My Organizations” section and click on “MSN NURSING”. From there, click on the “Important Information” button. You will find the graduate nursing handbook and the forms you will need for your immunizations, courses, etc.

The MSN-Nursing, Nurse Educator Program Online Degree website is <http://online.mansfield.edu/what-can-i-study/ms-nursing/>. This provides specific information regarding the nursing program itself.

If you are still struggling with things, please do not hesitate to contact any of the faculty, including me ([jklesh@mansfield.edu](mailto:jklesh@mansfield.edu)) or Dr. Janeen Sheehe who is our Department Chair ([jsheehe@mansfield.edu](mailto:jsheehe@mansfield.edu)).

### Using Blackboard:

This course is run through Blackboard. You may access Blackboard through the following URL: <http://www1.mansfield.edu/blackboard/>. If you are not familiar with how to use the Blackboard system, there is a tutorial available through the library sciences program. You can find the tutorial at the following URL: <http://libweb.mansfield.edu/graduate/tutorial/start.asp>.

### North Hall Library:

Access to the library can be reached through “Quick Links” at the top right of the main Mansfield website ([www.mansfield.edu](http://www.mansfield.edu)). This library is an excellent resource for students. From the library site you can search the various “Databases” including the ones for “Nursing Health Sciences”. There are many including the newest of which is the Cochrane Library, an evidenced base database. The librarians are also very helpful. The librarian that primarily works with the nursing and health sciences department is Matt Syrett. He can be reached at 570-662-4679 and is always willing to help.

### Graduate Education:

Graduate work does require the learner to be self-motivated and work towards your own personal goals for these courses. Additionally, much of the work of on-line education will be done on your own time frame. This can have both advantages and disadvantages. It is your responsibility to meet the deadlines for the course and to be an engaged, participative learner.

### Technology:

To save yourself some potential problems, always back up your work. Also, with an online course, there are bound to be technical problems at times. If you experience technical difficulties, you are responsible for solving your own problems. You can get help through the Mansfield Center for Life-

Long Learning and Information Technology Help Desk (570-662-HELP). The “help” button on Blackboard also has useful information. It is advisable not to wait until the last minute to complete or submit your work because of these potential technological pitfalls. If you are having problems, let me know ASAP.

**Academic Integrity:**

You are expected to do your own academic work. Dishonesty in academic work in any of its forms, including cheating, academic misconduct, fabrication, plagiarism, is unacceptable. Faculty is responsible to instruct students in ways of avoiding these forms of academic dishonesty. Faculty is also responsible for assessing and reporting all charges of academic dishonesty to the provost. Refer to the **Mountie Manual** for further information regarding policies and procedures regarding academic dishonesty. You may also find information on the Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning website, [http://www.mansfield.edu/~effteach/html/academic\\_integrity.html](http://www.mansfield.edu/~effteach/html/academic_integrity.html) for MU’s definition and policies regarding plagiarism. Students found guilty of plagiarism risk failure of the assignment and possibly the course.

**My Philosophy on Grading:**

Criterion-referenced grading will be utilized in this course. There is potential for everyone in this course to earn an “A.” I have no problem with that as long as each learner is putting forth his/her best effort. I hope that the learner will focus more on his/her own learning needs and goals instead of being concerned only with achieving an “A.”

**E-mail Address:**

You must use your university e-mail address for this course. This is especially important given the on-line forum of this program and the fact that I will be communicating regularly through this method. Each student has an address that ends in mansfield.edu. The practice of forwarding your university email account to a personal account is strongly discouraged.

The following website may be of help to you. It gives you information on how to get started in a Mansfield University on-line course. <http://online.mansfield.edu/getting-started/>

**Students with Exceptionalities:**

Any students with documented psychological or learning disorders or other significant medical conditions that may affect their learning should work through Mr. William Chabala in our Counseling Center (South Hall 216, Phone: 662-4798; e-mail [wchabala@mnsfld.edu](mailto:wchabala@mnsfld.edu)) to provide me with the appropriate letter so that I may serve you particular needs more effectively. If you have an exceptionality that requires class or testing accommodations, Mr. Chabala will work with us to identify and implement appropriate interventions.

**Participation, “Attendance”, and Extensions on Assignments:**

Since this is an online forum, your “attendance” will be based on your response to the assigned deadlines for threaded discussions, assignments, etc. Deadlines for exams and assignments should be followed. Extensions for work in this course will be granted only for unusual or extenuating circumstances. These deadlines are especially important for on-line courses as you will be involved in communicating with your peers in the form of discussions and critiquing of each others work.

My participation in most of the discussions will be minimal. I believe it is my role to allow you develop your own thoughts on the materials of this course. I will clarify or correct as necessary. If you do wish to communicate with me, you are always welcome to contact me by e-mail or phone.

**Courtesy Considerations:**

This should be a positive learning experience for everyone. When engaging in discussions or critiquing a peer's work, it should always be done in a constructive manner. I want each learner to feel supported by their peers. Any email messages that are inappropriate or offensive will be forwarded to the provost and appropriate action will be taken.

## Mansfield University Nursing 5500-Topical Outline

Week of:	Topic	Assignment
<b>UNIT I</b>		
8/31/09 & 9/8/09	Strategies for effective health assessment interviewing and history taking; PE strategies; Documentation; Considerations for diverse client populations.	Rhoads Chaps 1-3, Appendix B
9/14/09	Skin/integumentary, hair, nails	Chap. 5
9/21/09	Eyes	Chap. 6
9/28/09	Ear, nose, and throat	Chaps. 7-8
<b><u>Should have clinical preceptor chosen by 9/25/09.</u></b>		
10/5/09	Unit I continued	
<b>UNIT II</b>		
10/12/09	Respiratory system Cardiovascular system	Chap. 9 Chap 10
10/19 & 10/20	Fall Break – No classes	
10/21/09	Gastrointestinal system <i>No discussion board this week d/t Fall Holiday 10/19-10/20</i>	Chap. 11
10/26/09	Endocrine system	Chap. 14
11/2/09	Unit II continued	

**UNIT III**

11/9/09	Male genitourinary system	Chap. 12
11/16/09	Female genitourinary system	Chap. 13
11/23/09	Musculoskeletal system	Chap. 15
11/30/09	Mental health and neurological system <i>Thanksgiving Holiday 11/26 -11/27</i> <i>No discussion board this week.</i>	Chaps. 4 & 16
12/7/08	Unit III continued	

**Important Dates in the Semester:**

- ❖ **Monday 9/7/09:** Labor Day; No Classes
- ❖ **Tuesday 9/8/09:** Last Day to Drop Classes
- ❖ **Wednesday 9/9/09:** Last Day to Add Classes
- ❖ **Monday 10/19/09 and Tuesday 10/20/09:** Fall Holiday; No Classes
- ❖ **Monday 10/26/09:** Spring registration begins for health sciences students
- ❖ **Friday 10/30/09:** Last Day to Withdraw from a Course
- ❖ **Thursday 11/26/09 and Friday 11/27/09:** Thanksgiving Holiday; No Classes
- ❖ **Monday 12/14/09 through Friday 12/18/09:** Final Examination Period;