



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

## FACULTY OF NURSING

**Master of Nursing & Nurse Practitioner Programs**

**N661 Advanced Pathophysiology & Clinical Applications**

**Winter 2011**

**January 11 – April 12**

**Tuesdays 13:00 – 17:00**

**Room: 2253**

**Dr. Karen L. Then RN CCN(C) ACNP PhD  
Professor & Acute Care Nurse Practitioner**

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**University of Calgary, Faculty of Nursing**  
**N661 Advanced Pathophysiology & Clinical Applications**

**Professor: Dr. Karen L. Then**

**Course Description**

This course has specific emphasis on the study of pathophysiological phenomena and clinical applications at an advanced level. The course is designed for nurse practitioner and MN graduate students. Classes will be a combination of didactic presentations, seminars and case studies. Students are invited to explore morbidity and mortality in the Canadian population in general and in their area of focus in particular.

**Course Objectives**

1. Describe and discuss certain concepts pertaining to population health and epidemiology
2. Demonstrate advanced understanding of selected pathophysiological phenomena at the cellular, organ, system and multi-system levels
3. Demonstrate understanding of the epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiology, differential diagnoses, diagnostic tests, relevant research and preliminary management of selected diseases
4. Explore in depth a pathophysiological condition from the student's area of practice/population of focus

**Class Format**

The seminars will be a combination of didactic presentations of the pathophysiological or epidemiological phenomena together with case presentations and clinical applications. **Students are expected to come prepared with questions based on the pre-class readings. All students are expected to participate in class discussions.** Students are encouraged to reflect on the relevance of the topic under discussion as it relates to their area of practice/population of focus. The selection of seminar topics is based on the common diseases and conditions prevalent in the Canadian population.

Class is mandatory for students in the Nurse Practitioner program or those planning to apply for transfer to that program. For others it is essential that students attend class and participate in learning. Content covered in class, as well as, in the readings will be testable.

**Course Requirements**

Students are responsible for the core components of the course. In addition, students are expected to apply the learning of pathophysiology to practice throughout their program of study and beyond. Learning activities relevant to the course include, but are not limited to, a review of the literature, participation in multidisciplinary rounds, observation in operating rooms, laboratories and clinics, review of case records with expert clinicians, accessing the Medical Resources Learning Centre (Bacs Centre) and consultation with resource persons.

**Student Evaluation**

There are two components to evaluation in this course:

- Posted exams on blackboard
- In-class random exams

There are three exams consisting of multiple choice and short answer questions. They will be posted on Blackboard at 09:00 the morning of the exam. Students will return their completed exams by email attachment to Dr. Then no later than 16:00 on the due date.

Each exam is to be completed individually. Exams that are returned late will be penalized five percent (5%) per day. Exams will not be accepted after 3 days unless there are extenuating circumstances that have been discussed in person with Dr. Then prior to the exam submission deadline. The exam dates and weighting will be distributed on the first day of class.

There will also be two random in class exams.

#### **Professional Conduct and Attitude**

Students will demonstrate professional behaviour with colleagues and professors and be conscientiousness and reliable. In addition, students will demonstrate skills necessary for optimal collaborative work and professional life long learning.

#### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Information (such as phone number, addresses, sites of practica, etc.) that you may be asked to provide is collected under the authority of the Universities/Colleges Act and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Section 32(c). It will be used for Practicum placement and for contact purposes. Your personal information is protected by Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and can be reviewed on request. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information, contact the graduate office, Faculty of Nursing, at 220-6241.

#### **Student Academic Conduct**

Students are expected to comply with the academic regulations specified in the University of Calgary Calendar. Intellectual honesty is expected at all times. A single offence of cheating, plagiarism, or other academic misconduct, on term work, text, or final examinations, etc., may lead to disciplinary probation or a student's suspension or expulsion from the Faculty by the Dean, if it is determined that the offence warrants such action (Academic Regulations, University of Calgary Calendar, 2010-2011). Confidentiality of patient/client information must be ensured. Discussion of clinical practice should be restricted to the students and their Faculty of Nursing Clinical Preceptors and mentors.

## Useful Websites

American College of Physicians – Internal Medicine	<a href="http://www.acponline.org">http://www.acponline.org</a>
American Thoracic Society	<a href="http://www.thoracic.org/sections/publications/statements/index.html">http://www.thoracic.org/sections/publications/statements/index.html</a>
American College of Rheumatology	<a href="http://www.rheumatology.org/">http://www.rheumatology.org/</a>
Antibiotic Guide Johns Hopkins	<a href="http://hopkins-abxguide.org/">http://hopkins-abxguide.org/</a>
Arthritis Centre Johns Hopkins	<a href="http://www.hopkins-arthritis.org/">http://www.hopkins-arthritis.org/</a>
Arthritis Health Professionals Association	<a href="http://www.arthritis.ca/ahpa/">http://www.arthritis.ca/ahpa/</a>
Arthritis Information	<a href="http://www.rheuminfo.com/">http://www.rheuminfo.com/</a>
Canadian Cardiovascular Society	<a href="http://www.ccs.ca/home/index_e.aspx">http://www.ccs.ca/home/index_e.aspx</a>
Canadian Council of Cardiovascular Nurses	<a href="http://www.cccn.ca/">http://www.cccn.ca/</a>
Canadian Drug Schedules	<a href="http://www.napra.ca/sortdrug.asp">http://www.napra.ca/sortdrug.asp</a>
Canadian Heart Failure Network	<a href="http://www.chfn.ca/practice-guidelines">http://www.chfn.ca/practice-guidelines</a>
Canadian Lung Association	<a href="http://www.lung.ca/home-accueil_e.php">http://www.lung.ca/home-accueil_e.php</a>
Canadian Respiratory Health Professionals	<a href="http://www.lung.ca/crhp-pcsr/home-accueil_e.php">http://www.lung.ca/crhp-pcsr/home-accueil_e.php</a>
Canadian Rheumatology Association	<a href="http://www.rheum.ca/en/">http://www.rheum.ca/en/</a>
Canadian Society of Internal Medicine	<a href="http://www.csionline.com">http://www.csionline.com</a>
Canadian Thoracic Society	<a href="http://www.lung.ca/cts-sct/home-accueil_e.php">http://www.lung.ca/cts-sct/home-accueil_e.php</a>
Drug Listings, Pharm, SFx (U.S.)	<a href="http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/hp.asp">http://www.rxlist.com/script/main/hp.asp</a>
Epocrates (Click Epocrates online)	<a href="http://www.epocrates.com/index.html?CID=GA_SM1_EPOC_0">http://www.epocrates.com/index.html?CID=GA_SM1_EPOC_0</a>
Heart Sound and Arrhythmias	<a href="http://www.blaufuss.org/">http://www.blaufuss.org/</a>
Infectious Disease Society of America	<a href="http://www.idsociety.org">http://www.idsociety.org</a>
International Osteoporosis Foundation	<a href="http://www.iofbonehealth.org/">http://www.iofbonehealth.org/</a>
Med Formulae Online (e.g. Anion Gap)	<a href="http://www.mdcalc.com/">http://www.mdcalc.com/</a>
National Osteoporosis Foundation	<a href="http://www.nof.org/">http://www.nof.org/</a>
Neurological examination	<a href="http://www.neuroexam.com/">http://www.neuroexam.com/</a>
Osteoporosis: Risk assessment	<a href="http://www.shef.ac.uk/FRAX/">http://www.shef.ac.uk/FRAX/</a>
Patient Education Materials UK	<a href="http://www.patient.co.uk/">http://www.patient.co.uk/</a>
Up-to-Date Online Only on Health Region and UC computers	<a href="http://utdol.com">http://utdol.com</a>

**Grading System (Adopted by Graduate Program Committee – August 2002)**

If grade on assignment is:	Percentage taken from:	If total for all assignments is:	Final grade is:	GPA for the course will be:
A+	4.0	3.95 - 4.00	A+	4.0 Outstanding
A	4.0	3.85 - 3.94	A	4.0 Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.7	3.50 - 3.84	A-	3.7 Very good performance
B+	3.3	3.15 - 3.49	B+	3.3 Good performance
B	3.0	2.85 - 3.14	B	3.0 Satisfactory performance Note: The grade point value (3.0) associated with this grade is the minimum acceptable average that a graduate student must maintain throughout the program as computed at the end of each year of the program
B-	2.7	2.50 - 2.84	B-	2.7 Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Note: Students who accumulate two grades of B- or lower may be required to withdraw from program by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, regardless of their grade point average
C+	2.3	2.15 - 2.49	C+	2.3 Unsatisfactory Note: All grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of graduate studies course requirements
C	2.0	1.85 - 2.14	C	2.0
C-	1.7	1.50 - 1.84	C-	1.7
D+	1.3	1.15 - 1.49	D+	1.3
D	1.0	0.50 - 1.14	D	1.0
F	0	0.00 - 0.49	F	0