NURS 4614 - Adult Health Nursing II

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 101, CRN 18175

Instructor Information

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Office Hours:
Wednesday 5:00pm-7:00pm (virtual)
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If needed, also available by appointment

Times and Location

F 8:30am-11:30am in Academic Innovation Center 127

Course Description

This course provides an expanded knowledge of culturally competent nursing care for adult patients experiencing multi-system and/or complex illnesses. Students will expand their clinical decision making utilizing the nursing process, evidence based research applications, and professionalism in diverse practice settings. This course is 3 hours theory and 9 hours practicum per week. 126 total clinical hours are required for this course. Prerequisites: NURS 3310, NURS 3410, NURS 3412, NURS 3613, NURS 3614, and NURS 4310. Co-requisites: NURS 3411 and NURS 4410.
Nursing Department, College of Nursing&Health Sci

Program Learning Outcomes

1. Synthesize knowledge from the arts, humanities, sciences, and other disciplines in developing a framework for nursing knowledge and practice.

2. Explore the effect of variations in health status, developmental processes, values, beliefs and attitudes, culture, history, and environment on nursing care needs.

3. Use critical thinking, clinical judgment/decision making, problem-solving, and the research process in the development of nursing knowledge and practice.

4. Assess, diagnose, plan, implement, and evaluate evidenced-based and culturally - appropriate safe nursing care with patients, families, populations and communities.

5. Evaluate utilization of health promotion strategies in the development of nursing practice.

6. Develop professional nursing practice frameworks and roles, including the provider of patient-centered care, health care team member/ collaborator, leader/manager, educator, scholar, patient-safety advocate, activist, mentor, and entrepreneur.

7. Evaluate the impact of evolving technological, socioeconomic, political and demographic changes on nursing practice and health care systems.

8. Adhere to legal and ethical principles in the development of professional nursing practice.

9. Articulate a commitment to life-long learning.

10. Participate in nursing- and health-related services.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, each student will:

CO1: Apply concepts and principles from the arts, sciences, humanities, and nursing when making practice decisions for adults and families experiencing multi-system and/or complex illnesses. (PLO 1,3,4) (DEC IB.C, ID.C, IIA.C, IIB.C, IIC.C, IID.C, IIF.C, IIG.C, IIIB.C, IIIC.C, IVA.C, IVB.C, IVC.C, IVE.C, IVF.C) (AACN 1,2,6,7,9) (QSEN 1,2,3,5) (ANA 1,2,3,4,9,13,18)

CO2: Incorporate social, cultural, ethnic, spiritual, psychological, and economic factors when providing nursing care to adults and families experiencing multi-system and/or complex illnesses. (PLO 2,4,5,7) (DEC IIB.C, IIG.C, IVA.C, IVB.C, IVC.C, IVE.C) (AACN 2,3,6,7,9) (QSEN 1,2,4) (ANA 1,2,3,4,5B,8,9,10)

CO3: Use critical thinking; evidence-based knowledge, and interdisciplinary collaboration to develop holistic plans of care for adults and families experiencing multi-system and/or complex illnesses. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5,6) (DEC IB.C, ID.C, IIA.C, IIB.C, IIC.C, IID.C, IIE.C, IIF.C, IIG.C, IIIB.C, IIIC.C, IVA.C, IVB.C, IVC.C, IVD.C, IVE.C, IVF.C) (AACN 1,2,4,5,6,8) (QSEN1,2,3,4,5) (ANA 1,2,3,4,5,5A,5B,6,10,11,14,17)

CO4: Provide accurate, safe, and holistic nursing care to adults and families experiencing multisystem and/or complex illnesses within ethical, legal, and professional nursing boundaries. (PLO 1,2,4,6,7,8) (DEC IA.C, IB.C, ID.C, IIE.C, IIIA.C, IIIB.C, IIIC.C, IIID.C, IVA.C, IVD.C, IVE.C, IVF.C) (AACN 1,2,5,7,8,9) (QSEN 1,2,3,4) (ANA 1,5,6,7,8,10,12,15,16,18)

CO5: Incorporate relevant research when providing the delivery of comprehensive nursing care among diverse populations experiencing multi-system and/or complex illnesses, including individuals, families, and communities (PLO 3,4,5,9,10) (DEC IIA.C, IIC.C, IIIB.C, IIIC.C) (AACN 1,4,5) (QSEN 1,3,4,5) (ANA 13,14,15)

PLO: Program learning objectives; DEC: Differentiated Essential Competencies; (https://www.bon.texas.gov/pdfs/publication_pdfs/Differentiated%20Essential%20Competencies%202021.pdf) QSEN: Quality and Safety Education for Nurses Competencies (https://qsen.org/competencies/prelicensure-ksas/); AACN: American Association of Colleges of Nursing Essentials (https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/AcademicNursing/pdf/Essentials-2021.pdf); ANA: American Nurses Association Code of Ethics. (https://nurse.org/education/nursing-code-of-ethics/)

Important Dates

Visit the Academic Calendar (tamiu.edu) (https://www.tamiu.edu/academiccalendar/) page to view the term's important dates.

Textbooks

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Introduction to Critical Care Nursing (8th edition)	Sole, M, Klein, D and Moseley, M	0323641938
Required	ATI		
Required	HESI Curriculum: HESI testing license: due to be purchased during the first week of class		
Required	Nurse's pocket guide: Diagnoses, prioritized interventions, and rationales (14th Ed.).	Doenges, M., Moorhouse, M., & Murr, A.	0803644752
Required	Any Current Drug Manual		

Other Course Materials

To go to the bookstore, **click here (https://www.bkstr.com/texasaminternationalstore/home)**.

HESI curriculum

HESI Testing license: Due to be purchased during the first week of class.

**** Instructions for HESI payment will be given on first day of class on how to make payment. ****

Faculty is not able to correct any issues with Elsevier, you have to contact them directly. If you are having issues with the process as noted above – please call (800) 222- 9570 – select the 'Student' prompt and a representative can assist you.

Nursing and medical journal subscriptions provided in the library URL: http://tamiu.libguides.com/nursing is a comprehensive resource to aid nursing students and faculty on use of library resources in nursing, medicine, and health. It includes links to databases, books, videos, and other online resources and includes some tutorial material.

• A new subscription to UpToDate, the evidence-based clinical decision resource, is featured on the home page of the Nursing Research Guide. There students will find a link to this resource and to online video tutorials to get them started using it. It also mentions the UpToDate mobile app. Distance Learning @ Killam Library, which is designed to support online learners, URL: http://tamiu.libguides.com/DistEd

• APA Manual 7th edition or online resources provided by faculty and/or writing center.

Grading Criteria

The CONHS/CSON has adopted a grading scale in line with other Texas schools of nursing:

GRADE	PERCENTAGE
A	90-100
B	80-89
C	75-79
F	74 and below

Methods of Evaluation

Assessment:

Assessment	Points
Exams (3) Each 20%	60%
Comprehensive Final Exam	20%
Remediation	5%
Participation Grade: Including all quiz grades, onlingh assingments and learning activities	5%
HESI/ATI Proctored Exam	10%
Total	100%

HESI Exit Exam: At the end of the semester students will be required to take the Proctored standardized course exams. The score on this exam will count as a grade and will count for 10% of the course grade. Grading for this exam will be as follows: 850 or greater: 100. **Students scoring below the benchmark of 850 will receive the conversion score that is assigned by HESI as the grade of record on the gradebook.** Students will receive review packets based on their performance on the HESI exam. These packets will be counted as an assignment for the course and will count as 5% of the course grade. All students will be required to complete the review packets by the due date assigned by course faculty. Failure to complete the review packets will result in the student receiving an Incomplete Grade for the course. Information regarding the Incomplete, Withdraw, and Dismissal process can be found in the TAMIU BSN Handbook https://www.tamiu.edu/conhs/documents/handbooks/bsnhan dbook.pdf

Clinical assignment must meet a minimum standard to pass this course. If you do not successfully meet the minimum standard, you are not passing the course, regardless of your overall course average or exam average. Clinical will include rotations in medical surgical units and an acute care setting (if available) (clinical placement may change based on agency availability but will be arranged to meet all course objectives); days and times for each will vary. (In addition to hands on patient care, clinical will also include nursing lab skills, case studies, online assignments, and simulation activities.

Test Average

The weighted exam average total for the courses includes all exams and the final exam, and is calculated to two decimal places and rounded mathematically as follows:

* Less than 0.45 rounds down to the next whole number (74.44 rounds down to a 74)

* 0.45 or greater: Rounds up to the next whole number (74.45 rounds up to a 75)

Course Average

The final weighted numeric course grade is calculated to two decimal places and rounded mathematically as follows:

* Less than 0.45 rounds down to the next whole number (74.44 rounds down to a 74)

* 0.45 or greater: Rounds up to the next whole number (74.45 rounds up to a 75)

CNHS Examination Policy and Guidelines:

1. All face-to-face class examinations are proctored in a designated, supervised testing area. All Exam dates and formats will be communicated in the course syllabus.
    a. • a. Students must sit in assigned or randomized seats as directed by the instructor or proctor.
    b. • b. All personal belongings, including bags, watches, and phones, must be stored in a designated area away from the testing computer site.
    c. • c. Students are expected to arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start time. Late arrivals of more than 15 minutes without notice may not be admitted and will be considered a missed exam.
    d. • d. All materials brought into an exam must be left in an area designated by the proctor. The faculty or designated proctor will provide students with a pencil and sheet of paper, if allowed.
    e. • e. Students may wear coats or jackets during the examination period at the discretion of the proctor. All long sleeves should be rolled up to the forearms. The lead faculty will determine what additional aids will be allowed or used during the examination.
    f. • f. No food or drinks are allowed during the examination period.
    g. • g. Restroom use during testing will be documented and allowed at the faculty's discretion.
    h. • h. Prohibited behaviors include:
        i. • i. Copying, sharing, or discussing the exam before, during, or after an exam.
        ii. • ii. Using unauthorized aids (e.g., notes, devices, online resources)
        iii. • iii. Impersonating another student or allowing someone else to take an examination.
        iv. • iv. Recording or photographing test materials.
        v. • v. Talking, note sharing, or any form of collaboration.
        vi. •i. Students must complete required computer system checks before the test. The use of a secure testing platform (Lockdown Browser) is mandatory. Once logged in, the student will no longer be able to leave the testing site without notifying the faculty or the proctor. Any form of communication with other students during this time will constitute a violation of the Academic Conduct of the TAMIU Honor Code Rules.
        vii. • j. If the proctor suspects any sharing of information during an examination, all students involved will receive a ZERO (0) on the examination or quiz and are subject to Article 7 Violations of Academic Conduct of the TAMIU Honor Code Rules. This includes:
        viii. • i. Students in possession of cell phones or any other electronic device during an examination (i.e., mobile phones, smartwatches, earbuds, or tablets).
        ix. • ii. Students found obtaining or suspected of obtaining information from sources other than what has been allowed by the faculty or proctor.
2. Professional conduct during testing.
    a. • a. Students are expected to:
        i. • i. Demonstrate honesty, integrity, and respect.
        ii. • ii. Follow all directions given by faculty or proctors.
        iii. • iii. Maintain a quiet and orderly testing environment.
        iv. • iv. Adhere to conduct and professional standards during testing.
3. All exam materials are the property of the Dr. F. M. Canseco School of Nursing.
4. A student who is removed from a quiz or examination for suspected sharing of information may be asked to leave the examination area and will receive a Zero (0).
5. Any student who must be absent from an examination must notify the lead faculty PRIOR to the examination. The lead faculty shall be notified in a written format, preferably via Blackboard Email, that includes a date and time. Students are responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to faculty members of their absence. The faculty member will decide if the excuse is valid and may provide the following option.
    a. • a. The weight of the missed exam may be added to the student's final examination, ONLY upon lead faculty approval. Students who fail to notify the lead faculty before the examination period will not be allowed to carry the weight of the missed exam to their final exam; thus, they will receive a Zero (0) for the missed exam.
6. Only one exam can be missed and allowed to count toward the final exam weight. Any other missed exam(s) will be assigned a grade of ZERO (0).
7. Students who need to leave the examination area prior to completion will be requested to leave all testing materials with the proctor, and the examination is considered completed. Students may not leave the examination area without the proctors' acknowledgement.

8. After the examination period, all examination materials (exam, additional work paper) shall be submitted to the proctor. Students who leave the exam room with any examination material, as a result of their actions, will earn a grade of zero (0) for the exam.
9. Examination grades will be posted per the TAMIU student handbook or course syllabus.
10. Students requiring accommodations must contact the Office of Disability Services.
11. Course faculty may elect to establish other requirements at their discretion, but in no case will these requirements be less stringent than those in this policy.
12. No exam grade shall be dropped when determining the overall course grade.
13. Pop quizzes may be given at the discretion of the lead faculty.
14. The final exam must be taken at the time specified in the course syllabus. If a student is unable to attend the final exam, the student must notify the lead faculty BEFORE the exam takes place. This notification should be submitted in writing, ideally through Blackboard Email, and must include the date and time of the absence. If a student misses the final exam, the lead faculty may, at their discretion, arrange a makeup exam with similar content on a designated date and time
15. Any student with a conflict in exam schedule due to University business (e.g., UIL, athletics) must refer to the TAMIU catalog.

Exams

There will be three (3) exams and a comprehensive final that are used to determine the test average for the course. Any student who is absent due to a medical or other situation must notify lead faculty prior to the examination (test) and provide a written excuse (signed by an MD/hospital discharge papers/obituary etc…) for the major life event (ex: hospitalization, death in the family, etc….). The weight of the missed exam will be added to the student's final examination percentage. A test average of 75 or better is required to pass the course. The faculty reserves the right to give a pop quiz at any time. If the student does not complete the quiz at the designated time during class it will result in a quiz grade of zero, there are no make-up quiz grades.

Case Studies

HESI case studies will be completed as assigned for clinical hours and will be marked for completion. If the case studies are not completed as assigned the student will not pass this class and will not have the complete clinical hours.

Discussion Questions

Discussion questions can be assigned/provided during class to hold discussions during class.

Computer Assisted Curriculum Support:

HESI will be used in the course and completion of HESI is an expectation of the class. The quiz due dates can be found on the course schedule and weekly assignments in Blackboard. A proctored HESI Exam will be administered towards the end of the semester that will include all subjects pertaining to medical surgical nursing. Grades on all quizzes and pre-test/post-test will count toward the participation grade. The HESI exam will count as a separate grade

Student Challenges

Any student having questions regarding exams, papers or course grade, **must make an appointment to see the lead or associate faculty to review the matter no later than two days after grade is received.** Student requests for second evaluator must be made within one week after grade receipt. A second evaluator for exams or papers may be consulted when deemed appropriate by the lead faculty. When a second evaluator for a paper is requested by a student, the grades of the initial evaluator and the second evaluator will be averaged for the grade in question.

Learning Contract

Students will be assigned weekly NCLEX-style questions as part of their coursework. These questions are designed to help prepare them for the endof-course and end-of-program standardized exams, as well as for the NCLEX. The weight of these questions will contribute a percentage to the overall course grade.

Any student who scores **75% or below** on a periodic exam for a nursing course will receive a Learning Contract from the faculty. A Learning Contract is established to support student success in both the course and the BSN program. If a student fails to meet the requirements outlined in the Performance Improvement Plan, the student will receive an Incomplete Grade. This will prevent the student from progressing to the next academic semester.

Academic Honesty

Article 7, Academic Conduct, from Student Handbook

As members in an academic community, students at TAMIU are expected to act with honesty and integrity in their pursuit of higher education, be mature, be self-directed and be able to manage their own affairs. Students who are unwilling to abide by these basic expectations may find themselves facing academic and disciplinary sanctions. Students are expected to share in the responsibility and authority with faculty and staff to challenge and make known acts that violate the TAMIU Honor Code. For more information on the Honor Code, please visit the Office of Student Conduct and Community Engagement website at https://www.tamiu.edu/scce/. TAMIU Faculty have the authority to implement academic rules or impose grade penalties as appropriate. For more information, please visit the TAMIU Faculty Handbook available at http://www.tamiu.edu/senate/handbook.shtml.

Additional Course Information

Course Messages/Emails Students must check Blackboard and their TAMIU e-mail account regularly. **The preferred communication method for contacting Faculty will be TAMIU email and NOT blackboard course messages.** Not having seen an important message sent via TAMIU e-mail from a faculty member is not accepted as an excuse for failure to take important action. Personal Announcements sent to students through TAMIU's UConnect Portal and TAMIU E-mail are the official means of communicating course and university business with students and faculty – not the U.S. Mail and no other e-mail addresses.

While faculty do check e-mail frequently, please allow one (1) business day (Monday through Friday) for responses during weekdays. **Any e-mail sent after office hours (8 am- 5 pm) and/or on weekends (Friday after 5pm, Saturday, and Sunday) will be responded to until the next business day (Monday). No e-mails will be answered during Holidays or school breaks.**

Appointments and Calls

Please call or e-mail faculty to set up meeting appointments. When leaving a voicemail, please leave your name, call-back number, and reason for the call. Remember that nursing faculty teach multiple courses and are not always inside their office on times outside of their set office hours.

Lead faculty is available over the phone during office hours and available via e-mail during business days Monday – Friday from the times of 8 am – 5 pm.

Open communication between students and course faculty is highly encouraged. Each student has continuing access to a faculty advisor regarding individual needs and/or problems. Students are highly encouraged to seek assistance from the faculty.

Communication through Microsoft teams app is encouraged using TAMIU email.

Syllabus Subject to Change

While information and assurances are provided in this course syllabus, it should be understood that content may change in keeping with new research and literature and that events beyond the control of the instructor could occur. Students will be informed of any substantive occurrences that will produce syllabus changes.

Electronic Devices

To minimize interruptions, cellular phones must be turned off (vibration mode is not acceptable) when in classroom or in lab. Laptops are permitted in the classroom as long as it is used for class purposes. Recording devices are not permitted unless previous permission has been granted by instructors. All exams are given online via respondus lockdown browser in Blackboard (unless prior approval was given by instructor); on the day of the exam students are allowed to bring in their cell phone to allow them to log into the exam; after logging in the phones are to be turned off and put in an area designated by the faculty.

Calculators

Simple calculators may be allowed in class however it must be simple, and unable to save data; no scientific models allowed and/or with a cover. Cell phones will not be used as a calculator during class assignments/quizzes or tests. Students are required to use a calculator and not their cell phone to calculate correct medication dosing in the clinical (acute care and school) setting.

Plagiarism Policy

SafeAssign is a plagiarism detection tool built directly into Blackboard that helps promote academic integrity, supports instructors in evaluating student work, and guides students in developing responsible writing practices. Assignments will be submitted through SafeAssign in Blackboard.

Plagiarism will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Each student is expected to submit their own original work unless specific instructions from faculty state otherwise. Submitting work that is copied, improperly cited, or created by another individual—including classmates, AI tools, or online sources—violates academic integrity standards and may result in disciplinary action as outlined in the program's academic policies.

Students are responsible for ensuring their submissions reflect their own understanding, efforts, and scholarly integrity. If questions arise regarding proper citation or use of sources, students should seek clarification before submitting assignments.

Digital Receipts

Once you submit your paper successfully, a digital receipt with a PaperID will be displayed for students on screen and emailed to the student's @dusty.tamiu.edu email address. Be sure to locate this receipt. If a receipt is not generated, go back and submit to the assignment again until a receipt is created.

LockDown Browser Requirement

All online exams must use respondus lockdown browser. If you are using a Chrome book, you will need to purchase Proctorial. Student instructions for purchasing and installing respondus can be found: https://www.tamiu.edu/distance/technology/respondus-ldb-and-monitor.shtml

Download Instructions

Download and install LockDown Browser from this link: https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=795913767

Once Installed:

- • Start LockDown Browser
- • Log into Blackboard Learn
- • Navigate to the test

Remember that LockDown Browser will prevent you from accessing other websites or applications; you will be unable to exit the test until all questions are completed and submitted. Note: You won't be able to access tests with a standard web browser, such as Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome, Safari, etc. If this is tried, an error message will indicate that the test requires the use of LockDown Browser. Simply start LockDown Browser and navigate back to the exam to continue.

Getting Help

Several resources are available if you encounter problems with LockDown Browser.

- • The Windows and Mac versions of LockDown Browser have a "Help Center" button located on the toolbar. Use the "System & Network Check" to troubleshoot issues. If an exam requires you to use a webcam, also run the "Webcam Check" from this areaNURS 4614 201: Adult Health Nursing II | 8
- • If you have any questions about how to use the LockDown Browser, you may contact Instructional Technology and Distance Education Services at (956) 326-2149, emailing elearning@tamiu.edu, or by visiting Killam Library, Room 259.
- • Respondus has a Knowledge Base available from support.respondus.com. Select the "Knowledge Base" link and then select "Respondus LockDown Browser" as the product.
- • If you're still unable to resolve a technical issue with LockDown Browser, go to support.respondus.com and select "Submit a Ticket". Provide detailed information about your problem and what steps you took to resolve it.

Accessibility and Privacy Statements on Course Technologies

At Texas A&M International University, we believe that all students should have equal technology opportunities in the classroom. These technologies/sites may also require user data, such as the creation of a username and password. You may find the accessibility and privacy policies of these technologies on the following pages: Accessibility Statements and Privacy Statements.

Other Policy/Information

Students are held to all policies in the CNHS BSN Handbook.

Teaching Strategies

Power-point, Echo 360 recorded lectures, Discussion Questions, Case Studies, Audio-visual Aids, Quizzes, Independent Readings, Self-Study, Online Assignments, Observation, Clinical Practice, HESI, and simulation lab. The assigned readings and power-point presentations/recorded lectures will be the foundation for each class.

The theory portion of this course is taught face-to-face and teaching strategies include, but not limited to, lecture, live discussions, interactive learning, computer-assisted instruction, self-study, group presentations, case studies, concept maps, assigned readings, etc.

The clinical portion of this course will also be taught face-to-face in the nursing lab (skills and simulations) or clinical setting (hospitals) with instructor-supervised practice or preceptor supervision.

While this course is scheduled face to face, in the event of circumstances beyond the control of the University, course didactic content as well as lab/clinical requirements may need to be provided in an alternate format. Course content and objectives will not change only the method of instruction

Course Structure

I. Management of Care-Using the nursing process as a framework of practice and under the supervision of the faculty the student will provide and direct nursing care (within the scope of their practice) that will ethically enhance the care and protect the adult client with acute and chronic medical/surgical conditions. Care will include a) time management, b) patient/family education, c) patient advocacy d) intra-professional collaboration, e) maintaining patient confidentiality, f) demonstrate written and verbal communication skills that uses appropriate language and approved abbreviations g) receive report prior to providing care and give report at the completion of planned care h) prioritize patient care, and i) use EBP when planning, providing, evaluation, and updating plan of care.

II: Safety and infection control: the student will provide care and direct nursing care to clients 18 years of age and older, self, and others health care personnel from and health and environmental hazards in the in-patient acute care setting through assessing of allergies, protecting from falls, properly identifying the client prior to any care, verifying orders, patient education, proper ergonomic principles, reporting errors or safety issues immediately, following agency protocols for safety, use of appropriate personal protective equipment, hand and following infections control standards.

III. Health Promotion and Maintenance: The student will provide and direct nursing care of the client 18 years of age and greater that is related to prevention, recognition and early detection of new or worsening alterations in health. Activities will include patient education related to need for health screening, immunizations, infection control, and patient specific risk factors

IV. Psychosocial integrity: The student will provide care that promotes the medical surgical client's mental, social, and emotional well-being, through the use of therapeutic communication.

V. Basic care and comfort: The student will provide care that promotes comfort and assistance in meeting basic needs. Includes a) use of assistive devices to compensate for physical or sensory impairments, b) addressing alteration in elimination c) assessing and providing skin care, d) assisting with mobility e) promoting circulation f) assessing and managing pain through both pharmacological and nonpharmacological methods g) monitor and provide for nutritional needs (tube feeding, PO or TPN) h) implement methods to promote rest/sleep i) post-mortem care, and j) ensure provision of ADLs.

VI. Pharmacological and parenteral therapies: The student will safely administer medication and parenteral therapies that include a) observation of blood administration, b) access central venous devices, c) medication calculations d) safely administer medication via PO, tube, IV, IM, central line route, e) patient teaching concerning medication, f) titrate dosage of medication, g) administer pain medication as needed h) handle/manage controlled substances only under the supervision of faculty or approved preceptor following regulatory guidelines, i) evaluate appropriateness, effectiveness, and possible adverse effects of all medication administered.

VII. Reduction of risk potential: The student will develop and implement a plan of care that reduce the risk of injury/complications due existing conditions, treatments or procedures. Nursing care will include a) assess and respond to change in vital signs, patient condition, b) perform diagnostic procedures such as glucose monitoring, ECG, oxygen saturation c) obtain urine, sputum, stool, or wound cultures/specimens, d) insert/apply/maintain NG tube, urinary catheters, enemas, IV lines, TEDs, SCDs, e) prepare and educate client about diagnostic procedures/treatments, f) provide pre, and post-operative care.

VIII. Physiological Adaptation: The student will manage and provide care for adult clients in the acute care setting with chronic, acute or life-threatening health conditions. Nursing care/management will include: a) observe and under supervision assist with invasive procedures b) implement actions to maintain optimal body temperature c) monitor and care of a clients on ventilators d) provide ostomy care, e) suction as needed f) wound care, g) pulmonary hygiene, h) manage clients with fluid and/or electrolyte imbalances i) monitor and care for clients with hemodynamic monitoring devices, j) care for client receiving peritoneal/hemodialysis, j) care of client with a pacemaker, k) care of client in ICU or ED, l) care of client on telemetry, l) patient education on acuter or chronic health problem , k) manage oxygen needs of a client, l) perform emergency procedures such as CPR, m) demonstrate knowledge of pathophysiology, and n) recognize and intervene when client conditions indicate a worsening of condition.

Participation grade

Emphasis is placed on the importance of mutuality in learning throughout the course. Therefore, it is of paramount importance that students recognize their responsibility for active participation in course activities. The success of the experience for everyone will depend to a great degree on the energy and enthusiasm of each member of the class.

Participation grades are designed to enhance student's learning and is meant to be worked on throughout the semester. Weekly assignments are made available in the class schedule and on Blackboard, Elsevier, and Davis Advantage

Assignments and Feedback

All assignments (Care Plans, Teaching Plans, Reflection Papers, Nurse's notes) will be submitted using SafeAssign drop boxes in Blackboard on Sundays before 11:59 pm. All assignments must also comply with the 7th edition APA formatting.

All papers become the property of the School of Nursing. Each student is responsible for ensuring that their assignment(s) are uploaded into the correct assignment drop box following the instructions and time frames provided to them. Once an assignment period has closed, it will NOT be reopened and a grade of zero will be given for the missing assignment.

Instructor will provide feedback to students on their submissions of an assignment or assessment within 24-48 hours.

Rubrics are available in Blackboard for each assignment. Instructor will provide feedback to students on their submissions of an assignment or assessment within 24-48 hours.

Test results will be released within 24 hours after submission in order to properly complete a test analysis.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

In this course, the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools—including but not limited to ChatGPT, Grammarly AI, Quillbot, Bard, Copilot, Jasper, or any other text-generating, paraphrasing, or content-creation software—is strictly prohibited in all nursing coursework unless explicitly authorized in writing by the course faculty. Students must complete and submit all academic and clinical coursework using their own independent work, analysis, and writing.

Allowed: Students may use AI for:

- • Brainstorming: Idea generation, questions to consider, themes or angles to explore.
- • Outlining: Structuring your own paper, presentation, or project (e.g., headings, subheadings, sequence of points).
- • Planning tasks: Milestones, timeliness, checklists for your workflow

Not Allowed: Students may not use AI for:

- • Writing or generating any portion of an assignment
- • Paraphrasing or rewording content
- • Summarizing articles or research
- • Producing discussion board posts or responses
- • Writing care plans, SOAP notes, or clinical documentation
- • Creating PowerPoint slides or poster content
- • Submitting AI-produced text (even if "heavily edited") as your own
- • Producing reference pages
- • Editing grammar, APA, or formatting using AI tools

Source Verification Requirement

The use of automated reference or citation generators (e.g., Zotero, MyBib, Citation Machine) is not recommended and highly discouraged/prohibited to be used due to producing incorrect citations. Citations are to be formatted according to the American Psychological Association manual, following the edition specified in the course syllabus.

Students are required to include direct and clearly accessible links to all sources referenced in their written assignments. This requirement encompasses a diverse range of materials, including but not limited to journal articles, peer-reviewed studies, credible websites, and professional reports. The links should be formatted in a way that directs faculty and instructors straight to the original source, allowing for convenient verification of citations. It is essential that students take the time to double-check their links to guarantee that they lead directly to the content cited, thereby enhancing the overall quality and trustworthiness of their work.

Failure to adhere to the above policy will result in the following consequences:

- • Point Deductions
  - • Any assignments with broken or non-functional links will receive point deductions, impacting the overall grade as dictated by the lead faculty.
- • Exclusion of References
  - • References that cannot be verified due to missing or incorrect links, screenshots, or lack of URLs/DOIs will not be counted toward the assignment's reference requirements.
- • Reduced Academic Integrity
  - • Failure to properly format citations and provide verifiable sources may negatively affect the assessment of the student's work and their ability to demonstrate academic rigor.

- • Repeated or serious violations of the policy will be referred to the TAMIU Honor Code for formal review. This includes, but is not limited to, submission of unverifiable sources, falsified or fabricated references, persistent use of broken or misleading links, or failure to correct issues after written notice.
- • Such referrals may result in institutional sanctions in accordance with university policy, which may include a formal warning, assignment failure, course failure, or additional disciplinary actions as determined by the committee. These measures are implemented to protect the integrity of academic work and uphold professional and ethical standards expected in nursing education.

Class attendance

Students are expected to attend every class in person and to complete all assignments. The CSON adheres to the TAMIU Attendance Rule as stated in the current catalog, Section 3.07 Attendance Rule. In addition, each course has specific attendance requirements for both classroom and clinical activities in order to comply with the SON accreditation requirements. It is the students' responsibility to attend class, simulation, and clinicals as scheduled and to be on time.

Failure to complete or submit a class quiz or complete an exam due to arriving late or leaving class early counts as a class absence and a grade of a zero will be given to that assignment. Class quizzes will not be offered at any other time.

Students are responsible for providing satisfactory evidence (i.e., physician note, medical release, etc.) to faculty members within seven calendar days of their absence and return to class. They must substantiate the reason for absence. If the absence is excused, faculty members must either provide students with the opportunity to make up the exam or other missed work or provide a satisfactory alternative to complete the exam or other work missed within 30 calendar days from the date of absence. Students who miss class due to a University-sponsored activity are responsible for identifying their absences to their instructors with as much advance notice as possible.

Lab/Clinical

This course has a total of 126 clinical hours. Throughout the semester the clinical sites, dates and times are subject to change; this is based on faculty/preceptor/agency availability as well as to provide students with optimal clinical experience.

Clinical hours are required to provide students the opportunities to obtain knowledge and skills to function safely as a professional nurse. Punctuality is expected in the professional workplace. Important information affecting client care is communicated to the students at the start of the clinical experience. Therefore, tardiness for clinical/lab/simulation experience jeopardizes the student's ability to give safe nursing care. **Lab, simulation, and case study experiences are considered clinical experiences.** See CONHS BSN Handbook.

Clinical Instructions:

1. Do not give medications without an instructor or RN preceptor present.
2. Do not perform procedures without an instructor or RN preceptor present.
3. Do not hang blood.
4. Do not hang chemotherapy.
5. Do not give IV narcotics.
6. Do not remove any type of central lines.
7. Do not do anything that requires special certifications.

Clinical Learning Objectives:

Clinical Objectives:
Medical/Surgical Telemetry Units:
By the end of the Medical-Surgical/Telemetry rotation, the senior nursing student will be able to:
1. Conduct comprehensive head-to-toe and focused assessments, integrating telemetry data and relevant diagnostic results into clinical decision-making.
2. Interpret basic cardiac rhythms and recognize dysrhythmias that require nursing intervention or provider notification.
3. Develop and implement prioritized plans of care for patients with multiple comorbidities using the nursing process.
4. Safely manage medication regimens, including cardiac, anticoagulant, diabetic, and pain management therapies, while monitoring for therapeutic and adverse effects.
5. Provide evidence-based nursing care for common medical-surgical conditions (e.g., heart failure, COPD, pneumonia, diabetes, post-operative recovery).
6. Educate patients and families on disease processes, medications, lifestyle modifications, and discharge planning to promote continuity of care.
7. Compose clear, concise nursing notes for medical-surgical/telemetry patients that accurately reflect assessments, medication administration and responses, patient education, and changes in condition, using approved institutional documentation standards.

By the end of the **Intensive Care Unit** rotation, the senior nursing student will be able to:

1. Perform detailed, systematic assessments of critically ill patients, recognizing subtle changes in hemodynamic, neurological, and respiratory status.
2. Interpret and correlate advanced monitoring data (e.g., arterial lines, central venous pressure, ventilator settings, ABGs) with patient condition and plan of care.
3. Demonstrate safe care of patients requiring complex therapies, including mechanical ventilation, titratable IV drips, and invasive lines, under direct supervision.
4. Prioritize and implement nursing interventions for unstable patients using clinical judgment and evidence-based practice.
5. Recognize and respond to signs of clinical deterioration, promptly escalating care and participating appropriately in codes or rapid response situations.
6. Collaborate effectively with the interprofessional critical care team, including physicians, respiratory therapists, and pharmacists.
7. Support patients and families through critical illness by providing clear communication, emotional support, and advocacy.
8. Document comprehensive, timely ICU nursing notes that accurately reflect critical assessments, hemodynamic and ventilator data, titration of continuous IV infusions, patient responses, and communication with the interprofessional team, using approved institutional documentation standards.

By the end of the Emergency Department rotation, the senior nursing student will be able to:
1. Perform an overall head-to-toe assessment on emergency department patients, while prioritizing and expanding detailed, focused assessments based on the chief complaint, mechanism of injury, and patient acuity.
2. Apply primary and secondary survey principles (ABCs) to rapidly identify actual or potential life-threatening conditions and reassess as patient status changes.
3. Demonstrate effective triage and prioritization skills by differentiating between urgent, emergent, and non-emergent conditions under faculty guidance.
4. Initiate timely, evidence-based nursing interventions for common emergency presentations (e.g., chest pain, shortness of breath, stroke symptoms, trauma, sepsis) in accordance with institutional protocols.
5. Safely administer emergency medications and IV therapies, including high-alert medications, while adhering to medication administration standards and institutional policy.
6. Recognize clinical deterioration and promptly communicate changes in patient condition using structured communication tools (e.g., SBAR).
7. Collaborate with the interprofessional team during emergency situations, including participation in rapid response or code situations as appropriate to the student's role.
8. Demonstrate therapeutic communication and patient education for patients and families experiencing acute illness, stress, or crisis.
9. Apply legal, ethical, and culturally responsive care principles in a fast-paced and unpredictable emergency care environment.
10. Document timely, focused emergency nursing notes that accurately reflect the initial head-to-toe assessment, prioritized focused reassessments, interventions performed, patient responses, and communication with the interprofessional team, using approved emergency department documentation standards.

Clinical Hour Breakdown: This course has a total of 126 hours of clinical.

Clinical Eperience	Hours
Computer activities (separate from didactic; computer activities with planned clinical objectives which may include virtual clinical excursions VCEs), interactive tutorials, and learning modules that are carried out as student assignments)	2
Nursing Skills Lab (including low- and medium-fidelity situations that include skill sets, task training, and return demonstration, and may mimic the clinical environment)	16
Simulation Lab experiences (high-fidelity simulated clinical situations that include orientation, learning objectives, and simulation experiences in a realistic patient scenario guided by trained faculty and followed by a debriefing and evaluation of student performance)	12
Direct Patient Care	96
Total	126
Total	100%

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Day	Date	Agenda/Topic	Reading(s)	Due
Fri	8/28	Review Syllabus/Respiratory Lecture	Sol et al Chapters Ch. 10-Ventilatory assistance Ch. 15-Acute respiratory failure	Math Quiz, Must score 100% before going to clinical sites Skills days to be determined. Weekly ATI assignment.
Fri	9/4	Cardiovascular System Lecture	Sole et al Chapters Ch. 8-Dysrhythmia interpretation and management Ch. 9-Hemodynamic Monitoring Ch 13-Cardiovascular Alterations	Weekly ATI Skills day 2
Fri	9/11	Exam 1	Covering Respiratory/Cardiovascular Disorders	Location TBD
Fri	9/18	Shock/ACLS/Code Management	Sole et al Chapters Ch 11-Rapid Response Teams and Code Management Ch 12-Shock, sepsis, and multiple organ dysfunction syndromes	Weekly ATI
Fri	9/25	Neurovascular System	Sole et al Chapters Ch 14-Nervous system alterations	
Fri	10/2	Trauma/Integumentary System	Sole et al Chapters Ch 20-Trauma and Surgical Management Ch 21-Burns Ch 23-Concepts of Care for Patients with Skin Problems	
Fri	10/9	Exam 2	Covering Rapid Response/Code, Sepsis, Neuro, Trauma, Skin	Location TBD
Fri	10/16	Renal System	Sole et al Chapters Ch 16 Acute kidney injury	Weekly ATI
Fri	10/23	Gastrointestinal Alterations	Ch 18 Gastrointestinal Alterations	Weekly ATI
Fri	10/30	Endocrine	Sole et al Chapters Ch 19- Endocrine alterations	Weekly ATI
Fri	11/6	Exam 3	Covering Endocrine, GI, Renal	LOCATION TBD
Fri	11/13	Musculoskeletal System	Sole et al Chapters Ch 20-Trauma and Surgical Management	Weekly ATI
Fri	11/20	Hematology HESI Review	Sole et al Chapters Ch 17-Concepts of Care for Patients with HIV Disease Ch 18- Concepts of Care for Patients with Hypersensitivity (Allergy) and Autoimmunity	11/19- Drop Day
Fri	11/27	No Class		
Fri	12/4	AH2 HESI	HESI Monday 11/30. Final Exam will be Monday 12/8/26	Location for HESI and Final TBD

University/College Policies

Please see the University Policies below.

COVID-19 Related Policies

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, please refer to the Student Handbook, Appendix A (Attendance Rule) for instructions.

Required Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend every class in person (or virtually, if the class is online) and to complete all assignments. If you cannot attend class, it is your responsibility to communicate absences with your professors. The faculty member will decide if your excuse is valid and thus may provide lecture materials of the class. According to University policy, acceptable reasons for an absence, which cannot affect a student's grade, include:

- Participation in an authorized University activity.
- Death or major illness in a student's immediate family.
- Illness of a dependent family member.
- Participation in legal proceedings or administrative procedures that require a student's presence.
- Religious holy day.
- Illness that is too severe or contagious for the student to attend class.
- Required participation in military duties.
- Mandatory admission interviews for professional or graduate school which cannot be rescheduled.

Students are responsible for providing satisfactory evidence to faculty members within seven calendar days of their absence and return to class. They must substantiate the reason for the absence. If the absence is excused, faculty members must either provide students with the opportunity to make up the exam or other work missed, or provide a satisfactory alternative to complete the exam or other work missed within 30 calendar days from the date of absence. Students who miss class due to a University-sponsored activity are responsible for identifying their absences to their instructors with as much advance notice as possible.

Classroom Behavior (applies to online or Face-to-Face Classes)

In the classroom, students are expected to listen attentively, participate respectfully, and adhere to established rules. Behavior that interferes with the class lecture may result in disciplinary action, ensuring a productive and respectful learning environment for everyone. Any disputes over academic matters should be addressed calmly and constructively, ideally during designated times such as office hours or after class. If a student does not agree with a decision, they can request a meeting with the instructor to discuss their concerns in more detail. Should further resolution be needed, the student may escalate the matter to the department head or use formal grievance procedures as outlined in the sections below. (please refer to Student Handbook Article 4 (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/article-04.shtml)).

TAMIU Honor Code: Plagiarism and Cheating

As a TAMIU student, you are bound by the TAMIU Honor Code to conduct yourself ethically in all your activities as a TAMIU student and to report violations of the Honor Code. Please read carefully the Student Handbook Article 7 and Article 10 available at Student Handbook (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/index.shtml).

We are committed to strict enforcement of the Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code tend to involve claiming work that is not one's own, most commonly plagiarism in written assignments and any form of cheating on exams and other types of assignments.

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's work as your own. It occurs when you:

1. Borrow someone else's facts, ideas, or opinions and put them entirely in your own words. You must acknowledge that these thoughts are not your own by immediately citing the source in your paper. Failure to do this is plagiarism.
2. Borrow someone else's words (short phrases, clauses, or sentences), you must enclose the copied words in quotation marks as well as citing the source. Failure to do this is plagiarism.
3. Present someone else's paper or exam (stolen, borrowed, or bought) as your own. You have committed a clearly intentional form of intellectual theft and have put your academic future in jeopardy. This is the worst form of plagiarism.

Here is another explanation from the 2020, seventh edition of the Manual of The American Psychological Association (APA):

"Plagiarism is the act of presenting the words, idea, or images of another as your own; it denies authors or creators of content the credit they are due. Whether deliberate or unintentional, plagiarism violates ethical standards in scholarship" (p. 254). This same principle applies to the illicit use of AI.

Plagiarism: Researchers do not claim the words and ideas of another as their own; they give credit where credit is due. Quotations marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author (i.e., summarize a passage or rearrange the order of a sentence and change some of the words), you need to credit the source in the text. The key element of this principle is that authors do not present the work of another as if it were their own words. This can extend to ideas as well as written words. If authors model a study after one done by someone else, the originating author should be given credit. If the rationale for a study was suggested in the discussion section of someone else's article, the person should be given credit. Given the free exchange of ideas, which is very important for the health of intellectual discourse, authors may not know where an idea for a study originated. If authors do know, however, they should acknowledge the source; this includes personal communications (p. 11). For guidance on proper documentation, consult the Academic Success Center or a recommended guide to documentation and research such as the

Manual of the APA or the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. If you still have doubts concerning proper documentation, seek advice from your instructor prior to submitting a final draft.

TAMIU has penalties for plagiarism and cheating.

- **Penalties for Plagiarism**: Should a faculty member discover that a student has committed plagiarism, the student should receive a grade of 'F' in that course and the matter will be referred to the Honor Council for possible disciplinary action. The faculty member, however, may elect to give freshmen and sophomore students a "zero" for the assignment and to allow them to revise the assignment up to a grade of "F" (50%) if they believe that the student plagiarized out of ignorance or carelessness and not out of an attempt to deceive in order to earn an unmerited grade; the instructor must still report the offense to the Honor Council. This option should not be available to juniors, seniors, or graduate students, who cannot reasonably claim ignorance of documentation rules as an excuse. For repeat offenders in undergraduate courses or for an offender in any graduate course, the penalty for plagiarism is likely to include suspension or expulsion from the university.
  - *Caution*: Be very careful what you upload to Turnitin or send to your professor for evaluation. Whatever you upload for evaluation will be considered your final, approved draft. If it is plagiarized, you will be held responsible. The excuse that "it was only a draft" will not be accepted.
  - *Caution*: Also, do not share your electronic files with others. If you do, you are responsible for the possible consequences. If another student takes your file of a paper and changes the name to his or her name and submits it and you also submit the paper, we will hold both of you responsible for plagiarism. It is impossible for us to know with certainty who wrote the paper and who stole it. And, of course, we cannot know if there was collusion between you and the other student in the matter.
- **Penalties for Cheating**: Should a faculty member discover a student cheating on an exam or quiz or other class project, the student should receive a "zero" for the assignment and not be allowed to make the assignment up. The incident should be reported to the chair of the department and to the Honor Council. If the cheating is extensive, however, or if the assignment constitutes a major grade for the course (e.g., a final exam), or if the student has cheated in the past, the student should receive an "F" in the course, and the matter should be referred to the Honor Council. Additional penalties, including suspension or expulsion from the university may be imposed. Under no circumstances should a student who deserves an "F" in the course be allowed to withdraw from the course with a "W."
  - *Caution*: Chat groups that start off as "study groups" can easily devolve into "cheating groups." Be very careful not to join or remain any chat group if it begins to discuss specific information about exams or assignments that are meant to require individual work. If you are a member of such a group and it begins to cheat, you will be held responsible along with all the other members of the group. The TAMIU Honor Code requires that you report any such instances of cheating.
- **Student Right of Appeal**: Faculty will notify students immediately via the student's TAMIU e- mail account that they have submitted plagiarized work. Students have the right to appeal a faculty member's charge of academic dishonesty by notifying the TAMIU Honor Council of their intent to appeal as long as the notification of appeal comes within 10 business days of the faculty member's e-mail message to the student and/or the Office of Student Conduct and Community Engagement. The Student Handbook provides more details.

Use of Work in Two or More Courses

You may not submit work completed in one course for a grade in a second course unless you receive explicit permission to do so by the instructor of the second course. In general, you should get credit for a work product only once.

AI Policies

Your instructor will provide you with their personal policy on the use of AI in the classroom setting and associated coursework.

TAMIU E-Mail and SafeZone

Personal Announcements sent to students through TAMIU E-mail (tamiu.edu or dusty email) are the official means of communicating course and university business with students and faculty –not the U.S. Mail and no other e-mail addresses. Students and faculty must check their TAMIU e-mail accounts regularly, if not daily. Not having seen an important TAMIU e-mail or message from a faculty member, chair, or dean is not accepted as an excuse for failure to take important action.

Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to download the SafeZone app, which is a free mobile app for all University faculty, staff, and students. SafeZone allows you to: report safety concerns (24/7), get connected with mental health professionals, activate location sharing with authorities, and anonymously report incidents. Go to SafeZone (https://www.tamiu.edu/adminis/police/safezone/index.shtml) for more information.

Copyright Restrictions

The Copyright Act of 1976 grants to copyright owners the exclusive right to reproduce their works and distribute copies of their work. Works that receive copyright protection include published works such as a textbook. Copying a textbook without permission from the owner of the copyright may constitute copyright infringement. Civil and criminal penalties may be assessed for copyright infringement. Civil penalties include damages up to $100,000; criminal penalties include a fine up to $250,000 and imprisonment. Copyright laws do not allow students and professors to make photocopies of copyrighted materials, but you may copy a limited portion of a work, such as article from a journal or a chapter from a book for your own personal academic use or, in the case of a professor, for personal, limited classroom use. In general, the extent of your copying should not suggest that the purpose or the effect of your copying is to avoid paying for the materials. And, of course, you may not sell these copies for a profit.

Thus, students who copy textbooks to avoid buying them or professors who provide photocopies of textbooks to enable students to save money are violating the law.

Students with Disabilities

Texas A&M International University seeks to provide reasonable accommodations for all qualified persons with disabilities. This University will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal education opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to register with the Office of Disability Services for Students located in Student Center 124. This office will contact the faculty member to recommend specific, reasonable accommodations. Faculty are prohibited from making accommodations based solely on communications from students. They may make accommodations only when provided documentation by the Office of Disability Services for Students.

For accommodations or assistance with disabilities, contact the Disability Coordinator, Karla Pedraza, at karla.pedraza@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2763, or visit Student Center 124.

Student Attendance and Leave of Absence (LOA) Policy

As part of our efforts to assist and encourage all students towards graduation, TAMIU provides
LOA's for students, including pregnant/parenting students, in accordance with the Attendance Rule (Section 3.07) and the Student LOA Rule (Section 3.08), which includes the "Leave of Absence Request" form. Both rules can be found in the TAMIU Student Handbook (URL: Student Handbook (https://www.tamiu.edu/handbook/index.shtml)).

Pregnant and Parenting Students

Under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, harassment based on sex, including harassment because of pregnancy or related conditions, is prohibited. A pregnant/parenting student must be granted an absence for as long as the student's physician deems the absence medically necessary. It is a violation of Title IX to ask for documentation relative to the pregnant/parenting student's status beyond what would be required for other medical conditions. Students who experience or observe alleged or suspected discrimination due to their pregnant/parenting status, should report to the TAMIU Title IX Coordinator (Lorissa M. Cortez, 5201 University Boulevard, KLM 159B, Laredo, TX 78041, TitleIX@tamiu.edu, 956.326.2857) and/or the Office of Civil Rights (Dallas Office, U.S. Department of Education, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620, Dallas, TX 75201-6810, 214.661.9600). You can also report it on TAMIU's anonymous electronic reporting site, *Report It*, at https://www.tamiu.edu/reportit (https://www.tamiu.edu/reportit/index.shtml).

TAMIU advises a pregnant/parenting student to notify their professor once the student is aware that accommodations for such will be necessary. It is recommended that the student and professor develop a reasonable plan for the student's completion of missed coursework or assignments. The Office of Compliance (Lorissa M. Cortez, lorissam.cortez@tamiu.edu) can assist the student and professor in working out the reasonable accommodation. For other questions or concerns regarding Title IX compliance related to pregnant/parenting students, contact the Title IX Coordinator. In the event that a student needs a leave of absence for a substantial period of time, TAMIU urges the student to consider a Leave of Absence (LOA) as outlined in the TAMIU *Student Handbook*.#As part of our efforts to assist and encourage all students towards graduation, TAMIU provides LOAs for students, including pregnant/parenting students, in accordance with the Attendance Rule and the Student LOA Rule.#Both rules can be found in the TAMIU *Student Handbook*.

For parenting-related rights, accommodations, and resources, contact the Parenting Liaison, Mayra Hernandez, at mghernandez@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2265, or visit Student Center 226.

For pregnancy-related rights, accommodations, and resources, contact the TIX Coordinator, Lorissa Cortez, at lorissaM.cortez@tamiu.edu, call 956.326.2857, or visit Killam Library 159.

Anti-Discrimination/Title IX

TAMIU does not discriminate or permit harassment against any individual on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, educational programs, or employment. If you would like to file a complaint relative to Title IX or any civil rights violation, please contact the TAMIU Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity/Title IX Coordinator, Lorissa M. Cortez, 5201 University Boulevard, Killam Library 159B, Laredo, TX 78041, TitleIX@tamiu.edu, 956.326.2857, via the anonymous electronic reporting website, ReportIt (https://www.tamiu.edu/reportit) and/or the Office of Civil Rights (Dallas Office), U.S. Department of Education, 1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620, Dallas, TX 75201-6810, 214.661.9600.

Incompletes

Students who are unable to complete a course should withdraw from the course before the final date for withdrawal and receive a "W." To qualify for an "incomplete" and thus have the opportunity to complete the course at a later date, a student must meet the following criteria:

1. The student must have completed 90% of the course work assigned before the final date for withdrawing from a course with a "W", and the student must be passing the course;

2. The student cannot complete the course because an accident, an illness, or a traumatic personal or family event occurred after the final date for withdrawal from a course;
3. The student must sign an "Incomplete Grade Contract" and secure signatures of approval from the professor and the college dean.
4. The student must agree to complete the missing course work before the end of the next long semester; failure to meet this deadline will cause the "I" to automatically be converted to an "F"; extensions to this deadline may be granted by the dean of the college. This is the general policy regarding the circumstances under which an "incomplete" may be granted, but under exceptional circumstances, a student may receive an incomplete who does not meet all of the criteria above if the faculty member, department chair, and dean recommend it.

WIN Contracts

The Department of Biology and Chemistry does not permit WIN contracts. For other departments within the college, WIN Contracts are offered only under exceptional circumstances and are limited to graduating seniors. Only courses offered by full-time TAMIU faculty or TAMIU instructors are eligible to be contracted for the WIN requirement. However, a WIN contract for a course taught by an adjunct may be approved, with special permission from the department chair and dean. Students must seek approval before beginning any work for the WIN Contract. No student will contract more than one course per semester. Summer WIN Contracts must continue through both summer sessions.

Student Responsibility for Dropping a Course

It is the responsibility of the student to drop the course before the final date for withdrawal from a course. Faculty members, in fact, may not drop a student from a course without getting the approval of their department chair and dean.

Independent Study Course

Independent Study (IS) courses are offered only under exceptional circumstances. Required courses intended to build academic skills may not be taken as IS (e.g., clinical supervision and internships). No student will take more than one IS course per semester. Moreover, IS courses are limited to seniors and graduate students. Summer IS course must continue through both summer sessions.

Grade Changes & Appeals

Faculty are authorized to change final grades only when they have committed a computational error or an error in recording a grade, and they must receive the approval of their department chairs and the dean to change the grade. As part of that approval, they must attach a detailed explanation of the reason for the mistake. Only in rare cases would another reason be entertained as legitimate for a grade change. A student who is unhappy with his or her grade on an assignment must discuss the situation with the faculty member teaching the course. If students believe that they have been graded unfairly, they have the right to appeal the grade using a grade appeal process in the Student Handbook and in the Faculty Handbook.

Final Examination

All courses in all colleges must include a comprehensive exam or performance and be given on the date and time specified by the Academic Calendar and the Final Exam schedule published by the Registrar's Office. In the College of Arts & Sciences all final exams must contain a written component. The written component should comprise at least 20% of the final exam grade. Exceptions to this policy must receive the approval of the department chair and the dean at the beginning of the semester.

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it. The Telus app is available to download directly from TELUS (tamiu.edu) (https://www.tamiu.edu/counseling/telus/) or from the Apple App Store and Google Play.