



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND HEALTH

HLTH 518: Clinical Pharmacology

30 POINTS
TRIMESTER 1 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3 April to 19 April 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

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SECTION 1: OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Class times and locations

1st School

Dates: Monday 2 & Tuesday 3 March 2015
Times: 0830 - 1630 daily
Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

2nd School

Dates: Wednesday 1 & Thursday 2 April 2015
Times: 0830 - 1630 daily
Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

3rd School

Dates: Thursday 7 & Friday 8 May 2015
Times: 0830 - 1630 daily
Venue: CS801, Level 8, Clinical Services Building (CSB), Wellington Regional Hospital, Riddiford St, Newtown, Wellington

Important Notice

The Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health at Victoria University of Wellington, uses all reasonable skill and care in an effort to ensure the information and course content information contained in this outline is accurate at the time of going to print.

Students should be aware, however, that in the event course timetables and venues need to be changed, all attempts will be made to notify the students.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator & Contact Details

Dianne Sika-Paotonu
Ph: (04) 463 6150
Email: dianne.sika-paotonu@vuw.ac.nz
Office Hours: Tuesday 1-4pm

Postgraduate Student Administrator

Belinda Tuari
Ph: 04 463-6647
Email: belinda.tuari@vuw.ac.nz

Office Hours

The Graduate School office will be open Monday 5 January 2015 and close on Friday 18 December 2015 from 9.00am – 4.00pm weekdays.

In keeping with the practice of other years, academic staff will not be available on Fridays, except for the times they are involved in Schools. Please contact the course coordinator directly either by telephone or email should you wish to make an appointment or discuss course related issues.

Postal Address

Graduate School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health
Victoria University of Wellington
P O Box 7625
Newtown
Wellington 6242

Physical Address

Level 7, Clinical Services Block (CSB)
Wellington Regional Hospital
Riddiford St, Newtown
Wellington 6021

Communication of additional information

All course information and information on changes that occur during the course will be conveyed to students via Blackboard and during the Schools.

SECTION 2: COURSE INFORMATION

Prescription

This course examines principles of clinical pharmacology and therapeutics in the context of safe and quality use of medicines.

Course content

This course examines principles of pharmacology, complex pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics with an aim towards safe and effective administration of medication.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. understand and demonstrate knowledge of essential pharmacologic principles and concepts relevant to clinical practice
2. apply advanced knowledge of the essential pharmacologic principles and concepts to clinical practice
3. understand and critically analyse the practice of medication use in the following systems: Antimicrobials, Cardiovascular conditions, Thromboembolism prophylaxis and anticoagulation, Glycemic control, Respiratory treatments, Analgesia, Psychiatric states, Drugs in the Elderly
4. understand current issues related to drug treatment of relevance to New Zealanders such as: Drugs of abuse and addiction in New Zealand, Drug withdrawal syndromes, Drug overdose, Adverse drug events, Adverse drug reactions, Recreational drug use, Medicines Reconciliation.

Teaching format

This course is taught using a blended learning approach. There will be six contact days, and a distance component supported by Blackboard. The course assessment and teaching facilitates student engagement and learning of essential knowledge.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. attend all Schools unless under special circumstances prior arrangements have been made with the course coordinator
2. complete **all** pieces of assessment and achieve a minimum of 40% in Assessment One and in Assessment Two.

Workload

As a guide each 30-point course at the Graduate School requires students to allocate approximately 10 hours per point for self-directed study, research, assessments and attendance at Schools. Consequently 300 hours should be spread evenly over the 12-week trimester. Compulsory text readings will be required to ensure adequate coverage and full understanding of course topics - details will be provided via blackboard.

This course is comprised of approximately 50 hours of contact time for lectures and tests with the average time notionally assigned for the completion of each assessment task being:

1. Assessment 1 Test (30%): 75 hours
2. Assessment 2 Test (40%): 100 hours
3. Assessment 3 Case study (30%): 75 hours

SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Test (1 ½ hours)	30%	1	2 April 2015
2	Test (2 hours)	40%	1, 2, 3, 4	8 May 2015
3	Case Study (3000 words)	30%	1, 2, 3, 4	2 June 2015

Approval is required in writing from the Course Coordinator if you wish to use work you have submitted from a previous course or have written for your organisation.

Marking criteria for each assessment will be made available on Blackboard.

Assessment Number One

Assignment: **Test**

Date: Thursday 2 April 2015

Duration: 1 ½ hours

This assignment is worth 30% of your final grade

This will be an in-course test held during the Second School and will be administered in a timed and supervised setting. Questions will address content previously covered in modules, readings and in scheduled class meetings.

This assignment meets learning objective: 1.

Assessment Number Two

Assignment: **Test**

Due Date: Friday 8 May 2015

Duration: 2 hours

This assignment is worth 40% of your final grade

This will be an in-course test held during the third School and will be administered in a timed and supervised setting. Questions will address content previously covered in modules, readings and in scheduled class meetings.

This assignment meets learning objectives: 1, 2, 3 & 4.

Assessment Number Three

Assignment: **Case study**

Due Date: Tuesday 2 June 2015

Word Count: 3000 words

This assignment is worth 30% of your final grade

Please submit a patient case study of up to 3000 words (maximum) which examines in detail the use of one particular medicine prescribed for the selected patient. Your case study assignment should include:

1. an overview of the patient
2. identification and list of all the medicines prescribed to this patient
3. the selection of one particular medicine prescribed for further discussion.

Current literature should be utilised and properly referenced.

This assignment meets learning objectives: 1, 2, 3 & 4.

Please submit this assignment via Blackboard.

Submission and return of work

For submission details, please see individual assessment items. Student coursework assignments submitted by the due date will normally be returned with feedback within three weeks of the due date.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

An extension to a deadline will only be considered where there are extenuating circumstances. An application for an extension must be made by you in writing/e-mail to the course coordinator at least 24 hours before the due date. When communicating your request you must include the following information:

- name, student number and contact details
- course code
- date of submission and request date for new submission
- reason for extension request

Upon receipt of your request, course coordinators may grant an extension of up to 2 weeks. Any further request for an extension may require Head of School approval.

Penalties

Late assignments or assignments with extensions may be subject to delays in marking and may not receive comprehensive feedback.

A penalty will be incurred for late submission of work **where no prior arrangement** has been made as follows:

- Work submitted up to 7 days after the due date without an extension will receive a 2 grade penalty. For example a B+ to a B-.
- Work submitted 8-14 days after the due date without an extension will receive a 4 grade penalty. For example a B+ to a C.
- Work submitted more than 15 days late without an extension will not be marked and will receive an 'E' (fail) grade.

Other marking penalties

Assignments may also be penalised for poor presentation and for exceeding the word limit.

SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Set texts

Rang, H. P., Dale, M. M., Ritter, J. M., Flower, R. J., & Henderson, G. (2011). *Pharmacology* (7th ed.). Edinburgh: Churchill Livingstone.

Maling, T., Burgess, C., & Cameron, C. (2010). *Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics* (12th ed.). Wellington: School of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Otago.

In addition, students will be asked to read current journal articles and consult websites from a list with links posted on Blackboard. All will be accessible via Blackboard links or will be posted as e-reserve at the Victoria electronic library.

To purchase a copy of the "*Clinical pharmacology and therapeutics* (12th ed.)", please get in touch with the Medical School directly by contacting:

Alison Edmonds
Department of Medicine
University of Otago,
Wellington
Ph: (04) 9186923
Email: alison.edmonds@otago.ac.nz

A copy of the Rang & Dale "*Pharmacology* (7th ed.)" textbook may be obtained from Vic Books: www.vicbooks.co.nz.

Copies may also be obtained from www.fishpond.co.nz or <http://www.amazon.com/>.

Pre-readings

Compulsory and recommended readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Note: *Students are encouraged to familiarise themselves with some of the basic science principles which influence pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, and mechanism of action/absorption prior to the commencement of this course. This information can be derived from the required/recommended texts below.*

Recommended reading

McKenna, L., & Mirkov, S. (2012). *Nursing and midwifery drug handbook* (6th ed.). Sydney, NSW, Australia: Wolters Kluwer, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Begg, E.J. (2008). *Instant clinical pharmacology* (2nd ed.). Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.

Katzung, B., Masters, S., & Trevor, A. (2011). *Basic and clinical pharmacology* (12th ed.). United States: Lange Basic Science.

Recommended Websites

Link to Medsafe medicine data sheets: www.medsafe.govt.nz

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Blackboard information

Students enrolling for this course will need access to the Victoria flexible learning system (Blackboard) via the Internet.

Blackboard is an online environment that supports teaching and learning at Victoria by making course information, materials and learning activities available online via the internet. Blackboard provides web-based access to course content, assessment, communication and collaboration tools. Instructions for using this will be provided as part of timetable during the 1st School. Students will need to be able to access the Internet on a regular basis.

The following software, which is necessary for using material on Blackboard, is freely available to download from the internet if you don't already have it:

- Netscape Communicator v 4.78 or higher (v. 7.1 recommended) OR
- Microsoft Internet Explorer v. 5.2.x or higher
- MS Windows 2000 or XP/ MacOS 9 or Mac OS X.2 or higher

Other software: Adobe Acrobat Reader - free download from www.adobe.com/products/acrobat

Students are encouraged to use Endnote to manage the research material they use and cite. Endnote can be obtained at <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/guides/endnote.html>

Microsoft Office or Microsoft Viewers. The viewers can be downloaded free of charge from: www.microsoft.com/office/000/viewers.asp

Computer skills required:

- Internet browsing skills
- Basic word processing skills

How to log onto Blackboard

- Open a web browser and go to myVictoria.ac.nz
- Enter your account username which you can find in your *Confirmation of Study* sheet
- It is usually made up of 6 letters of your last name and 4 letters of your first name
- Enter your password. If you have never used Victoria computer facilities your initial password is your student ID number
- Click on the Blackboard icon
- Alternatively, if you want to access Blackboard without going through the myVictoria portal, just log on at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>

Off Campus access

Blackboard is available from any location where you can access the Internet. This may be your home, work or an Internet café.

Problems with access? Contact ITS service desk **04 463 5050**