

# AHS 126 HEALTH CALCULATIONS

**COURSE:** AHS 126

**INSTRUCTOR:** Theresa Wright, RN, MSN/ED

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Office hours: posted each semester outside office door and by appointment with individuals.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is a study of the principles and applications of computations used in the clinical setting.

**CREDIT HOURS:** 2 credits (2 hours of lecture per week)

**TEACHING STRATEGIES:** Lecture, class discussions, reading assignments, individual and group presentations, small group practice sessions, skill demonstrations, audio-visual materials, paper and pencil tests.

**REQUIRED TEXTS AND SUPPLIES**

Ogden, Sheila J., Calculation of Drug Dosages 8<sup>th</sup> edition, 2007.

**METHOD OF EVALUATION**

Unit tests	70%
Quizzes	10%
Final Exam	20%

\*\*If no quizzes are given, the tests will be worth 80%.\*\*

**GRADING SCALE**

A.....	93 – 100
B.....	85 – 92
C.....	75 – 84
D.....	70 – 74
F.....	69 and below

A grade of “C” or better is required for successful completion of AHS 107.

**ALL STUDENTS MUST MAINTAIN A “C” OR BETTER IN EACH COURSE TO REMAIN IN THE PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM.**

**COLLATERAL READING:****CLASS MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES (Attendance, tardies, testing, etc.):**Academic Dishonesty:

NETC honors the state TEC Student Code with regard to Academic Dishonesty. Students should read page 51 of the NETC Course Catalog. A copy of the Student Code is available at [www.netc.edu](http://www.netc.edu)

Statement on Written Assignments:

The instructor reserves the right to refuse any paper, which is messy or unreadable, or appears to be copied. Incorrect grammar and spelling errors will be noted. Papers will be graded on the basis of content, organization, grammar, and neatness.

Attendance and Tardy Policy:

The student is responsible for material covered in any class or lab. A student may miss a maximum of up to 10% of scheduled class hours. It is strongly advised that students attend all classes.

Three tardies will equal one absence. A student will be considered tardy if he/she comes into the classroom after the roll has been called.

Classroom Etiquette:

An integral part of an education is developing a sense of integrity, responsibility, and professionalism, not only toward us, but also toward others. In the classroom, as on the job or in your home, exhibiting appropriate behavior reflects on your maturity. Arriving late to class, being unprepared, inappropriate talking while class is in session, etc. negatively reflects on you and your fellow students. Please be considerate.

**TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE**

Chapter 6	Metric and Household Measurements
Chapter 7	Apothecary and Household Systems
Chapter 8	Equivalents between Apothecary and Metric Measurements
Chapter 9	Safety in Medication Administration
Chapter 10	Interpretation of the Physician Orders and Abbreviations & Symbols
Chapter 11	How to Read Drug Labels
Chapter 12	Dimensional Analysis and the Calculation of Drug Dosages
Chapter 13	Oral Dosages
Chapter 14	Parenteral Dosages
Chapter 15	dosages Measured in Units
Chapter 16	Intravenous Flow Rates
Chapter 17	Critical Care Intravenous flow Rates
Chapter 18	Pediatric Dosages
Chapter 19	Automated Medication Dispensing Systems

**\*NOTE:** The above information is a general outline of the material covered. The instructor reserves the right to alter the material either adding to or deleting from the list, as conditions and time allows.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. State with accuracy the household, apothecaries and metric systems of measurement and conversion between systems.
2. Act as a patient advocate demonstrated by the ability to provide safe, direct patient care by calculating correct dosages for oral and parental medications for adults and children.
3. State the meaning of terms and abbreviations commonly used in the administration of medications.
4. Utilize information provided in course to teach health-related information to patients and family members on medication administration.

**GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS:**

1. All written work must have your name on it or you will receive a zero.
2. Students are expected to be fully prepared for each class.
3. Assignments are to be turned in at the assignment time. If you are unable to turn in the assignment, make arrangements to have the assignment turned in for you.
5. **Tests** will consist of information gathered from: text, lecture, assigned reading, material handed out in class/on web, assigned, and video content.
  - a. **There will be no retests.** Makeup tests will be allowed only for valid excuses and prior contact with the instructor is made when possible. A grade of “zero (0)” will be recorded for any tests missed. If a foreseeable problem should arise, a test may be taken early at a time established by the instructor. To be eligible to take the test before the planned exam date the student must contact the instructor prior to the scheduled time of the test. The student may leave a phone message or E-mail explaining their situation and the timestamp on the message must meet the deadline stated above. The instructor will return the call or respond to the E-mail indicating if the excuse is acceptable or not, and if the excuse is acceptable the day and time of the test will be arranged.
  - b. **Final exams** is a comprehensive final and will only be administered on the designated date and during the designated time for that particular class.
  - c. **In event you are absent** on a day of a scheduled test, and your excuse is valid, you are expected to make up the missed test on your first day back to school (clinical or lecture). Failure to do so will result in a grade of zero (0) for that test. The test will be left in the Success Center. You will need your student ID card in order to take the test. The instructor reserves the right to administer a full discussion test or a test other than the original

- test. The instructor reserves the right to alter students seating arrangements during tests.
- d. **Tests will be returned as soon as possible.** Tests will not be returned until all students have taken the test. Tests are not to be taken from the classroom and must be returned to the instructor after review. Any unscheduled quizzes that are missed will not be allowed to be taken at a later time and a grade of zero (0) will be given for that quiz.
  - e. **Any drug calculation** answer on an exam will include but not be limited to: name of drug, dosage expressed in (mg/day, ml/dose, etc), form (tablet, capsule, ml, tsp, etc), Round all metric answers with decimals to one decimal place unless otherwise directed. Include a zero preceding a decimal number if there is no whole number. Do not include zeros at the end of decimal numbers. Any apothecary or household answers in decimal form should be converted to fractions and reduced to lowest terms.
6. Students will be expected to maintain professional conduct at all times in the classroom (please see student nurse handbook).
  7. There is to be no drinking or eating in the classroom, simulated lab, or computer area.
  8. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Vice-President for Student Services to discuss needs or concerns as they pursue an academic program and participate in campus life. The Vice-President for Student Services will provide guidance regarding official documentation of disabilities and/or accommodation of needs. (See Catalog, Page 31).