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PHAR 102.50: Pharmacy for Technicians

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Pharmacology for Technicians (PHAR 102-50) Fall 2017	
<i>Instructor:</i> Dr. Mary McHugh PharmD, RPh	<i>Class Dates</i> Aug 31-Dec 20 <i>Online Learning</i>
<i>Contact Info:</i> Phone: 243-7813 Cell: 531-2420 Email: mary.mchugh@umontana.edu	<i>Office Hours:</i> <i>Feel free to schedule ahead</i> via phone, email. I will attempt to respond to all calls and emails within a 24 hr. period M-F .

Course Description:

This course introduces you to the general principles of pharmacology. Drugs are discussed in the context of drug classes, mechanisms of action, disease types, and body systems. The goal is to provide you with sufficient background information so that you will be able to play a key role in avoiding dispensing errors. Although emphasis will be given to the approximately 300 most commonly prescribed drugs, many more drugs will be discussed during the semester.

Required Course Resources

- *Pharmacology for Technicians Sixth Edition*



- Optional: Course Navigator for review of materials



- Computer (see requirements here: <http://support.emcp.com/support/course-navigator/>)

Relationship to program:

You must be familiar with the generic and brand names of drugs so that you can locate and dispense drugs efficiently and correctly in the pharmacy. You must know the classifications and general properties of the various classes of drugs to aid in the correct dispensing of prescriptions, and to assist pharmacists by avoiding mistakes such as duplications of therapy or interactions. This base will enable you to communicate with the pharmacist, other health professionals, and with clientele in a knowledgeable manner. This course will build upon skills obtained in concurrent courses, giving you a basic introduction to the complex world of medicinal agents.

Learning Objectives:

- Examine principles of drug action in the body and individual cells, including body absorption and distribution in relation to therapeutic blood levels and the process of clearing systemically dispersed agents through metabolism and elimination.
- Anticipate how best to promote safety and avoid medication errors through drug label and medication order literacy skills. Be able to communicate effectively with patients and other members of the healthcare team. Implement appropriate patient warning labels to promote thorough understanding of drug regimen requirements by patients and medical staff.
- Anticipate possible side effects and related dispensing strategy for each drug class as well as for specific agents. Analyze labeling requirements for various classes of pharmaceuticals and cautions when dispensing based on thorough understanding of interactions between classes of pharmaceuticals, individual agents, and natural supplements.
- Describe ways various classes of anti-infective drugs work against microorganisms and identify uses of these drugs in eliminating specific microorganisms from the body.
- Explain the action of neurotransmitters in the nervous system, relate classes of pharmaceuticals that affect or change neurotransmitter action, and describe therapeutic results obtained with the various neurological agent classes.
- Explain principles of how various classes of pharmaceuticals act when utilized in aiding respiratory gas exchanges, circulating blood pressure and cardiac rhythms, and blood filtration.
- Compare action of pharmaceutical agents when applied to the digestive system and examine, compare, and describe how these agents affect other physiological processes (e.g., blood pressure and sugar levels).
- Define the action of the endocrine glands and hormones, delineate hormone supplement and replacement therapies, and compile adverse effects of inadequate and excess administration.
- Identify the physiological action and deficiency symptoms of vitamin classes, explore natural supplements and potential therapeutic value, and examine the use of natural supplements in conjunction with prescription medications.

Course Policies and Other Information:

Grading:

Lessons	25%
Drug Quizzes	25%
General Quizzes	25%
Tests	25%
Total	100%

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by The University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at http://life.umt.edu/vpsa/student_conduct.php.

DISABILITY ACCOMODATION:

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. Therefore, Eligible students with disabilities must request appropriate accommodations in this course in a timely way. Please speak with me after class or in my office. Please be prepared to provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator. For more information, visit the Disabilities Services website at <http://www.umt.edu/dss/> or call 406-243-2243 (voice/text)

Note: Instructor reserves the right to modify syllabi and assignments as needed based on faculty, student, and/or environmental circumstances.

Technical Requirements

To participate in some courses at The University of Montana, students are expected to be familiar with computers and the Internet. Students are responsible for their own software and computer equipment maintenance and setup. You will need to have access to a CD drive in a computer for some assignments.

IT and Moodle Resources for Students

- UOnline Technical Support: 406.243.4999 or 866.225.1641 (toll-free) or umonline-help@umontana.edu

Online Resources for Students

- General IT help: <http://www.umt.edu/it/default.php>
- General advising help: <http://www.umt.edu/uac/>
- Moodle 101 for new students: <https://moodle.umt.edu/enrol/index.php?id=979>