

VIRGINIA WESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

Fall Semester 2024

I. COURSE TITLE MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY I

II. COURSE PREFIX/NUMBER HLT 143

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Provides an understanding of medical abbreviations and terms. Includes study of prefixes, suffixes, word stems, and technical terms emphasizing proper spelling, punctuation, and usage. Emphasizes more complex skills and techniques in understanding medical terminology as it relates to anatomy, physiology, and pathology.

IV. COURSE OUTCOMES

The overall goals of this course are to:

1. Provide an overall understanding of medical abbreviations and terms.
2. Emphasize the proper spelling, usage, and punctuation of prefixes, suffixes, word stems, and technical terms.
3. Emphasize the more complex skills and techniques in understanding medical terminology as it relates to anatomy, physiology, and pathology.

V. REQUIRED MATERIALS

Internet access required

VI. TEXTBOOK

Chabner, Davi-Ellen. (2021). The language of medicine. (12th ed.). Missouri: Elsevier. ISBN: 978-0-323-55147-2

V. TOPICAL DESCRIPTION

Chapter 1, Basic Word Structure

1. Become familiar with basic objectives to keep in mind as you study medical terminology.
2. Divide medical words into their component parts.
3. Find the meaning of the basic combining forms, prefixes, and suffixes of the medical language.
4. Use these combining forms, prefixes, and suffixes to build medical words.

Chapter 2, Terms Pertaining to the Body as a Whole

1. Define terms that apply to the structural organization of the body.
2. Identify the body cavities and recognize the organs contained in them.
3. Locate and identify the anatomical and clinical divisions of the body.
4. Locate and name the anatomical divisions of the back.
5. Become acquainted with terms that describe positions, directions, and planes of the body.

Test Chapters 1&2

Chapter 3, Suffixes

1. Define basic suffixes used in the medical language.
2. Analyze medical terms that combine suffixes and other word elements.
3. Learn about amniocentesis and laparotomy as clinical procedures.

Chapter 4, Prefixes

1. Define basic prefixes used in the medical language.
2. Analyze medical terms that combine prefixes with other word elements.
3. Learn about the Rh factor as an example of an antigen-antibody response.

Test Chapters 3 & 4

Chapter 5, Digestive System

1. Names of the organs of the digestive system and describe their location and function.
2. Describe disease processes and symptoms that affect these organs.
3. Define combining forms of the organs and the meaning of related terminology using these word parts.

Chapter 6, Additional Suffixes and Digestive System Terminology

1. Define new suffixes and use them with digestive system combining forms.
2. List and explain some laboratory tests, clinical procedures, and abbreviations common to the digestive system.

Test Chapters 5, 6, & 16

Chapter 7, Urinary System

1. Name the organs of the urinary system and describe their location and function.
2. Give the meaning of various pathological conditions affecting the system.
3. Recognize the use and interpretation of urinalysis as a diagnostic test.
4. Detail the meanings of combining forms, prefixes, and suffixes, of the system terminology.
5. List and explain some clinical procedures and laboratory tests that pertain to the urinary system.

Chapter 12, Respiratory System

1. Name the organs of the respiratory system and describe their location and function.
2. Identify various pathological conditions affecting the respiratory system.
3. Recognize medical terms that pertain to respiration.
4. Identify clinical procedures and some abbreviations related to the respiratory system.

Test Chapter 7, 12 & 16

Chapter 15, Musculoskeletal System

1. Define the terms relating to the structure and function of bones, joints, and muscles.
2. Describe the process of bone formation and growth.
3. Locate and name selected bones of the body.
4. Analyze the combining forms, prefixes, and suffixes, used to describe bones.
5. Explain various musculoskeletal disease conditions and terms related to bone fractures.
6. Identify important laboratory tests, clinical procedures, and some abbreviations relating to the musculoskeletal system.

Chapter 16, Skin

1. Learn the layers of the skin and the accessory structures associated with the skin.
2. Identify lesions, signs and symptoms, and pathologic conditions that relate to the skin.
3. Describe laboratory tests and clinical procedures that pertain to the skin, and recognize relevant abbreviations.

Worksheet Assignment

Chapter 20, Radiology and Nuclear Medicine

1. Learn the physical properties of x-rays.
2. Identify common diagnostic techniques used by radiologists.
3. Name the x-ray views and patient positions used in x-ray examinations.
4. Learn about the role of radioactivity in the diagnosis and treatment of disease.
5. Become familiar with medical terms used in the specialization of radiology and nuclear medicine.

Test Chapter 15 & 20

Final Exam

[ADA Statement](#) (PDF)

[Title IX Statement](#) (PDF)