

COURSE SYLLABUS
Graduate
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY
Spring Semester 2026

COURSE NUMBER: NUR 632, Section 802

COURSE TITLE: Advanced Pathophysiology

COURSE CREDIT: 3 credit hours

PREREQUISITES: None

CO-REQUISITES: None

FACULTY:

Name: Melissa Matthews, DNP, APRN, WHNP-BC

Email: mamatthews@bsu.edu

Office Phone: 765-285-5491

Office Room Number: HB 495

Office Hours: (Eastern Standard Time) Mondays 10am-4pm by appt.

Additional office hours available upon request

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Provides a comprehensive scientific background and understanding of pathophysiology as it relates to client assessment across the lifespan in a variety of health care settings. Forms the basis for advanced nursing practice.

COURSE RATIONALE: Pathophysiology is part of the advanced practice core curriculum. Assessing, managing, and evaluating the health/illness care continuum requires the ability to synthesize knowledge of pathophysiology and behavioral sciences. This synthesis is imperative for enhancement of critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning skills that are the foundation for clinical decision-making.

COURSE OUTCOMES:

1. Synthesize pathophysiology of diseases and disorders of specific system alterations across the lifespan. (*DNP Program Outcome 2, AACN Domain 1; NONPF Domain 1; AONL Domain 4; NLN Nurse Educator Competency IV*).

2. Evaluates subjective and objective data related to pathophysiologic processes of specific organ system alterations across the lifespan (*DNP Program Outcome 2, AACN Domain 1; NONPF Domain 1; AONL Domain 4; NLN Nurse Educator Competency IV*).
3. Applies understanding of pathophysiology to connect signs/symptoms and diagnostics to various diseases and disorders across the lifespan (*DNP Program Outcome 2, AACN Domain 1; NONPF Domain 1; AONL Domain 4; NLN Nurse Educator Competency IV*).

DNP PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

1. Improve advanced nursing practice using competencies within the four spheres of nursing care and across the lifespan.
2. Adapt advanced nursing knowledge to solve emerging healthcare issues in the profession, healthcare, education, and the community.
3. Translate research and data into practice to enhance population health, education, and healthcare systems outcomes.
4. Lead interprofessional teams to analyze clinical, organization, business, and policy issues affecting health care, population health, and vulnerable populations.
5. Engage interprofessional teams to develop new solutions to healthcare problems affecting individuals, groups, and populations across the lifespan.
6. Interpret economics of planning, management, and administration of healthcare delivery, programs/projects, and organizations.
7. Utilize information systems and technology to enhance quality and safety during patient care, education, and communication.
8. Collaborate with interprofessional teams to develop systems that enhance access to healthcare by diverse and vulnerable populations.
9. Appraise clinical practice, research, policy, health care, and education systems using principles of evidence-based practice, data science, business, and healthcare finance.
10. Advance growth of the profession as a nurse leader, educator, clinical scholar, community member and lifelong learner.

MASTER'S PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

1. Demonstrate role competency and leadership in a selected advanced nursing role based on professional standards.
2. Integrate nursing and related sciences and theories in delivery of advanced nursing practice.
3. Analyze research to support evidence-based practice.
4. Function as a member of inter/intra-professional collaborative team for improving patient and population health outcomes.
5. Utilize information systems/technology in professional practice.

6. Analyze quality improvement and safety initiatives to improve health outcomes.
7. Analyze for health policy development and implementation.
8. Integrate clinical prevention and population health concepts for improving health.
9. Advocate for policies that improve the health of the public and the profession of nursing.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF NURSING (AACN) ESSENTIALS DOMAINS (2021)

1. Knowledge for Nursing Practice
2. Person-Centered Care
3. Population Health
4. Scholarship for the Nursing Discipline
5. Quality and Safety
6. Interprofessional Partnerships
7. Systems-Based Practice
8. Informatics and Healthcare Technologies
9. Professionalism
10. Personal, Professional, and Leadership Development

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF NURSE PRACTITIONER FACULTIES (NONPF) DOMAINS (2022)

- Domain 1: Knowledge of Practice
- Domain 2: Person Centered Care
- Domain 3: Population Health
- Domain 4: Practice Scholarship and Translational Science
- Domain 5: Quality and Safety
- Domain 6: Interprofessional Collaboration in Practice
- Domain 7: Health Systems
- Domain 8: Technology and Information Literacy
- Domain 9: Professional Acumen
- Domain 10: Personal and Professional Leadership

American Organization for Nursing Leadership Domains (2022)

- Domain 1: Leader Within
- Domain 2: Business Skills and Principles
- Domain 3: Communication and Relationship Building
- Domain 4: Knowledge of the Health Care Environment
- Domain 5: Professionalism
- Domain 6: Leadership

National League for Nursing Educator Competencies (2020)

Competency I: Facilitate Learning

Competency II: Facilitate Learner Development and Socialization

Competency III: Use Assessment and Evaluation Strategies

Competency IV: Participate in Curriculum Design and Evaluation of Program Outcomes

Competency V: Function as a Change Agent and Leader

Competency VI: Pursue Continuous Quality Improvement in the Nurse Educator Role

Competency VII: Engage in Scholarship

Competency VIII: Function Within the Educational Environment

COURSE TOPICS:

Cellular dysfunction

Inflammation

Infection

Cancer/Neoplasia

Immune system dysfunction and disorders

Integumentary system dysfunction and disorders

Cardiovascular system dysfunction and disorders

Pulmonary system dysfunction and disorders

Hematologic system dysfunction and disorders

Neurologic system dysfunction and disorders

Endocrine system dysfunction and disorders

Renal system dysfunction and disorders

Musculoskeletal system dysfunction and disorders

Gastrointestinal system dysfunction and disorders

TEACHING STRATEGIES:

TEXTS:

Required:

Rogers, J. (2023). McCance & Huether's Pathophysiology: The Biologic Basis for Disease in Adults and Children 9th edition. Elsevier.

Shadow Health Digital Clinical Experiences: Advanced Pathophysiology Elsevier (2022).

GRADING POLICIES:

Shadow Health:

There are 8 Shadow Health Digital Clinical Experiences (DCE) assignments. Students access Shadow Health through a link in Canvas. Each DCE is worth a possible 25 points which is based on the percentage earned with each DCE (possible total of 200 points)

25 points for > 80% to 100%

20 points for 60 to 79.9%

15 points for 40 to 59.9%

10 points for < 39.9%

Quizzes:

There are 9 **quizzes** in the course with one quiz per module based on the textbook readings. The quizzes are open book with 20 questions worth one point per question. There are a possible total of 180 points for quizzes in the course. Quizzes are accessed in Canvas in Modules and are not accessed through Lockdown Respondus Browser.

Exams:

There are 4 **exams** in this course. All exams contain 50 questions and each question is worth 2 points each for a total of 100 points per exam (possible total of 400 course points). The exams are based upon course textbook content. Students must complete and submit all 4 exams in order to complete this course.

Course Assignment Points:

Refer to the Course Calendar for all assignment due dates. Please note that if you experience an extenuating circumstance that prevents you from getting your assignment in on time, please contact the course faculty as soon as possible before the due date. Assignments that are submitted past the due date and time will receive a zero unless permission is granted by the instructor prior to the due date.

EXAMINATION POLICIES:

In this course you will take your exams remotely and through Lockdown Respondus Browser. Exams are scheduled over three days providing students flexibility for scheduling the exam. Each student will be allowed to access each exam only one time.

Each student must do his/her own work on the exams. Students may not use any type of study aids including textbooks, notes and web resources during an exam. Phones should be on silent and not be on the desktop or table top during the exam. Each student will have 60 minutes to complete each exam. Students are monitored and recorded on video as they take their exam. Exams are NOT to be printed or copied.

Requirements for Exam-Taking:

- Desktop computer or laptop (not tablet)
- Webcam and microphone (built-in or external) – test your webcam at www.testmycam.com
- Connection to network with sufficient internet speed: at least 2 Mbps download speed and 2 Mbps upload – test internet speed at www.speedtest.net
- Operating systems: Windows XP or newer, Mac OS X 10.8 (Mountain Lion) – or newer
- Browser with pop-up blocker disabled: Google Chrome v39 or later, Mozilla Firefox v34 or later, Internet Explorer v8 or later, Microsoft Edge, Apple Safari v6 or later

GRADING SCALE:

A	93 – 100	B-	80 – 82.9
A-	90 – 92.9	C+	78 – 79.9
B+	86 – 89.9	C	75 – 77.9
B	83 – 85.9 (minimum passing grade for NUR courses)	F	74 and <

NOTE: Students must earn a grade of 83% or higher to pass the course.

COURSE GRADING:

ASSIGNMENT	Points or % Each	Total Point or %
Shadow Health Digital Clinical Experiences (8)	25	200
Quizzes (9)	20	180
Exams (4)	100	400
Health Clearance Course Expectation Points	20	20
FINAL		

	TOTAL:	800
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NOTE: Any evidence of academic dishonesty will follow the university policies and may result in a “zero” grade and/or other resolutions for the assignment (e.g., test, quiz, paper, Canvas discussions, care plans, pre-class and in-class assignments, etc.)

ONLINE RESOURCES: A BSU network access for email and Canvas

SOFTWARE: Microsoft Office

TECHNICAL INFORMATION:

Technical Assistance:

_If you have any issues with your course(s), or related technology, please contact the Nursing Simulation and Information Technology Center (NSITC) directly at 765-285-5584 (Monday - Friday 8:00AM-5:00PM Eastern Time during academic year and Monday – Friday 7:30 am – 4:00 pm Eastern Time during Summer Session).

If you have problems with Canvas between the hours 5:00PM and 8:00AM or weekends, you can contact the University Technology Support (UTS) Helpdesk 765-285-1517 select prompt 2 (24 hours daily) or by email at helpdesk@bsu.edu. **Do not contact the UTS Helpdesk between the hours of 8:00AM – 5:00PM Monday through Friday unless instructed by the Nursing SITC.**

COURSE POLICIES:

Attendance:

Attendance in Ball State University online classes is measured by your active participation in course activities at least once each week. Be sure to complete your course work as assigned to ensure you are recorded as attending the course.

On-campus attendance – add specific course attendance policy; University attendance policy – Students are expected to attend all of their classes,

<https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/vice-provost/student-services/attendance-policies>.

Participation and Timeliness:

_Your regular participation and timeliness are important to your academic success. In online courses this takes the form of participation in discussion via forums, chat, and other electronic means provided.

As this is an online course, it is up to every student to stay on track and not fall behind. You must be self-motivated and disciplined to meet all due dates. Developing a routine is essential. All assignments are expected to be submitted by a specific time and date. Refer to course calendar for assignment due dates.

Health Clearance Course Expectation Points:

Students must submit all health clearance compliance items to American Data Bank by the required dates. All students will receive 20 points for being in complete compliance at the beginning of the semester. Students will lose 4 points from the 20 points for every week that they are not in compliance with required health clearance items in American Data Bank. If students are not in compliance after week 5, they will lose all 20 points and may need to withdraw from the course.

Students are expected to remain compliant throughout the semester. Students are expected to continue to maintain requirements prior to expiration. If a student falls out of compliance during the semester, 4 points will be deducted for every week they remain out of compliance and they may not attend clinical. Clinical hours and encounters documented while out of compliance may not count until the requirement is met.

Example:

Weeks Non-compliant	Expectation Points	Points Deduction
1	20	-4
2	16	-4
3	12	-4
4	8	-4
5	4	-4
6+	0	

Classroom (or Online) Conduct:

Students should observe proper "netiquette." Treat fellow classmates and faculty with respect, even if you strongly disagree with their postings. There is room for all opinions in our forum--we are here to share and learn, together. Always be professional.

The Disability Services Office:

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact me as

soon as possible. Ball State's Disability Services office coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at 765-285-5293 or dsd@bsu.edu.

Communication:

For any communication with the School of Nursing, always use your BSU email. The instructor will typically respond to email communication within 48 hours of receiving them and may not respond over weekends and holidays.

Student responsibility:

A student should respond to a faculty member's email communication within 48 hours of receiving the email from the faculty. The faculty does not expect the student to respond over weekends and holidays.

Academic Integrity:

Students are expected to adhere to University guidelines titled Student Academic Ethics Policy as presented on the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Website, <https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/vice-provost/student-services/academic-integrity>, and the Graduate Student Handbook.

NOTE: Any evidence of academic dishonesty will follow the university policies and may result in a "zero" grade and/or other resolutions for the assignment (e.g., test, quiz, paper, Canvas discussions, care plans, pre-class and in-class assignments, etc.) .

Academic Assessments:

Students are required to participate in course assessment activities. A copy of sample papers will be collected from students as part of program assessment. Students are also requested to complete course, clinical, and faculty evaluations at the end of the semester. At the end of the program, students will complete an exit program survey.

Reflection of Diversity:

Ball State University aspires to be a university that attracts and retains a diverse faculty, staff and student body. We are committed to ensuring that all members of the community are welcome through valuing the various experiences and worldviews represented at Ball State and among those we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse as expressed in our [Beneficence Pledge](#). For Bias Incident Response information, please click [here](#) or e-mail reportbias@bsu.edu.

STUDENT SUCCESS SERVICES:

Director:

Nick Atlas

Director of Student Services

College of Health

HB 214

765-285-4140

Nickolas.atlas@bsu.edu

Programs and Services:

Visit [Programs and Services](#) for a list of programs and services to support and engage students at Ball State.

The number one concern of the Ball State Counseling Center is the health and mental health of the Ball State community. The Counseling Center is offering both in-person and telehealth appointments. Visit the [Counseling Center](#) for more information.

The [Cardinal Kitchen](#) is Ball State University's campus food pantry. The pantry is located in the lower level of the Student Center, Room L-27 and is available for use to all undergraduate and graduate students.

The Writing Center:

All writers improve with practice and feedback, so as a student in this course, you are encouraged to use the Writing Center (in Robert Bell 295, Bracken Library, or online) to get additional feedback on your writing. To schedule a free appointment to discuss your writing, go to www.bsu.edu/writingcenter. Online and in-person appointments are available seven days a week; however, plan ahead because appointments book quickly!

WITHDRAWAL DATE: Course Withdrawal Period ends per BSU.edu/Calendar (add link)
Student initiated course withdrawal during the withdrawal period will be accepted and recorded as a “W” if the student is passing the course. (If a student has failed a clinical competency or failed clinically the student will a grade of “F.”)

An Incomplete grade (I) will be given for extenuating circumstances only. The reason is usually related to an illness, not excessive work demands. An I grade is given for a student who has to complete one paper, or one similar work. Written documentation is required to justify the Incomplete (I) grade.

University cannot guarantee that any student will pass a course or certification exam. Your success will be determined by several factors beyond the instruction you receive in the classroom including your test-taking skills, your satisfactory completion of clinical and, your willingness to read/study outside of class. Certification questions are generated from a variety of textbooks, references, and databases; therefore, a thorough understanding of the subject matter according to assigned readings for this program is required.

Faculty Name	Date Reviewed and/or Updated for Each Semester
Melissa Matthews	1/2/2026

Faculty name

Date reviewed for each semester