

**Western Kentucky University
Associate of Science in Nursing Program
LPN to ASN Program
Spring 2025**

COURSE NUMBER: NURSING 255

COURSE NAME: Medical-Surgical Nursing III

COURSE ID: NUR 255 – 700

COURSE CREDIT: 3 Hours

CONTACT HOURS: 1 Credit Hour: 1 Contact Hour

LOCATION: Online

PREREQUISITES: NUR 208 & NUR 215

FACULTY:
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Instructor I
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Office Hours by Appointment

Note: The schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Expansion on previous medical-surgical concepts utilizing basic human needs, developmental theory, nursing process and evidence-based interventions to promote and maintain health for selected populations.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The student will:

1. Incorporate nursing process to provide safe, competent, nursing care. (EOPSLO #1)
2. Incorporate patient preferences, values, and needs to provide patient care. (EOPSLO #1)
3. Integrate current standards of nursing practice to provide safe, competent nursing care. (EOPSLO #1)
4. Incorporate clinical nursing judgement when prioritizing patient care. (EOPSLO #2)
5. Incorporate therapeutic communication techniques. (EOPSLO #3)
6. Incorporate principles of delegation when providing nursing care. (EOPSLO #4)
7. Incorporate teaching to meet the needs of select populations. (EOPSLO #5)
8. Demonstrate a spirit of inquiry and examines the evidence that underlies clinical nursing practice to enhance quality and safety in health care. (EOPSLO #8)

EOPSLO refers to end-of-program student learning outcome. The reference to EOPSLOs here shows alignment of course objectives to EOPSLOs. EOPSLOs identify expectations of knowledge, skills, or behaviors that the student should be able to demonstrate upon completion of the program. EOPSLOs are located in the LPN to ASN Program Student Handbook and the program website for review.

COURSE CONTENT

Neuro Assessment and Diagnostics
Traumatic Brain Injury/Brain Tumors/ICP
Spinal Cord Injury
Ear
Eye
Stroke
Headache
Seizure
End of Life
Integumentary
Parkinson's Disease

Huntington's Disease
Meningitis
Encephalitis
Cranial Nerve Disorders
Multiple Sclerosis
Myasthenia Gravis
Guillain Barre
ALS
Burns
Disaster Planning
Emergency Nursing

EXPECTATIONS-GENERAL INFORMATION

Policies and Procedures

Each student will be responsible for following the policies and required curriculum as stated in the *LPN-ASN Student Handbook*.

Additional Learning Activities/Workshops/Testing/Etc.

Students will be given prior notice for any required learning activities/workshops/testing/etc. that are scheduled outside class/clinical time. Attendance for these additional activities is mandatory to successfully meet the objectives of NUR 255.

Evaluation/Grading

The final grade for each student will be based on a percentage of total points obtained. Seventy percent (70%) of the course grade will be awarded from unit exams and a comprehensive final. Ten percent (10%) of the grade will be awarded from the student's conversion score of the HESI Med-Surg III Exam. Ten percent (10%) of the grade will be awarded from the student's conversion score of the HESI Exit Exam A. Ten percent (10%) will be awarded from the student's conversion score of the HESI Exit Exam B. Unit examinations will consist of various test question formats including but not limited to multiple-choice questions. The final exam will be comprehensive. Testing material may be taken from text reading assignments, class lectures, handout materials, study guides, case studies, instructional audio/video recordings, and assigned readings from sources other than course text.

Unit Exam 1	30 points
Unit Exam 2	30 points
Unit Exam 3	30 points
Unit Exam 4	30 points
Final Exam	40 points
Total Test Points	160 points

HESI Med-Surg III Exam	100 points
HESI Exit Exam A	100 points

HESI Exit Exam B 100 points

Use the following formula to calculate student course grade:

$$\left[\frac{\text{Total \# Unit \& Comprehensive Exam points} \times 0.70}{160} \right] + \left[\text{HESI M/S III Exam} \times 0.10 \right] + \left[\text{HESI Exit Exam A} \times 0.10 \right] + \left[\text{HESI Exit Exam B} \times 0.10 \right] = \text{Course Grade}$$

The grading scale for total points earned is as follows:

$$A \geq 91.0\% \quad B \geq 84.0\% \quad C \geq 77.0\% \quad D \geq 69.0\% \quad F < 69.0\%$$

Tests for this course shall be taken at the WKU South Campus Testing Center, an approved off-campus testing center, or via Proctor-U. All HESI Exams shall be taken at the WKU South Campus Testing Center or via Proctor-U. It is the student's responsibility to schedule each test using the directions sent to students via email by the Distance Learning Testing Center. Students must complete all exams between the hours of 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM CST on the assigned day.

A student may not take an examination other than the scheduled date without satisfactory justification. The faculty member responsible for the course will decide if the justification is satisfactory. **The student who does not notify the faculty of an absence for an examination and/or who cannot provide satisfactory justification for the absence can still take a makeup examination, but the achieved score will be reduced by 10% of total points possible.** At the discretion of the course instructor, any makeup exam may consist of different test items or essay questions. Students are responsible for notifying their instructor if they are unable to take a scheduled exam prior to the scheduled test time. Makeup exams will be given as soon as possible, preferably within one week of the date of the original exam.

In order to successfully complete the course a 77.0% minimum will be required. A student with an average of 76.9% or below will not be successful. Students must also achieve a satisfactory evaluation in NUR 257. If a student is unsuccessful in either NUR 255 or NUR 257, both courses must be successfully repeated before the student is allowed to progress in the program.

An opportunity to improve course grade will be available by completing additional assigned activities each week. Activities are assigned from HESI® Compass™, a culturally diverse end of life discussion board, Spirit of Inquiry, and a COVID-19 Nursing Care activity. Student's progress in HESI® Compass™ will be tracked through the Slack Channel. Students will submit the Spirit of Inquiry Assignment through the discussion board on Blackboard. Student performance on assigned activities can improve the exam portion of the overall course grade. **Students who earn less than 119 credits will not pass the course and will receive a grade of "D", regardless of student performance on exam grades. In order to add activity credits, the student MUST have a course grade of at least 77.0%.**

Additional points will be added as follows:

- 119 - 135 credits will add **ONE** points to total examination points
- 136 - 152 credits will add **THREE** points to total examination points
- 153 - 170 credits will add **FIVE** points to total examination points

Source	Activity	Credits	Due Date
	*Spirit of Inquiry Assignment	20	January 31, 2025 original post February 4, 2025 responses due
	Culturally Diverse End of Life Discussion Board**	10	February 21, 2025 original post February 25, 2025 responses due
HESI Compass	Points that may be obtained by HESI® Compass™		
	1. Respond to Slack Invitation and Join Slack Channel 2. Complete HESI Compass Course Enrollment on Evolve website (instructions posted in Slack) 3. Complete HESI Compass Onboarding – Welcome to the Course in Evolve Compass 4. Read initial Coach Welcome Message and Respond as directed by Coach	10	1. January 22, 2025 2. January 24, 2025 3. January 31, 2025 4. Starting after the launch exam
	HESI Compass Launch Exam	10	January 27-31, 2025
	Two Client Needs Categories Modules	20	February 14, 2025
	Two Client Needs Categories Modules	20	February 28, 2025
	One Client Needs Category Module	10	March 7, 2025
	Practice Comprehensive Exam	10	March 7, 2025
	1 st Week Case Studies/Quizzes	10	March 28, 2025
	2 nd Week Case Studies/Quizzes	10	April 4, 2025
	3 rd Week Case Studies/Quizzes	10	April 11, 2025
	4 th Week Case Studies/Quizzes	10	April 18, 2025
	5 th Week Case Studies/Quizzes	10	April 25, 2025
	Engage WEEKLY with HESI Compass Coach <i>via Direct Messaging</i> (required) (1 point for each communication up to 10)	10	ONCE A WEEK
	Total Points Available	170	

*Spirit of Inquiry and HESI® Compass™ assignments are MANDATORY assignments and MUST be completed. If submitted late, you will not receive activity points, but the assignment must be completed for successful completion of NUR 255.

**Failure to complete the Culturally Diverse End of Life Discussion Board on time will result in a “0” for that assignment.

Test Review

Test feedback via ExamSoft will be made available to students within one week after an exam. Individual student appointments can be made for further test review with faculty and must be completed prior to the next test in that course. **No written notes or audio recording may be made during test review.** Final exams cannot be reviewed, and students will not receive feedback for the final exam. Appointments for test review with faculty members can be made using email.

Any appeals for an alternate response to be counted as correct must be negotiated with the course faculty. Students have one week following the grade to challenge the test or assignment grade. Challenges must be made in writing and based on material the student can reference in their textbook. This process must take place within the designated time frame, not after final course grades have been posted. In addition, the student must question specific test, paper, or assignment items, and not just ask for points to be added to their grade due to their individual needs and life circumstances.

HESI Compass

HESI Compass is integrated into this course and comprises part of the activity points for the course. Successful completion of HESI Compass components as directed is required to pass NUR 255. HESI® Compass™ is delivered as an online course in Evolve. HESI Compass builds student NCLEX readiness through individualized student learning pathways. In a virtual environment, content is delivered by review modules, secure reliable HESI Assessment readiness indicators, and an experienced virtual nurse educator coach. HESI Compass prepares students for HESI Exit exams and the NCLEX licensure exam.

A synchronous, multi-day live NCLEX-RN review course via Zoom is required of each student during the last semester of the nursing program. Should a student be absent from any portion of the mandatory review regardless of reason, completion of an alternate assignment will be required. The alternate assignment will require an extensive amount of time and student effort to complete. If the alternate assignment is not completed prior to semester end, the student will receive the grade of incomplete for the course which could result in delay of graduation date.

NCLEX-RN and Licensing Information

NCLEX-RN and licensing information for KY and TN is located on your Blackboard site. You may take the NCLEX at a Pearson Professional Center in any state, but if you plan to be licensed in a state other than Kentucky or Tennessee, contact that state Board of Nursing before mid-term. After official notice from the Office of the Registrar to the LPN to ASN Program that your Associate of Science in Nursing degree has been awarded, the ASN Program will verify your degree with the KBN. The Office of the Registrar will not release your official transcript until all financial obligations to the University have been satisfied.

The Board of Nursing shall have power to deny any license to practice nursing upon proof that

the person has been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony. If you have a prior criminal history or conviction record, contact the course coordinator and see LPN to ASN Student Handbook for Kentucky Board of Nursing regulation 201, KAR 20:370 Applications for Licensure and Registration.

TEXTBOOK/MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Sherpath, 11th Edition, Ignatavicius, D. D., Workman, M. L., Rebar, C. R., & Heimgartner, N. M. (2024). *Medical-surgical nursing: Concepts for Clinical Judgment and Collaborative Care*. (11th ed.). Elsevier.

HESI® Compass™, Evolve

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:

Wolters Kluwer Lippincott (2024). Lippincott® Client Cases for Clinical Judgment. Tim Bristol.

PLEASE NOTE

1. Assignments may be changed with due notice given to students.
2. Western Kentucky University provides numerous support services to its students. Information regarding these services can be found in the *WKU Catalog*, *Hilltopper Student Handbook*, and the WKU web site.

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

Western Kentucky University provides numerous technological services to its students. Services and technology support available to students can be found on the university's Information Technology website (<https://www.wku.edu/its/services/students.php>).

ADA ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, Room 1074. SARC can be reached by phone at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

STUDENT APPEALS PROCESS

Any appeals for an alternate response to be counted as correct must be negotiated with the course faculty. Students have one week following the grade to challenge the test or assignment grade. Challenges must be made in writing and based on material the student can reference in their textbook. This process must take place within the designated time frame, not after final course grades have been posted. In addition, the student must question specific test, paper, or assignment items, and not just ask for points to be added to their grade due to their individual needs and life circumstances.

Students wishing to appeal a test or assignment or other grade in this course must follow the following process.

Course Grade appeals must follow the university academic complaint process outlined in the WKU Student Handbook at <https://www.wku.edu/handbook/academic-complaint.php>. Grade appeals (students seeking a change in grade) **must be based on an error in grading** (the student did not get the same points for the same response as everyone else in the class). If there is no error in grading and there is no math error in calculating the student's grade, then there is no basis for a grade appeal. Grades will not be changed just because a student is short of points to pass the course. Additional points for test or other assignments will not be considered after the student has failed the course, unless the test falls within the one-week challenge period. Any test item challenges must be conducted in the week following the exam and must be resolved with the faculty member at that time, based on information from the course materials such as the textbook. The faculty member is considered the expert and the faculty members' option of the correct answer will be the final answer.

Important Complaint Exceptions:

- Student Disability regarding denial of accommodations, the student must report to Student ADA Compliance Officer and follow WKU [policy #6.1010](#)
 - Discrimination and Harassment concerns, see below reporting process and follow WKU policy #0.2040
1. Discrimination must be reported by the student to the Office of Equal Opportunity Employment (EEO)
 2. Student-to-student harassment must be reported by the student to Office of Student Conduct
 3. Student-to-faculty/employee harassment must be reported to the Office of Equal Opportunity Employment (EEO)

TITLE IX SEXUAL MISCONDUCT/ASSAULT POLICY

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy ([#0.2070](#)) and Discrimination and Harassment Policy ([#0.2040](#)). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Interim Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or

Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

Mandatory Reporting

Disclosure to University faculty or instructors of sexual misconduct, domestic violence, dating violence, or sex discrimination is not confidential under Title IX. Faculty and instructors must forward such reports, including names and circumstances, to Andrea Anderson, Interim Title IX Coordinator, Wetherby Administration Building Suite 101, (270) 745-5398, titleix@wku.edu. Additional information may be found at <https://www.wku.edu/titleix/>. Students may seek assistance and/or speak confidentially with the staff of the WKU Counseling Center 270-745-3159.

TITLE IX PREGNANCY AND/OR PREGANCY RELATED CONDITIONS

Western Kentucky University does not discriminate against any student or exclude any student from its educational programs or activities, including classes or extracurricular activities, on the basis of pregnancy and/or pregnancy-related conditions such as, but not limited to, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom. Students who seek pregnancy or pregnancy-related accommodations should make their requests as soon as possible via WKU’s Title IX Website at www.wku.edu/titleix/ under the heading, “Pregnancy or Pregnancy-Related Conditions.” Students can also contact the Title IX Coordinator, Ena Demir, via email at ena.demir@wku.edu or by phone at (270) 745-6867 to request accommodations or seek assistance. We encourage students and faculty to work together to establish a plan that allows the student to complete the class and coursework without jeopardizing academic integrity and course standards. The Title IX Coordinator can help facilitate conversations between students and faculty regarding appropriate and reasonable accommodations.

If you are a WKU student and believe that you have experienced an incident(s) of discrimination or harassment based on pregnancy (or pregnancy related conditions or issues), please report it to the Title IX Coordinator via email at ena.demir@wku.edu or by phone at (270) 745-6867.

Additional resources for pregnant and parenting students can be found on WKU’s Title IX Website at www.wku.edu/titleix/.

REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE INTERACTION (RSI)

The U.S. Department of Education requires that distance education courses must include regular and substantive interaction between students and faculty. For more information about Regular and Substantive Interaction at WKU, please visit the [Regular and Substantive Interaction in Online and Distance Learning webpage](#).

In this course, regular and substantive interaction will take place in the following ways:

- Faculty feedback in discussion board
- Weekly email communication and announcements
- Timely response to emails provided within 24 hours
- Timely grading on assignments provided within one week of submission

AI TOOLS PROHIBITED

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are not permitted for any type of work in this class. If you choose to use these tools, your actions will be considered academically dishonest and a violation of the WKU Student Code of Conduct.