HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Syllabus

BS 109 Medical Terminology
3 Credit Hours (Lecture)
Prerequisites: None
C&I Revision Date: 11/17/2025

Department:

Biology

Course Description:

This course is designed to teach basic competency in the vocabulary and comprehension of medical terms. The course will focus on word attack skills for medical terms. The course can serve as preparation for academic success in Human Anatomy.

Course Competencies:

The learning outcomes and competencies detailed in this syllabus meet or exceed the learning outcomes and competencies specified by the Kansas Core Outcomes Groups for this course as approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. **(Kansas Regents Shared Number Course and Title: KRSN Course HSC 1030 Medical Terminology.)**

Upon completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Interpret medical terms based on word elements
2. Identify and define medical word roots, prefixes, and suffixes utilized in constructing medical terms
3. Apply medical terms in the proper context
4. Communicate and spell medical terms accurately
5. Identify terms and abbreviations related to basic anatomy, physiology, and pathology
6. Describe organizational components of the body, directional terms, anatomic planes, regions, and quadrants

Course Content:

A. Introduction to word parts
    1. Word root
    2. Suffix
    3. Prefix
    4. Combining vowel, combining form
    5. Analyzing and defining medical terms
B. Body structure, color and oncology
    1. Organization of the body
    2. Body cavities
    3. Combining forms commonly used with body structure terms
    4. Combining forms for terms that describe color
    5. Oncology terms
C. Directional terms, anatomic planes and quadrants
    1. Word parts for directional terms
    2. Directional terms
    3. Anatomical abdominal regions
    4. Abbreviations
D. Integumentary system

    1. Anatomy of the skin
    2. Word parts
    3. Medical terms - disease and disorder terms
    4. Surgical terms from word parts
    5. Common abbreviations
E. Respiratory system
    1. Organs
    2. Word parts and combining forms
    3. Prefixes
    4. Suffixes
    5. Disease and disorder terms
    6. Procedural terms
    7. Common abbreviations
F. Urinary system
    1. Organs
    2. Word parts
    3. Disease and disorder terms
    4. Surgical terms
    5. Procedural terms
    6. Common abbreviations
G. Male and female reproductive systems
    1. Anatomy and physiology
    2. Vocabulary
    3. Word elements
    4. Pathological conditions
    5. Sexually transmitted diseases
H. Obstetrics and neonatology
    1. Pregnancy
    2. Physiology changes during pregnancy
    3. Complications of pregnancy
    4. Signs and symptoms of labor
    5. Common abbreviations
I. Cardiovascular and lymphatic systems
    1. Structures of the cardiovascular system
    2. Structures of the lymphatic system
    3. Disease and disorder terms
    4. Surgical terms
    5. Procedural terms
    6. Common abbreviations
J. Digestive system
    1. Organs
    2. Word parts and combining forms
    3. Disease and disorder terms
    4. Surgical terms
    5. Procedural terms
K. Eye and Ear
    1. Anatomy
    2. Word parts and combining forms
    3. Disease and disorder terms
    4. Surgical terms
    5. Procedural terms
    6. Common abbreviations

L. Musculoskeletal system
    1. Anatomy
    2. Actions of the muscles
    3. Combining forms for joints
    4. Disease and disorder terms
    5. Surgical terms
    6. Procedural terms
M. Nervous system and common behavioral health terms
    1. Organs of the central nervous system
    2. Organs of the peripheral nervous system
    3. Disease and disorder terms
    4. Procedural terms
    5. Common abbreviations
N. Endocrine system
    1. Vocabulary
    2. Word elements
    3. Pathological conditions
    4. Diagnostic techniques and procedures
    5. Common abbreviations

Learning Assessments:

Competencies may be evaluated by multiple measures, including homework assignments, quizzes, and tests.

Instructional Materials:

Textbook: Brooks, M.L. and Brooks, D.L. (2013). Exploring Medical Language, 9th Edition. Maryland Heights: Elsevier. ISBN: 978-0323113403

Guidelines for Requesting Accommodations Based on Documented Disability or Medical Condition

It is the intention of Highland Community College to work toward full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to make instructional programs accessible to all people, and to provide reasonable accommodations according to the law.

Students should understand that it is their responsibility to self-identify their need(s) for accommodation and that they must provide current, comprehensive diagnosis of a specific disability or medical condition from a qualified professional in order to receive services. Documentation must include specific recommendations for accommodation(s). Documentation should be provided in a timely manner prior to or early in the semester so that the requested accommodation can be considered and, if warranted, arranged.

In order to begin the process all students **must** complete the "Disabilities Self-Identification Form" on our Disability Services website.

This form can also be accessed at the Highland Community College homepage under Students Services/Student Resources/Disability Service or by contacting the Disabilities Coordinator.

A Note on Harassment, Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct

Highland Community College seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX, and College policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Highland Community College encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to report to the Vice President for Student Services, the Human Resources Director or complete an online report about what happened so that they can get the support they need and Highland Community College can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Highland Community College is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty

member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please review our Equity Grievance Policy.