Health Education (HLED) 1541  Medical Terminology (3 Units) CSU
[formerly Health Education 41]

Prerequisite: None

Total Hours: 48 hours lecture

Catalog Description: The focus of this course is learning the origin, correct spelling, pronunciation, meaning and current usage of common medical terms and their application to clinical records and reports. Specific emphasis is on root words, prefixes, suffixes, stems, combining forms, medical abbreviations, symbols, and terms commonly used in patient's records and laboratory reports.

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit


Additional Instructional Materials:
Medical Terminology Interactive online program

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to:
1. Identify and use word roots, prefixes, and suffixes to build medical terms,
2. Identify the function of combining vowels in the construction of medical terms,
3. Identify the building blocks, organ systems, and cavities of the body,
4. Identify anatomical planes, regions, and directional terms used to describe areas of the body,
5. Breakdown and define medical terms associated with anatomy and physiology of the body, and
6. Breakdown and define common medical terms used for symptoms, diseases, disorders, procedures, treatments, and devices associated with each body system and specialty areas.
   a. Word Building Rules
   b. Prefixes
   c. Suffixes
   d. Whole Body Terminology
   e. Integumentary System
   f. Skeletal System
   g. Muscles and Joints
   h. Nervous System
i. Blood and Lymphatic System
j. Cardiovascular System
k. Respiratory System
l. Digestive System
m. Endocrine System
n. Special Senses: eyes and ears
o. Urinary System
p. Male Reproductive System
q. Female Reproductive System

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I  Word Building Rules
  a. The word parts, combining forms, and word building rules
  b. Word structure
  c. Guidelines for use of possessive forms

Unit II  Prefixes
  a. Numbers
  b. Measurement
  c. Position and/or direction
  d. Color
  e. Negatives
  f. Common prefixes

Unit III  Suffixes
  a. Noun suffixes
  b. Plural words
  c. Adjective suffixes
  d. Specialties and specialists
  e. Instruments, surgical and diagnostic procedures
  f. Common suffixes

Unit IV  Whole Body Terminology
  a. Structural organization
  b. Body planes
  c. Body regions and quadrants
  d. Body cavities
  e. Divisions of the back
  f. Direction
  g. Vocabulary
  h. Word elements
  i. Common abbreviations

Unit V  The Integumentary System
  a. Anatomy and physiology
  b. Vocabulary
  c. Word elements
  d. Skin lesions
  e. Pathological conditions
  f. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures
g. Common abbreviations

Unit VI The Skeletal System
a. Anatomy and physiology
b. Vocabulary
c. Word elements
d. Pathological conditions
e. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures
f. Common abbreviations

Unit VII Muscles and Joints
a. Anatomy and physiology (Muscles)
b. Vocabulary (Muscles)
c. Word elements (Muscles)
d. Pathological conditions (Muscles)
e. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures (Muscles)
f. Common abbreviations (Muscles)
g. Classifications of joints
h. Movement of joints
i. Vocabulary (Joints)
j. Word elements (Joints)
k. Pathological conditions (Joints)
l. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures (Joints)
m. Common abbreviations (Joints)

Unit VIII The Nervous System
a. Anatomy and physiology
b. Vocabulary
c. Word elements
d. Pathological conditions
e. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures
f. Common abbreviations

Unit IX The Blood and Lymphatic Systems
a. Anatomy and physiology (Blood)
b. Vocabulary (Blood)
c. Word elements (Blood)
d. Pathological conditions (Blood)
e. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures (Blood)
f. Common abbreviations (Blood)
g. Anatomy and physiology (Lymphatic)
h. Vocabulary (Lymphatic)
i. Word elements (Lymphatic)
j. Pathological conditions (Lymphatic)
k. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures (Lymphatic)
l. Common abbreviations (Lymphatic)

Unit X The Cardiovascular System
a. Anatomy and physiology
b. Vocabulary
c. Word elements
d. Common signs and symptoms
e. Pathological conditions
f. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures
g. Common abbreviations

Unit XI The Respiratory System
a. Anatomy and physiology
b. Physical examination
c. Vocabulary
d. Word elements
e. Common signs and symptoms
f. Pathological conditions
g. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures
h. Common abbreviations

Unit XII The Digestive System
a. Anatomy and physiology
b. Vocabulary
c. Word elements
d. Common signs and symptoms
e. Pathological conditions
f. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures
g. Common abbreviations

Unit XIII The Endocrine System
a. Anatomy and physiology
b. Vocabulary
c. Word elements
d. Pathological conditions
e. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures
f. Common abbreviations

Unit XIV The Special Senses
a. Anatomy and physiology (Eye)
b. The process of vision
c. Vocabulary (Eye)
d. Word elements (Eye)
e. Pathological conditions (Eye)
f. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures (Eye)
g. Common abbreviations (Eye)
h. Anatomy and physiology (Ear)
i. The process of hearing
j. Vocabulary (Ear)
k. Word elements (Ear)
l. Pathological conditions (Ear)
m. Diagnostic techniques, treatments, and procedures (Ear)
n. Common abbreviations (Ear)

Unit XV The Urinary System
a. Anatomy and physiology
b. Vocabulary
Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

1. Studying,
2. Answering questions,
3. Completing assigned reading,
4. Completing written work, and
5. Practicing newly acquired language skills in online interactive program, Medical Terminology Interactive.

Methods of Instruction:

1. Lectures,
2. Mediated learning,
3. Directed classroom discussions,
4. Medical case histories and information from the current medical literature when relevant, and
5. Outside reading and homework.

Methods of Evaluation:
1. Tests and quizzes
2. Homework assignments
3. Research assignments
4. Practical skills test