

Course Information

Course Number: DDHS 4015
Course Title: Pharmacology
Time: Mondays 8AM-10AM
Location: Room 6-COD Main Building
Credit Hours: 1.5

Instructor Details

Instructor: Celeste M. Abraham, BS, DDS, MS
Office: Room 142- COD Main Building
Phone: 214-828-8467
E-Mail: celeste-abraham@tamu.edu
Office Hours: Please email me to set an appointment. I will respond to your email within 24-48 hours.

Course Description

Actions, indications, and contraindications of drugs; emphasis on drugs frequently encountered in dentistry. Emphasis is placed on the relationship of pharmacology to the practice of dental hygiene.

Course Prerequisites

Completion of third year courses in dental hygiene

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of the course the student will be able to:

1. Identify pharmaceutical agents commonly used by dental hygienists and dentists
2. Discuss the use and pharmacologic effects of drugs commonly used in the dental office
3. Contrast and compare the routes of administration and the means of absorption and elimination of drugs commonly used in the dental office
4. List the classification of drugs and name commonly used brand and generic names in each category of pharmacologic agents prescribed by physicians
5. List drugs commonly prescribed by physicians which may alter the treatment of the dental patient
6. Differentiate signs and symptoms of adverse drug reactions
7. Identify the parts and explain the contents of each part of a prescription
8. Identify drugs that patients take for medical conditions and understand their basic pharmacology and the rationale for using the specific drug
9. Identify drugs that patients take for medical conditions and understand their potential adverse effects and drug interactions.

For each assigned chapter, there are learning objectives in the form of chapter summary questions under the section entitled Clinical Skills Assessment

Textbook

Applied Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist by Elena Bablenis Haveles, 9th Edition, 2023.

All text assignments are required reading.

Please read all the small boxes in the text which apply to management of the dental patient using a particular drug classification in each chapter. Please review any figures noted in the text chapters and the review questions at the end of the chapters.

The textbook should be brought to each class session.

Additional learning materials: Lecture Handouts and Journal Literature Readings.

Grading Policy

The grading for the course will be based on the quizzes and the final exam.

Quizzes:

14 quizzes, based on the weekly lecture-discussion and the required text, are scheduled.

No make-up quizzes will be allowed except for emergent events that may occur.

Missed quizzes, which are make-up quizzes, will have to be made up in a timely manner at the convenience of the course director.

The makeup quiz may consist of a multiple-choice exam, an oral exam and/or essay exam.

Any questions about grades on quizzes must be presented to the course director within one week of the posting of the grades.

Of the 14 quizzes, the two lowest grades will be dropped. The remaining 12 quizzes will account for 70% of the final grade.

Final Exam:

A comprehensive, closed-book two-hour final exam will be held as scheduled.

The final exam will be composed of multiple-choice and/or short-answer questions.

This final exam will account for 30% of the final grade.

Grading Scale:

A=90-100 %

B=80-89 %

C=75-79 %

D= 70-74%

F= <75%

Course Schedule

Date	Session Title/Topic	Instructor
8-12-24 (Week 1)	Information, Sources and Regulatory Agencies; Drug Action and Handling; Adverse Reactions; Prescription Writing/ Chapters 1-3	Dr. Abraham
8-19-24 (Week 2)	Autonomic Drugs/ Chapter 4/ Quiz #1 (covers Chap 1-3)	Dr. Abraham
8-26-24 (Week 3)	Nonopioid and Opioid Analgesics/Chapters 5-6 / Quiz#2 (Covers Chap 4)	Dr. Abraham
9-2-24 (Week 4)	<i>Labor Day Holiday: No Class</i>	No Class
9-9-24 (Week 5)	Anti-infective, Antiviral, and Antifungal Agents/Chapters 7-8/ Quiz #3 (Covers Chap 5-6)	Dr. Abraham
9-16-24 (Week 6)	Antianxiety Agents and Local Anesthetics Chapters 9- 10 Quiz #4 (Covers Chap 7-8)	Dr. Abraham
9-23-24 (Week7)	Drugs for the Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease/ Chapter 12/ Quiz #5 (Covers Chap 9-10)	Dr. Abraham
9-30-24 (Week 8)	Drugs for the Treatment of Gastrointestinal Disease/ Chapter 13/ Quiz #6 (Covers Chap 12)	Dr. Abraham
10-7-24 (Week 9)	Drugs for the treatment of Seizure Disorders and Central Nervous System Disorders/ Chapters 14-15/ Quiz #7 (Covers Chap 13)	Dr. Abraham
10-14-24 (Week 10)	Adrenocorticosteroids/ Drugs for the Treatment of Respiratory Disorders/ Chapters 16-17/ Quiz #8 (Covers Chapters 14-15)	Dr. Abraham
10-21-24 (Week 11)	Drugs for the Treatment of Diabetes Mellitus/ Chapter 18 / Quiz #9 (Covers Chap 16-17)	Dr. Abraham
10-28-24 (Week 12)	Drugs for the Treatment of other Endocrine Disorders/ Antineoplastic Drugs/ Chapters 19-20/ Quiz #10 (Covers Chapter 18)	Dr. Abraham
11-4-24 (Week 13)	Emergency Drugs/ Pregnancy and Breast Feeding/Chapters 21-22/ Quiz #11 (Covers Chapters 19-20)	Dr. Abraham
11-11-24 (Week 14)	Substance Abuse Disorders /Natural and Herbal Products and Dietary Supplements/ Chapters 23-24/ Quiz #12 (Covers Chap 21-22)	Dr. Abraham
11-18-24 (Week 15)	Oral Conditions and Their Treatment/ Hygiene-Related Disorders/Chapters 25-26/ Quiz #13 (Covers Chap 23-24)	Dr. Abraham
11-25-24 (Week 16)	<i>No Class-Thanksgiving Break</i>	N/A
12-2-24 (Week 17)	Quiz #14 (Covers Chap 25-26) and a Review for the Final Exam	Dr. Abraham
12-9-24 (Week 18)	Final Examination	Dr. Abraham

Technology Support

Students are responsible for maintaining their devices and ensuring that they are in proper working order throughout the semester. This includes maintaining access to the college wireless network, access to all accounts (both TAMU and TAMU Health) and keeping passwords up to date. Students are expected to keep their devices up-to-date in regards to patches and OS updates.

Division of IT

If the student experiences issues with an electronic device, Wi-Fi access, Axiom, Zoom, or user accounts, their first point of contact should be the Division of IT Central Help Desk or the local Division of IT at COD. The Central Helpdesk provides 24-hour support.

Division of IT Central Help Desk

Website: <https://it.tamu.edu/help/>

Phone: 1-979-845-8300

Email: helpdesk@tamu.edu

COD Local Division of IT Office

Room: 529

Phone: 214-828-8248

COD Instructional Design Team

For electronic exam support or problems concerning other academic technology, such as the LMS (Blackboard or Canvas), Exam Soft, or Exemplify, students should contact the Instructional Design team.

Room: 516 through Academic Affairs

Carmina Castro - ccastro@tamu.edu (214-828-8316)

Jeff Lowry - lowryj1@tamu.edu (214-828-8243)

University Policies

Attendance Policy

The university views class attendance and participation as an individual student responsibility. Students are expected to attend class and to complete all assignments.

For any absences (excused or unexcused), it will be the student's responsibility to contact the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) by sending an email to Sod-attendance@tamu.edu prior to the start of class session. The OSA will decide if your absence is excused or unexcused. Make sure to provide your name, class level, the date(s) of absence and reason for your absence, the names of the instructors that need to be notified. If documentation is requested, it must be from a medical provider on letterhead with the provider's signature and be submitted within 3 business days of returning to school.

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about excused absences, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

Excused Absences

Illnesses or emergencies: It is understood that absences due to severe or contagious illness, injuries or emergencies may occur. An absence due to illness may require a medical confirmation note from a student's medical provider. For injuries or illnesses that require a student to be absent from class for three or more business days, a note from his or her medical provider is mandatory. If a student has frequented sick days, the program director may require a medical provider's note for each absence.

Note: An absence from a non-acute medical service does not constitute an excused absence.

Religious holy day: A student whose absence is excused under, or the observance of religious holy day will be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within 3 days after the absence. **If the student fails to schedule and complete the exam or assignment within three days, a grade of zero will be given.**

Unexcused Absences

Tardiness and non-emergent appointments (illnesses not considered severe or contagious) scheduled during class time will be considered as an unexcused absence. Quizzes and exams start at the beginning of class time. Students who arrive late will not receive extra time to take the quiz/exam. Since classroom learning applies directly to patient care, sleeping in class is considered an unexcused absence and is subject to the remediation policy. **Students with unexcused absences or late arrivals will have TWO points deducted from their final course grade. No make-up quiz/test will be given** if an absence is unexcused on a test day. Examinations will not be administered in advance for a planned/anticipated unexcused absence.

General Information

For any absences (excused or unexcused), it will be the student's responsibility to review the lecture recordings for the class(es) missed. Additionally, the student must complete a make-up assignment(s) within 10 calendar days (including weekends) after returning to school. The make-up assignment will require the student to thoroughly answer the learning objectives for the class session(s) and define any listed terminology. The assignment must demonstrate the student has listened to the recording(s) and read the assigned reading. Make-up assignments must be typed or handwritten (legibly), contain the title of the missed class session(s) and be sent via email within the 10-calendar-day deadline. **Failure to complete the make-up assignment(s) within this time will result in TWO points being deducted from student's final grade.**

Makeup Work Policy

Students will be excused from attending class on the day of a graded activity or when attendance contributes to a student's grade, for the reasons stated in Student Rule 7, or other reason deemed appropriate by the instructor.

The designation of excused or unexcused absence will be determined on an individual basis by the Office of Student Affairs. For any absences (excused or unexcused), it will be the student's responsibility to review the lecture recordings for the class(es) missed. Additionally, the student must complete any make-up assignment(s) within **10 calendar days (including weekends) after returning to school. Failure to complete the make-up assignment(s) within this period will result in TWO points being deducted from student's final grade.**

Please refer to [Student Rule 7](#) in its entirety for information about makeup work, including definitions, and related documentation and timelines.

Absences related to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 may necessitate a period of more than 30 days for make-up work, and the timeframe for make-up work should be agreed upon by the student and instructor" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.1](#)).

"The instructor is under no obligation to provide an opportunity for the student to make up work missed because of an unexcused absence" ([Student Rule 7, Section 7.4.2](#)).

Students who request an excused absence are expected to uphold the Aggie Honor Code and Student Conduct Code. (See [Student Rule 24](#).)

Academic Integrity Statement and Policy

"An Aggie does not lie, cheat or steal, or tolerate those who do."

"Texas A&M University students are responsible for authenticating all work submitted to an instructor. If asked, students must be able to produce proof that the item submitted is indeed the work of that student. Students must always keep appropriate records. The inability to authenticate one's work, should the instructor request it, may be sufficient grounds to initiate an academic misconduct case" ([Section 20.1.2.3, Student Rule 20](#)).

You can learn more about the Aggie Honor System Office Rules and Procedures, academic integrity, and your rights and responsibilities at aggiehonor.tamu.edu.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy

Texas A&M University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. If you experience barriers to your education due to a disability or think you may have a disability, please contact the Office for Academic Affairs in the Administration Building, Room 514 or at 214-828-8978 or bramsey@tamu.edu. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to attentional, learning, mental health, sensory, physical, or chronic health conditions. All students are encouraged to discuss their disability related needs with Disability Resources and their instructors as soon as possible.

Title IX and Statement on Limits to Confidentiality

Texas A&M University is committed to fostering a learning environment that is safe and productive for all. University policies and federal and state laws prohibit gender-based discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

With the exception of some medical and mental health providers, all university employees (including full and part-time faculty, staff, paid graduate assistants, student workers, etc.) are Mandatory Reporters and must report to the Title IX Office if the employee experiences, observes, or becomes aware of an incident that meets the following conditions (see [University Rule 08.01.01.M1](#)):

- The incident is reasonably believed to be discrimination or harassment.
- The incident is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who, at the time of the incident, was (1) a student enrolled at the University or (2) an employee of the University.

Mandatory Reporters must file a report regardless of how the information comes to their attention – including but not limited to face-to-face conversations, a written class assignment or paper, class discussion, email, text, or social media post. Although Mandatory Reporters must file a report, in most instances, a person who is subjected to the alleged conduct will be able to control how the report is handled, including whether or not to pursue a formal investigation. The University’s goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and to ensure access to the resources you need.

Students wishing to discuss concerns in a confidential setting are encouraged to make an appointment with [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (CAPS).

Students can learn more about filing a report, accessing supportive resources, and navigating the Title IX investigation and resolution process on the University’s [Title IX webpage](#).

Statement on Mental Health and Wellness

Texas A&M University recognizes that mental health and wellness are critical factors that influence a student’s academic success and overall wellbeing. Students are encouraged to engage in healthy self-care by utilizing the resources and services available from Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS). Students who need someone to talk to can call the TAMU Helpline (979-845-2700) from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. 24-hour emergency help is also available through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline (800-273-8255) or at [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](#).