



**Medical-Surgical Nursing I: NURS 127: SPRING 2026: Course Syllabus\_ v 02 21 2026**

**Basic Course Information**

Semester:	<b>SPRING 2026</b>	Instructor Name:	<b>Julie Kunath MS APRN AGPCNP-AG AACNS-AG CCRN-K CNE</b>
Course Title #:	<b>NURS 127: Medical-Surgical Nursing I</b>	Email:	<b>Julie.kunath@imperial.edu. Jeanine.mora@imperial.edu</b>
CRN #:	<b>21378</b>	Webpage:	<b>CANVAS, Pronto, Zoom</b>
Classroom:	<b>Bldg. 2100, room 2152</b>	Office #:	<b>2103</b>
Class Dates:	<b>02/17 – 04/17/2026</b>	Office Hours:	<b>Mondays 1045-1145 &amp; 1315-1415; Wednesdays 1300-1500</b>
Class Days:	<b>Weds, Thurs, Fri</b>	Office Phone #:	<b>(760) 355 - 6422</b>
Class Times:	<b>Theory: Weds 1500-1920 Clinical/Lab: Thurs, Fri</b>	Emergency Contact:	<b>Nursing Office (760) 355 - 6348</b>
Units:	<b>4</b>	Class Format:	<b>In-person</b>

**LAST DATE TO DROP COURSE WITH A "W" IS March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Course Description**

This course focuses on the care of adult clients with health alterations that require medical and/or surgical intervention. Emphasis is placed on the care of clients with alterations in selected body functions. Concepts of client-centered care, cultural sensitivity, informatics, safe practice, and professionalism are integrated throughout the course. Clinical experiences provide the student an opportunity to apply theoretical concepts and implement safe client care to adults in a variety of settings. Additional materials fee applies

**Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)**

Prerequisites: NURS 107 Nursing Fundamentals and NURS 109 Pharmacology

Corequisites: NURS 123 Pharmacology II

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Plan, implement, and evaluate outcome of nursing care of adult patients with common problems of the respiratory, surgical, and/or musculoskeletal systems. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO5)
2. Demonstrate appropriate and safe techniques for IV insertion in lab or simulated setting. (ILO2, ILO3)
3. Demonstrate safe medication administration in a simulated or clinical setting. (ILO2, ILO3, ILO5)

**Course Objectives**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Perform a comprehensive health assessment on adult clients with medical and/or surgical alterations and identify deviations from normal as well as related health risk.
2. Develop an individualized, evidence- based plan of care that demonstrates an appreciation of a patient's cultural, spiritual, and developmental variations and includes recommendations for the adoption of health-promoting behaviors.
3. Participate as a member of the interprofessional health care team and patient advocate while providing quality care that promotes patient safety for adults with medical and/or surgical health alterations.
4. Demonstrate clinical judgment and participate in the evaluation of outcomes when providing care to adult patients experiencing health alterations.
5. Apply knowledge of pharmacology, pathophysiology, and nutrition as well as established evidence - based practice to the care of older adult patients with common health alterations.
6. Use verbal and nonverbal communication that promotes therapeutic relationships with adult patients

and their families, as well as professional relationships with members of the interprofessional health care team.

7. Use information technologies to access evidence-based literature and patient information as well as communicate with members of the interprofessional health care team, accurately documenting patient care in a secure and timely manner.

8. Identify, plan, and provide health and safety related education to adult patients and their families in conjunction with members of the interprofessional health care team.

9. Use organizational and priority-setting skills when providing care to adult patients with medical and/or surgical health alterations.

10. Acknowledge the importance of the nurse's role in measuring patient outcomes, reporting patient safety and quality care concerns and participating in activities that promote performance improvement.

11. Adhere to ethical, legal and professional standards while maintaining accountability and responsibility for the care provided to adult patients and their families

### Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

REQUIRED
Hinkle, J.L., Cheever, K.H., and Overbaugh, K.J. (2022). <i>Brunner &amp; Suddarth's textbook of medical-surgical nursing (16<sup>th</sup> ed.)</i> . Wolters Kluwer. ISBN: 978-1975161033
Lynn, P. (2023). <i>Taylor's clinical nursing skills (6<sup>th</sup> ed.)</i> . Wolters Kluwer. ISBN: 978-1975168704
Burchum, J. R., & Rosenthal, L. D. (2024). <i>Lehne's pharmacology for nursing care (12<sup>th</sup> ed.)</i> . Elsevier. ISBN-13 paperback: 978-044310708
ATI Package nursing education. (Content Mastery Series: Review Module)
RECOMMENDED
Burchum, J. R., & Rosenthal, L. D. (2024). Study guide for <i>Lehne's pharmacology for nursing care (12<sup>th</sup> ed.)</i> . Elsevier. ISBN-13: 978-0443106194
Skidmore-Roth, L. (2024). <i>Mosby's drug guide for nursing students (16<sup>th</sup> ed.)</i> . Elsevier, Inc. ISBN-13: 978-0443380693
Or Vallerand, A.H. & Sanoski, C.A. (2025). <i>Davis's drug guide for nurses (19<sup>th</sup> ed.)</i> . F.A. Davis. ISBN: 978-1719650038

### Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

#### A. Hours

NURS 127 is a 4-unit theory course. Lectures are held 5 hours per week and clinical hours are 13 per week.

**Clinical hours may be adjusted to meet the required assignment locations; this may include a clinical rotation at a different time than posted or on a different day. Students are responsible for transportation to clinical sites and attendance at all scheduled clinical rotations.**

#### B. Assignments:

Reading, CD/video, Internet, and writing assignments are required. Students will be expected to read, understand, and critique information from college level textbooks, nursing journals, or equivalent. The reading list will include texts used in prior nursing courses and those required of this course (see text book list).

Additional reading assignments will be required to supplement textbook material. Writing assignments will reflect the objectives listed and may include, but not be limited to, short essays, posters, and/or professional papers.

Outside assignments including but not limited to nursing lectures, independent exercises, and learning center activities may be assigned and are required.

Clinical pre-assignments will include preparing for clinical by practicing skills, obtaining patient data, reviewing medication information, and completing pre-assignments as designated for each clinical area. Clinical hours will be spent demonstrating proficiency, providing professional nursing care to assigned patients, observations in various clinical departments, and participating in simulation. Written post-assignments will relate to clinical experience and may include but not be limited to care plans, case studies, professional papers/posters, and journal entries. Clinical sites may include hospitals, clinics, simulation lab, schools, home health agencies, public health agencies and social service agencies.

It is each student's responsibility to complete all facility requirements, i.e., BLS training, immunizations, background checks, drug screening, specific hospital orientation, etc., prior to clinical rotations (please see the student handbook for more information). **A student will not be allowed to attend any clinical hours until this is done. If over the maximum hours of absenteeism because of this, the student will be dropped from the class.**

Plagiarism and cheating policies noted in the RN student handbook and IVC policies will be strictly enforced. Students are expected to develop original work for this course. It is recommended that students visit the college library to become acquainted with research tools available.

### Methods of Instruction

The methods of instruction will be determined by each instructor and may include, but not be limited to the following: **small group discussions, student presentations, demonstration, simulations, classroom lecture, CD or online assisted instruction, audiovisuals, textbooks, handouts, and required reading and writing assignments.**

During all classroom and clinical instruction time, every person will be respected within the group and it is expected that all interactions between students, faculty, and other staff will take place professionally and courteously. **It is expected that students will come prepared for class by completing reading assignments and skills practice on their own time. Students should be prepared for class to have discussions and case studies, simulations etc. Theory may not include a lecture.**

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

### Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Students must maintain a "C" average grade as determined by the scale below:

A = 93-100%

B = 84-92%

C = 78-83%

F = Below 78%

Grades will not be "rounded". To advance to the next semester, a "C" or better is required in this course.

### **All the following must be attained to successfully pass this course:**

**A. Theory (exams) grade must total equivalent of 78% or greater**

**B. Medication Math Exam must be passed with a 92% or higher. If 1st attempt is less than 92%, student will have 1 additional chance to pass with a 96% per student handbook.**

- C. Attendance requirements as noted below must be met.
- D. Less than 3 unsatisfactory in clinical work must occur.
- E. Final clinical evaluation must show all categories as “Satisfactory”.

**Grade Composition:**

Theory Exams	40%
Quizzes / Review Quizzes / Med Math quizzes	10%
HW / ATI HW / Case Studies	10%
Clinical / Clinical Assignments	20%
Final Exam	20%
<b>TOTAL GRADE</b>	<b>100%</b>

Testing will include no more than 7 examinations in addition to written, demonstration, and/or oral assignments, and a final examination. Pop quizzes may be included. EXCEPT FOR UNDER EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES, THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UPS FOR TESTS OR QUIZZES MISSED DUE TO ABSENCE.

If a student fails an exam, a remediation plan will be developed to address any deficits identified. Failure of an exam will result in a referral to the NLC/instructor.

Clinical evaluation will be done on an ongoing basis with a student required to meet “satisfactory” in all areas to pass the course. Evaluation is based on written assignments, adherence to nursing standards of care, QSEN competencies, and professional performance. As a part of professional performance, a student must maintain and demonstrate competency in dosage calculation at all times. An unsatisfactory in clinical may be given based on the same standards of care and professional performance and will require remediation in the learning center. Three unsatisfactory grades given in clinical or failure to meet the clinical objectives will result in failure of this class regardless of the overall grade.

Schedule and total points available may change at the discretion of the instructors, taking into account the progress of students with the materials. Any change will be announced in class, via email or announcements through Canvas. Students are held responsible for all materials covered in the syllabus and for any changes that are announced in class or by email/announcements via Canvas.

To evaluate a student’s ability to provide patient safety and to demonstrate clinical competence, students must be present in clinical. Absenteeism and/or tardiness beyond the maximum allowed will result in being dropped from NURS127. This will result in a “W” grade if before the drop date and “F” if after that date.

**It is recommended that if a grade falls below 80%, the student is recommended to arrange to meet with the faculty member.** Faculty can be reached in person, by email, or during office hours to discuss grades or other classroom or clinical matters. The student is responsible for withdrawing (W) from the class before the deadline as outlined on your registration forms. Failure to pass this class will affect your ability to progress to the next semester. Students who are failing or withdrawing must complete a **Petition to Re-Enter**. Simulations are a safe learning environment where all students will have the opportunity to interact within a structured scenario. Simulations will be utilized during this class and simulation materials will be handed out during the semester. All advance assignments such as mini-care plans/concept maps and pre-assignments must be completed before the start of class. Failure to complete the pre-assignment will prevent the student from participating.



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

## Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

## Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

## Course Policies

It is the responsibility of each student to attend all classroom and clinical hours and to contact the faculty person before the start of class of any need to be excused from class. If a student does not contact the faculty member by the assigned time and is absent, a clinical unsatisfactory for professional behaviors will be given. Students are expected to attend all classes.

**Absences are limited to the equivalent of the number of hours the class meets in one week over a full semester; as a short-term class, this equates to one theory day (4 hours) absence and one clinical day absence (6.5 hrs).** A student who reaches the maximum allowable hours of absenteeism or tardiness may be dropped by the instructor. Tardiness to Theory and Clinical classes is limited to 3 tardies.

**Three tardies equal one absence and the student will receive an unsatisfactory for professional behavior. A student may be placed on a behavioral contract.**

## Other Course Information

Acceptance of absenteeism excuses is at the faculty member's discretion and may result in class failure. A student who reaches the maximum allowable number of hours absent and is not allowed to continue may file a petition to reenter the nursing program. The teaching team will meet with the student to discuss remediation and the possibility of reentry. Tardiness will be included in the calculation of absenteeism.

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the importance of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property. There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated

acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

**Examples of Academic Dishonesty that can occur in an online environment:**

- Copying from others on a quiz, test, examination, or assignment.
- Allowing someone else to copy your assignment.
- Conferring with others during a test or quiz (if the instructor didn't explicitly say it was a group project, then he/she expects you to do the work without conferring with others);
- Buying or using a term paper or research paper from an internet source or other company or taking any work of another, even with permission, and presenting the work as your own.
- Excessive revising or editing by others that substantially alters your final work.
- Sharing information that allows other students an advantage on an exam (such as telling a peer what to expect on a make-up exam or preparing a student for a test in another section of the same class);
- Taking and using the words, work, or ideas of others and presenting any of these as your work is plagiarism. This applies to all work generated by another, including oral, written, or artistic work. Plagiarism may either be deliberate or unintentional.
- Screenshots of exams during a review.

**Financial Aid**

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at [finaid@imperial.edu](mailto:finaid@imperial.edu).

**IVC Student Resources**

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

**Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar**

**\*\*\*Tentative, subject to change without prior notice\*\*\***

**Reading and assignments due before class are to be completed so that you may be an active participant in synchronous class discussions and class activities.**

<b>SPRING 2026 / Week #s</b> - Lecture Weds 1500-1715 -Clinical Thurs or Friday and as announced	<b>Activity, Assignment, Topics, and/or Test</b>	<b>Reading / Due Dates / Review and Practice Materials</b>
<b>Week 1</b> <b>Weds, FEBRUARY 18<sup>th</sup></b>  Syllabus Review Clinical Packet Semester Plan; Perioperative Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Syllabus Review, Clinical Packet, plan for semester</li> <li>• Perioperative Care</li> </ul> Thursday – head to toe assessments Friday – virtual PMHD orientation via Teams	<b>Review:</b> Physical Assessment  <b>Read: Brunner's-</b> Ch4 Adult Health and Physical Assessment, Nutritional, Spiritual and Cultural Assessment



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

<p>Thurs &amp; Fri clinical groups –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>2/19 Thurs 1600-2000</b> head-to-toe assessments in lab 1 and document shift assessment.</li> <li>• <b>2/20 Fri PMHD orientation virtual via Microsoft Teams 0900 - 1200</b></li> </ul>	<p>Review ATI Skills Modules and upload proof of completion to Canvas assignments for the following:</p> <p>SKILLS MODULES 3.0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive physical assessment of the adult</li> <li>• Surgical asepsis</li> <li>• Urinary Elimination</li> <li>• Oral &amp; Topical Medication Administration</li> <li>• Injectable Medication Administration</li> </ul>	<p><b>Review and Practice:</b> Dosage Calculations</p> <p>Perioperative Care: Brunner's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch14 Preop</li> <li>• Ch15 Intra-op</li> <li>• Ch16 Post-op</li> </ul> <p>Taylor's Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch6</li> <li>• Ch10</li> </ul> <p>ATI Medsurg <b>ATI Skills Modules proof uploads due by 2/24/2026</b></p>
<p><b>Week 2</b> <b>Weds, February 24<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p>Thurs/Friday clinical</p>	<p><b>Med Math Test (@1500):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Including reconstitution problems, I&amp;O(including tube feeding, urine output etc.), oral medications, injectable medications, some IV calculations</li> </ul> <p><b>Exam #1: Perioperative Care (@ 1630)</b></p> <p>Alterations in Fluid and Electrolytes / IV Therapy</p>	<p>Brunner's: Ch10 Fluid &amp; Electrolytes</p> <p>ATI: medsurg</p> <p>Complete ATI skills modules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fluids &amp; Electrolytes</li> <li>2. IV Therapy</li> </ol> <p><b>Proof of completion due in Canvas by 03/02/2026</b></p>
<p><b>Week 3</b> <b>Weds, March 4<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Exam #2 Alterations in Fluid &amp; Electrolytes / IV Therapy</b></p> <p>Alterations in Oxygenation</p> <p><b>Respiratory Sim w/Sim Team- mandatory attendance</b></p>	<p>Brunners Ch17, 18 Ch19 pp 542-551, Ch20 pp 609-619, 632-642</p> <p>Taylor's Skills: Ch38</p> <p>ATI Medsurg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete Oxygenations skills module</li> <li>• Complete Respiratory Deterioration Game</li> <li>• <a href="https://can-sim.ca/accessjama/Respiratory-Deterioration/#/">https://can-sim.ca/accessjama/Respiratory-Deterioration/#/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Upload proof of completion in canvas by 3/8/2026</b></p>
<p><b>Week 4</b> <b>Weds, March 11<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p>Thurs / Fri Clinical</p>	<p><b>Exam #3 Alterations in Oxygenation</b></p> <p>Alterations in Mobility</p>	<p>Brunners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch35</li> <li>• Ch36</li> <li>• Ch37</li> </ul>



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATI Medsurg</li> </ul>
<b>Week 5</b> <b>Weds, March 18<sup>th</sup></b>  Thurs / Fri Clinical	Alterations in Integument	Brunner's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch55 Integumentary Assessment</li> <li>• Ch56 Dermatologic Disorders and Wounds</li> </ul> ATI Medsurg: Ch 74 - 76
<b>Week 6</b> <b>Weds, March 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Exam #4 Alterations in Mobility and Integument</b></p> Alterations in Ingestion, Digestion, Absorption, and Elimination  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thurs (3/26) / Friday (3/27): IV Skills Validation on campus</b></p>	Brunners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ch38</li> <li>• Ch39</li> <li>• Ch40</li> </ul> ATI Medsurg: Ch 47 - 51
<b>Week 7</b> <b>Weds, April 2<sup>nd</sup></b>  Thurs / Fri Clinical	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Exam #5 Alterations in Ingestion, Digestion, Absorption and Elimination</b></p> Alterations in Reproductive System	Brunner's: Ch56 Female Reproductive Disorders  ATI Medsurg: Ch 64 – 66  Patient teaching presentation due this week to your clinical instructor.
	<b>Spring Break</b>	
<b>Week 9</b> <b>Weds, April 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Final Exam @ 1500</b>	

\*\*\*Subject to change without prior notice\*\*\*