

NURS 4804 - Health Assessment for RNs

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section A01, CRN 41855,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Lori A. Fusco, DNP, RN, CNE

Professional Qualifications:

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), Educational Leadership, Case Western Reserve University, 2020

Master of Science in Nursing (MSN), Nursing Education, Youngstown State University, 2013

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), Youngstown State University, 1997

Associate Applied Science (AAS), Dietetics, Youngstown State University, 1982

Certified Nurse Educator (CNE), National League for Nursing (NLN)

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Lori A. Fusco, DNP, RN, CNE

Instructor Professional Qualifications: Doctor of Nursing Practice, Case Western Reserve University; Master's Nursing Education, Youngtown State University; Bachelor's Nursing, Youngstown State University; Associate Dietetics, Youngstown State University

Instructor Office Location: Cushwa Hall, Room 3112

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Course Description

4804. Health Assessment for RNs. Increase clinical knowledge and skills in health assessment of clients of various age groups, and the reporting and recording of findings. Prereq.: admission to online RN-BSN completion program. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
	Bates' nursing guide to physical examination and history taking (3rd ed.)	Hogan-Quigley, B., & Palm, M.L. (2022)	9781975161095

Required

Review Blackboard content weekly.

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.



Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
10/19	Ch 3 - Interviewing and communication Ch 4 - Health history Ch 6 - Physical examination Ch 7 - General survey Ch 9 - Integumentary system	Welcome Interviewing, health history, physical exam - getting started, general survey, and integumentary system	Due 6/28 at 7pm: Discussion post: due 10/21, 10/25 at 11:59 PM Assignment: due 10/25 at 11:59 PM - health history, functional health patterns, assessment of skin Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
10/26	Ch 10 - Head and neck Ch 11 - Eyes Ch 12 - Ears, nose, mouth, and throat	The head and neck, eyes, ears, nose, mouth, and throat	Due 7/12 at 7pm: Discussion post: none Assignment: due 11/1 at 11:59 PM - Health history, assessment of head and neck, eyes, ears, nose, mouth and throat Assignment: Submit topic for Module 7 assignment due 11/1 at 11:59 pm Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
11/2	Ch 13 - Respiratory system Ch 14 - Cardiovascular system Ch 15 - Peripheral vascular system and lymphatic system Ch 17 - Breasts and axillae	Respiratory, cardiovascular, peripheral vascular and lymphatic systems, and breast and axillae	Discussion post: none Assignment: due 11/8 at 11:59 pm - Health history assessment of the respiratory, cardiovascular, PV and lymphatic systems Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
11/9	Ch 16 - Gastrointestinal and renal systems Ch 18 - Musculoskeletal systems Ch 21 - Reproductive systems	Gastrointestinal, renal, musculoskeletal and reproductive systems	Due 7/26 at 7pm: Discussion post: due 11/11, 11/15 at 11:59 pm Assignment: due 11/15 at 11:59 pm - Health history, assessment of gastrointestinal, renal, musculoskeletal, and reproductive systems Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
11/16	Ch 5 - Cultural and spiritual assessment Ch 19 - Mental status/mental health assessment Ch 20 - Nervous system Ch 22 - Putting the examination all together	Culture/spirituality, mental status/mental health, nervous system, putting it all together	Discussion post: none Assignment: due 11/22 at 11:59 pm - Health history, assessment of culture/spirituality, mental status and nervous system Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
11/23	FINAL EXAM on Black Board Head-to-toe assessment - be sure to follow rubric for assessment	Final Exam Head-to-toe examination video	Final Exam: due 11/29 at 11:59 pm Assignment: due 11/29 at 11:59 pm - head-to-toe examination video
11/30	Develop a ONE page Assessment Handout on an alternative population such as an infant, toddler, school age, adolescent, older adult, or end of life patient. The hand out should include assessments/techniques that are different than a normal adult assessment. Note: assignment due date changes this week	Alternate Health Assessment Guide	Discussion post: due Wedn. 12/2; response due Friday 12/4 at 11:59 pm Assignment: due 12/2 at 11:59 pm - Alternative Health Assessment Guide Course evaluation: due Saturday, 12/5

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.