

NURS 4804 - Health Assessment for RNs

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section A04, CRN 43015,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Lori Fusco

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Public Instructor Information

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

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

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

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

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

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

Certified Nurse Educator (CNE), National League for Nursing

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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
Required	Bates' nursing guide to physical examination and history taking (3rd ed.). Wolters Kluwer.	Hogan-Quigley, B., & Palm, M.L. (2022)	9781975187729

Includes eBook access with CoursePoint Plus

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	Discussion Post: Due Wedn. and Sunday at 11:59 pm Assignment: Due Sunday 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	Discussion Post: None Assignment #1: Due Sunday at 11:59 pm - Health History, Assessment of Head and Neck; Eyes; Ears, Nose, Mouth, and Throat Assignment #2: Submit topic for Module 7 assignment, due Sunday 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 Sunday at 11:59 pm - Health History, Assessment of the The Respiratory, Cardiovascular, PV, Lymphatic, and Breasts 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	Discussion Post: Due Wedn. and Sunday at 11:59 pm Assignment: Due Sunday 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 Culture 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 Sunday 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 the Rubric for the Assessment	FINAL EXAM Head-to-Toe Assessment Video	Final Exam: Due Sunday at 11:59 pm Assignment: Due Sunday at 11:59 pm - Head-to-Toe Assessment 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. Hand out should include assessments/techniques that are different than a normal adult assessment. NOTE: assignment due dates change this week	Alternative Health Assessment Guide	Discussion Post: Due Wedn. and Sunday at 11:59 pm Assignment: Due Wedn. at 11:59 pm - Alternative Health Assessment Guide Course Evaluation: Due Saturday at 11:59 pm

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.