

NURS 4840 - Complex Care

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 40704,

Credit hours: 5

Instructor

Eiryn McKay

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Public Instructor Information

Senior Lecturer

Professional Qualifications:

MSN, Nursing Education, Kent State University (2020)

BSN, Nursing, Kent State University (2009)

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Course Description

4840. Complex Care. High acuity, restorative, and health promoting care of clients with complex health problems. Three hours lecture, six hours clinical experience in a variety of settings per week. Prereq.: NURS 3743, NURS 3743L, Entry-level BSN senior status. 5 s.h.



Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	Engage Adult Medical Surgical RN (modules).	ATI (2023)	
Optional	RN adult medical surgical nursing (ed. 12.0). Review Modules 2023 RN - eBook.	ATI (2023)	
Optional	High-acuity nursing (7th ed.). Pearson	Wagner, K. D., & Hardin-Pierce, M. G.	

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

Day	Date	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
Mon	8/24	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Intro to CC & Emergency Nursing • Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange OPTIONAL: • ATI RN Adult M/S Nursing eBook: Ch.27: Resp. Failure • ATI RN Adult M/S Nursing eBook: Ch.20: Resp. Mgmt. & Mech. Vent. • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.1: 1-2, 7 (Intro content) • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.2: 20-22, 24-26 • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.3: 32-35, 39-41 • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.4: 64-69 • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.7: 137-168 (Resp/Vents)	Syllabus Review Intro to CC & Emergency Nursing Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange	Week 1 Clinical: campus Sim-Lab Watch assigned videos: Intro to ICU Nursing Watch assigned videos: PPT Arterial Lines video
Wed	8/26	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Intro to CC & Emergency Nursing • Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange OPTIONAL • ATI RN Adult M/S Nursing eBook: Ch.27: Resp. Failure • ATI RN Adult M/S Nursing eBook: Ch.20: Resp. Mgmt. & Mech. Vent. • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.1: 1-2, 7 (Intro content) • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.2: 20-22, 24-26 • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.3: 32-35, 39-41 • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.4: 64-69 • Wagner & Hardin-Pierce text: Ch.7: 137-168 (Resp/Vents)	Intro to CC & Emergency Nursing Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange	Week 1 Clinical: campus Sim-Lab Watch assigned videos: Intro to ICU Nursing Watch assigned videos: PPT Arterial Lines video
Mon	8/31	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange Alterations in Health: • Disrupted Homeostasis: Acid-Base imbalance info • Alterations in Gas Exchange OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 18: Resp. Diagnostic & Therapeutic Procedures • ATI: Ch. 46: Acid-Base imbalances • Wagner: Ch 7: 137-168 (Resp/Vents) • Wagner: Ch. 11: 289-319 (Pulm/ABGs)	Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange Disrupted Homeostasis: Acid-Base Imbalance Info Alterations in Gas Exchange	Week 2 Clinical: campus Sim-Lab Week 2 Clinical: Math Test*



Wed	9/2	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange Alterations in Health: • Disrupted Homeostasis: Acid-Base Imbalance Info • Alterations in Gas Exchange OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 18: Resp. Diagnostic & Therapeutic Procedures • ATI: Ch. 46: Acid-Base imbalances • Wagner: Ch 7: 137-168 (Resp/Vents) • Wagner: Ch. 11: 289-319 (Pulm/ABGs)	Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange Disrupted Homeostasis: Acid-Base Imbalance Info Alterations in Gas Exchange	Week 2 Clinical: campus Sim-Lab Week 2 Clinical: Math Test*
Mon	9/7	No Class		
Wed	9/9	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange Alterations in Health: • Disrupted Homeostasis: Acid-Base Imbalance Info OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 25: Pulm Embolism • ATI: Ch. 26: Pneumo/Hemothorax • ATI: Ch. 19: CT insertion & Monitoring • Wagner: Ch. 11: 289-319 (Pulm/ABGs) • Wagner: Ch. 12: 321-359 (Pulm Alterations)	Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange Disrupted Homeostasis: Acid-Base Imbalance Info	Hospital Clinicals Begin
Mon	9/14	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health: • Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 28: CV Diagnostics/Procedures • ATI: Ch. 29: ECG/Dysrhythmias • Wagner: Ch. 8: 171-196 (Hemodynamics) • Wagner: Ch. 9: 198-251 (ECG)	Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion	*Quiz 1 - covers content through 9/9 Virtual Application-Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange: due this Friday 9/18/26 by 11:59pm
Wed	9/16	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health: • Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 28: CV Diagnostics/Procedures • ATI: Ch. 29: ECG/Dysrhythmias • Wagner: Ch. 8: 171-196 (Hemodynamics) • Wagner: Ch. 9: 198-251 (ECG)	Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion	Virtual Application-Critical Alterations in Gas Exchange: due this Friday 9/18/26 by 11:59pm



Mon	9/21	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health: • CV Function and Perfusion OPTIONAL ATI: Ch. 29: ECG/Dysrhythmias ATI: Ch. 30: Pacemakers/ICDs Wagner: Ch. 9: 198-251 (ECG)	Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion	
Wed	9/23	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health: • Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 29: ECG/Dysrhythmias • ATI: Ch. 30: Pacemakers/ICDs • Wagner: Ch. 9: 198-251 (ECG)	Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion	
Mon	9/28	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health • Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 33: HF and Pulm Edema • ATI: Ch. 34: Valvular Heart Disease • Wagner: Ch. 13: 365-389 (Cardiac assessment) • Wagner: Ch. 14: 391-415 (Alt. Cardiac Fx)	Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion	*Quiz 2 - covers content through 9/23/26
Wed	9/30	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health: • Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 33: HF and Pulm Edema • ATI: Ch. 34: Valvular Heart Disease • Wagner: Ch. 13: 365-389 (Cardiac assessment) • Wagner: Ch. 14: 391-415 (Alt. Cardiac Fx)	Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion	



Mon	10/5	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health: • Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 31: Invasive CV Procedures • ATI: Ch. 32: Angina and MI • ATI: Ch. 39: Aneurysms • Wagner: Ch. 15: 418-440 (Alt. Myocardial Perfusion)	Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion	*Quiz 3 - covers content through 9/30/26
Wed	10/7	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health: • Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 31: Invasive CV Procedures • ATI: Ch. 32: Angina and MI • ATI: Ch. 39: Aneurysms • Wagner: Ch. 15: 418-440 (Alt. Myocardial Perfusion)	Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in CV Function and Perfusion	Wrap up of listed content/Midterm Review
Mon	10/12	MIDTERM EXAM		Comprehensive Midterm Exam
Wed	10/14	MODULES Alterations in Health • Disrupted Homeostasis: Fluid and Electrolyte Imbalance Lessons • Alterations in Kidney Function and Elimination OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 44: Fluid Imbalances • ATI: Ch. 45: Electrolyte Imbalances • ATI: Ch. 77: Endocrine diagnostics (SIADH & DI content) • ATI: Ch. 61: AKI content • ATI: Ch. 59: HD & Peritoneal Dialysis • Wagner: Ch. 25/26: 656-691 (F&E alterations) • Wagner: Ch. 27: 692-716 (Alterations in Kidney Function)	Disrupted Homeostasis: Fluid and Electrolyte Imbalance Lessons Alterations in Kidney Function and Elimination	



Mon	10/19	MODULES Alterations in Health: • Disrupted Homeostasis: Fluid and Electrolyte Imbalance Lessons • Alteration in Kidney Function and Elimination OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 44: Fluid Imbalances • ATI: Ch. 45: Electrolyte Imbalances • ATI: Ch. 77: Endocrine diagnostics (SIADH & DI content) • ATI: Ch. 61: AKI content • ATI: Ch. 59: HD & Peritoneal Dialysis • Wagner: Ch. 25/26: 656-691 (F&E alterations) • Wagner: Ch. 27: 692-716 (Alterations in Kidney Function)	Disrupted Homeostasis: Fluid and Electrolyte Imbalance Lessons Alterations in Kidney Function and Elimination	Virtual Application: Disrupted Homeostasis due Friday 10/23/26 by 11:59pm
Wed	10/21	MODULES Alterations in Health: • Disrupted Homeostasis: Fluid and Electrolyte Imbalance Lessons • Alterations in Kidney Function and Elimination OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 44: Fluid Imbalances • ATI: Ch. 45: Electrolyte Imbalances • ATI: Ch. 77: Endocrine diagnostics (SIADH & DI content) • ATI: Ch. 61: AKI content • ATI: Ch. 59: HD & Peritoneal Dialysis • Wagner: Ch. 25/26: 656-691 (F&E alterations) • Wagner: Ch. 27: 692-716 (Alterations in Kidney Function)	Disrupted Homeostasis: Fluid and Electrolyte Imbalance Lessons Alterations in Kidney Function and Elimination	Virtual Application: Disrupted Homeostasis due Friday 10/23/26 by 11:59pm
Mon	10/26	MODULES Alterations in Health: • Alterations in Digestion and Bowel Elimination • Alterations in Hematologic Function OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 47: GI Diagnostic Procedures • ATI: Ch. 48: GI Therapeutic Procedures • ATI: Ch. 56: Hepatitis/Cirrhosis • ATI: Ch. 54: Cholecystitis/Pancreatitis • Wagner: Ch. 23: 619-634 (Alterations in Liver Function) • Wagner: Ch. 24: 636-653 (Alterations in Pancreas Function)	Alterations in Digestion and Bowel Elimination Alterations in Hematologic Function	



Wed	10/28	MODULES: Alterations in Health: • Alterations in Digestion and Bowel Elimination • Alteration in Hematologic Function OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 47: GI Diagnostic Procedures • ATI: Ch. 48: GI Therapeutic Procedures • ATI: Ch. 56: Hepatitis/Cirrhosis • ATI: Ch. 54: Cholecystitis/Pancreatitis • Wagner: Ch. 23: 619-634 (Alterations in Liver Function) • Wagner: Ch. 24: 636-653 (Alterations in Pancreas Function)	Alterations in Digestion and Bowel Elimination Alterations in Hematologic Function	
Mon	11/2	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Neurologic Dysfunction • Intro to CC (Triage and Burns) Alterations in Health: • Alterations in Neurologic Function • Alterations in Tissue Integrity OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 15: Head Injury • ATI: Ch. 76: Burns • Wagner: Ch. 16: 443-473 (Cerebral Perfusion) • Wagner: Ch. 36: 906-929 (Acute Burn Injury)	Critical Neurologic Dysfunction Intro to CC (Triage and Burns) Alterations in Neurologic Function Alterations in Tissue Integrity	*Quiz 4 - content covered through 10/28/2026 Concept Maps Due 11/2/2026 to Clinical Instructor Virtual Application: Critical Neurological Dysfunction due Friday 11/6/2026 by 11:59PM ATI Practice A Due Sunday 11/8/2026
Wed	11/4	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Neurologic Dysfunction • Intro to CC (Triage and Burns) Alterations in Health: • Alterations in Neurologic Function • Alterations in Tissue Integrity OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 15: Head Injury • ATI: Ch. 76: Burns • Wagner: Ch. 16: 443-473 (Cerebral Perfusion) • Wagner: Ch. 36: 906-929 (Acute Burn Injury)	Critical Neurologic Dysfunction Intro to CC (Triage and Burns) Alterations in Neurologic Function Alterations in Tissue Integrity	Virtual Application: Critical Neurological Dysfunction due Friday 11/6/2026 by 11:59PM ATI Practice A Due Sunday 11/8/2026



Mon	11/9	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Intro to CC (Triage and Burns) • Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Health: • Alterations in Tissue Integrity • Alterations in Spinal Cord Function OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 76: Burns • ATI: Ch. 38: Shock • ATI: Ch. 43: Coagulation Disorders (DIC) • Wagner: Ch. 36: 906-929 (Acute Burn Injury) • Wagner: Ch. 37/38: 932-973 (Shock/MODS)	Intro to CC (Triage and Burns) Critical Alterations in Perfusion Alterations in Tissue Integrity Alterations in Spinal Cord Function	Research Articles Due 11/9/2026 to Clinical Instructor ATI Practice B due Sunday 11/15/2026 Any recorded content will be on Quiz 5
Wed	11/11	No Class		
Mon	11/16	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Endocrine Dysfunction Alterations in Health: • Alterations in Endocrine Dysfunction OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 77: Endocrine Diagnostics • ATI: Ch. 82: Acute Adrenal Crisis • ATI: Ch. 84: Complications of Diabetes • Wagner: Ch. 32: 820-838 (Metabolic Stress Response) • Wagner: Ch. 33: 841-861 (Diabetic Crisis)	Critical Endocrine Dysfunction Alterations in Endocrine Dysfunction	*Quiz 5 - content covered through 11/11/2026 Clinical Presentations Week (In Clinical)
Wed	11/18	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Critical Endocrine Dysfunction Alterations in Health: • Alterations in Endocrine Dysfunction OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 77: Endocrine Diagnostics • ATI: Ch. 82: Acute Adrenal Crisis • ATI: Ch. 84: Complications of Diabetes • Wagner: Ch. 32: 820-838 (Metabolic Stress Response) • Wagner: Ch. 33: 841-861 (Diabetic Crisis)	Critical Endocrine Dysfunction Alterations in Endocrine Dysfunction	Clinical Presentations Week (In Clinical) Virtual Application: Critical Endocrine Dysfunction due Friday 11/20/2026 by 11:59PM
Mon	11/23	ATI RN PHARMACOLOGY 2023 EXAM		In Class ATI Pharmacology Exam
Wed	11/25	No Class		
Mon	11/30	MODULES Critical Care Nursing: • Comfort/Dignity with Death: End of Life Surgical Nursing: • Caring for the Surgical Client: Transplant OPTIONAL • ATI: Ch. 60: Kidney Transplant • Wagner: Ch. 39: 975-1001 (Transplant)	Comfort/Dignity with Death: End of Life Caring for the Surgical Client: Transplant	*Quiz 6- content covered through 11/25/2026 Clinical Simulation Week - On Campus

Wed	12/2	Catch Up and Final Review		Final Exam Review
				Clinical Simulation Week - On Campus
Mon	12/7	Final Exam	Final Exam	Comprehensive Final Exam - Monday 12/7/2026 (08:00AM-10:00AM)
Wed	12/9	No Class		

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