

NURS 4804 - Health Assessment for RNs

Summer 2026 Syllabus, Section A01, CRN 30231,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

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Professional Qualifications:

Doctor of Nursing Practice, Case Western Reserve University

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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
6/29	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 7/1, 7/5 at 11:59 PM Assignment: due 7/5 at 11:59 PM - health history, functional health patterns, assessment of skin Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)



7/6	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 7/5 at 7pm: Discussion post: none Assignment: due 7/12 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 7/12 at 11:59 PM Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
7/13	Ch 13 - Respiratory system Ch 14 - Cardiovascular system Ch 15 - Peripheral vascular system and Lymphatic system Ch 17 - Breast and axillae	Respiratory, cardiovascular, peripheral vascular and lymphatic systems, and breasts and axillae	Due 7/12 at 7pm: Discussion post: none Assignment: due 7/19 at 11:59 PM - health history, assessment of the respiratory, cardiovascular, peripheral vascular and lymphatic systems Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
7/20	Ch 16 - Gastrointestinal system Ch 18 - Musculoskeletal system Ch 21 - Reproductive system	Gastrointestinal, renal, musculoskeletal and reproductive systems	Due 7/19 at 7pm: Discussion post: due 7/22, 7/26 at 11:59 PM Assignment: due 7/26 at 11:59 PM - health history, assessment of gastrointestinal, renal, musculoskeletal and reproductive systems Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
7/27	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	Due 7/26 at 7pm: Discussion post: none Assignment: due 8/2 at 11:59 PM - health history, assessment of culture/spirituality, mental status, and nervous system Activity: check your knowledge (not turned in)
8/3	FINAL EXAM on BlackBoard head-to-toe assessment - be sure to follow Rubric for the Assessment	Final exam Head-to-toe Examination video	Due 8/2 at 7pm: Final Exam: due 8/9 at 11:59 PM Assignment: due 8/9 at 11:59 PM - head-to-toe examination video
8/10	Develop a ONE page assessment handout on an Alternative Population such as an infant, toddler, school age, adolescent, older adults, or end-of-life patient. Handout should include assessments/techniques that are different than a normal adult assessment. NOTE: assignment due date changes this week	Alternate health assessment guide	Due 8/9 at 7pm: Discussion post: due Wedn. 8/12; response due Friday 8/14 at 11:59 PM Assignment: due Wedn. 8/12 at 11:59 pm - Alternative Assessment Guide Course Evaluation: due Sat. 8/16 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.