

C C 306M: Intro to Medical and Scientific Terminology

Fall 2009

Location: UTC 2.112A

Time: MWF 8:00-9:00 (32645) MWF 9:00-10:00 (32650)

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Course Description:

This course provides a systematic introduction to medical and scientific terminology. In this course you will acquire a working knowledge of the Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes which are fundamental to understanding 'medspeak', i.e. the specialized language of healthcare. You will learn the principles of word analysis, construction and pronunciation. Although this course is primarily for those who are interested in pursuing a career in medicine or the allied health sciences, please bear in mind that it is a classical civilization course. Thus, we will often skip discussions of the technical aspects of modern medicine for the sake of introducing you to relevant elements of Greek and Roman medico-scientific culture. Such historical information will not only help you to memorize medical terms but it will also give you a better appreciation of the origins of Western medicine. There are no prerequisites. Although we will be working with Latin and Greek terms, no background knowledge of these languages is required. Since you are learning a new 'language', you will need to memorize a large number of words and word components.

Goals of this Course:

- 1) You will acquire a working vocabulary of the Greek and Latin roots, prefixes and suffixes which are fundamental to understanding medical and scientific terminology.
- 2) You will learn the principles of word analysis, construction, and pronunciation.
- 3) You will become acquainted with deciphering medico-scientific terminology in context.

Required Texts:

Margorie Canfield Willis, *Medical Terminology: A Programmed Learning Approach to the Language of Health Care*, 2nd edition, ISBN: 978-0-7817-9283-7 * *There are two different 2nd editions (2006 and 2008). Any second edition will be fine. The chapter numbers of my syllabus are according to the 2008 edition rather than the 2006 edition. Therefore, if you have a 2006 2nd edition, please pay attention to the chapter headings, which are essentially the same in both 2nd editions.*

Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, 21st edition. ISBN: 978-0803615601. * *There is an online version of Taber's which contains around 30,000 audio files of the pronunciations of medical terms.*

<http://www.tabers.com/tabersonline/ub/logout>

That said, the hardback copy of Taber's is a must for this course.

Recommended Website:

<http://laits.utexas.edu/sites/medterms/esstential-terms/>

The above website complements your textbook. It contains information on the various systems of the body, images, complementary exercises, and audio files to help with pronunciation. What makes this website unique is that it links the material covered in your textbook to aspects of Classical literature and culture. * *Unless I present it in class, you will not be tested over the material on this website.*

Grading:

There will be 7 scheduled quizzes which will be administered every other week on Friday. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped. 100% of your grade is based on your quiz grades. Therefore, each quiz is worth approximately 16.66 % of your grade. The quizzes are based on the assigned readings and the material I cover in class. There will be no final. I do not offer extra credit work to boost your grade. More C work is still C work. Unless you spot an error on the quiz or in the marking of your quiz, please do not come to Joseph's or my office to wrangle over your quiz grade. In other words, all grades are final.

Grading Scale:

I will not be assigning plus-minus final grades. Therefore, my grading scale is as follows:

A=100-90 B=89-80 C=79-70 D=69-60 F=59 and below

Please note that an 89.5 will be rounded up, but an 89.499999999 = B. I have to draw the line somewhere.

Tentative Quiz Dates:

Sept. 11 – Ch. 2-4

Sept. 25 – Ch. 5-6

Oct. 9 – Ch. 7-8

Oct. 23 – Ch. 9-10

Nov. 6 – Ch. 11-13

Nov. 20 – Ch. 14-15

Dec. 4 – Ch. 16-17

Make-up Policy and Missed Classes:

Absences will only be excused for religious holidays, medical reasons (with a letter from Student Health Services or a private physician), or for family emergencies (only when certified by your Dean of Students). No make-up quizzes will be given, except in cases of emergencies or for religious holidays. If you miss a lecture class, please do not ask me what you missed. It is your responsibility to find someone in the class to take notes for you. I do not post my PowerPoint or lecture notes.

Religious Holidays:

If you need to miss a test for the observance of a religious holiday, you must notify me at least 14 days in advance so we can make alternative arrangements.

Homework Policy:

Daily assignments will consist mainly of readings from the required text. Assignments are available on the syllabus. Students are expected to consult the syllabus and do the assigned reading **before** coming to class. In addition to the chapter readings, each student is strongly encouraged to make full use of all exercises, reviews, and study aids that the textbook provides. My lectures are not a review of the textbook. Therefore, it is your responsibility to do the exercises and bring your problems to my attention. In each chapter there will be a list of terms generally arranged according to categories such as anatomical, symptomatic, diagnostic, surgical and therapeutic. Unless stated otherwise, you are responsible for memorizing all of the terms in these lists. If over the course of the semester the syllabus needs to be modified or adjusted, an announcement will be sent out via blackboard with an updated assignment schedule.

Computer Access:

Students are expected to have access to a computer and to the internet. Class material including the syllabus, weekly assignments, as well as other information and announcements will be posted on Blackboard (courses.utexas.edu). Grades will be posted on eGradebook. To access these sites, students must have an utetid and password. Additionally, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that the email address which UT has on file is a valid address which is checked regularly. N.B. Certain email providers (yahoo mail for one) automatically mark any bulk email as spam.

University of Texas Honor Code:

The core values of The University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the university is expected to uphold these values through integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Any student found cheating will receive a failing grade (F). Cheating is anything that attempts to circumvent the process of teaching, learning, and assessment. It may include, but is not limited to, copying off another person's quizzes, exams, or homework; or getting someone else to do your work for you. It also includes the use of unauthorized material/devices while taking a test. If you are unsure about the exact definition you should consult the General information catalogue, Appendix, Section 11-802 (<http://www.utexas.edu/student/registrar/catalogs/gi06-07/app/appc11.html#Subchapter11-802>). If you are still unsure, don't risk it.

Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL):

If you are worried about someone who is acting differently, you may use the Behavior Concerns Advice Line to discuss by phone your concerns about another individual's behavior. This service is provided through a partnership among the Office of the Dean of Students, the Counseling and Mental Health Center (CMHC), the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and The University of Texas Police Department (UTPD). Call 512-232-5050 or visit <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/bcal>.

Students with Disabilities:

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact Services for Students with Disabilities at 471-6259 (voice) or 232-2937 (video phone).

Important Dates:

August 31: Last day of the official add/drop period. After this date, changes have to be approved by the department chair.

Sept. 7: Labor day holiday

Sept. 11: Last day to drop for a possible refund.

Sept. 23: Last day to drop without a possible academic penalty

Oct. 21: Last day to change a registration in a class to or from the pass/fail for credit/no credit

Nov. 26-28: Thanksgiving holiday

Dec. 4: Last day of class

Tentative Homework Schedule:

By tentative, I mean that this schedule is subject to change. See above. Please do the assigned readings **before** coming to class. The following chapters are based on the 2008 2nd ed. of M. Willis, which differs from the 2006 2nd edition of M. Willis. If your book chapter numbers deviate from those listed below, follow the chapter titles.

1. 8/26 **FIRST DAY**
2. 8/28 Ch. 1: Basic Term Components
3. 8/31
4. 9/2
5. 9/4 Ch. 2: Health Care Records
6. 9/7 **LABOR DAY HOLIDAY**
7. 9/9
8. 9/11 **QUIZ 1**
9. 9/14 Ch. 3: Integumentary System
10. 9/16
11. 9/18 Ch. 4: Musculoskeletal System
12. 9/21
13. 9/23
14. 9/25 **QUIZ 2**
15. 9/28 Ch. 5: Cardiovascular System
16. 9/30
17. 10/2
18. 10/5 Ch. 6: Blood and Lymphatic System
19. 10/7
20. 10/9 **QUIZ 3**
21. 10/12 Ch. 7: Respiratory System
22. 10/14
23. 10/16 Ch. 8: Nervous System/Psychiatry
24. 10/19
25. 10/21
26. 10/23 **QUIZ 4**
27. 10/26 Ch. 9: Endocrine System
28. 10/28
29. 10/30 Ch. 10: The Eye
30. 11/2 Ch. 11: The Ear
31. 11/4
32. 11/6 **QUIZ 5**
33. 11/9 Ch. 12: Gastrointestinal System
34. 11/11
35. 11/13
36. 11/16 Ch. 13: Urinary System
37. 11/18
38. 11/20 **QUIZ 6**
39. 11/23 Ch. 14: Male Reproductive System
40. 11/25 **NO CLASS**
41. 11/27 **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**
42. 11/30 Ch. 15 : Female Reproductive System
43. 12/2
44. 12/4 **QUIZ 7**