

CC 306M: Intro to Medical and Scientific Terminology

Spring 2011

Time: MWF 8:00-9:00 (33300)/ Location: UTC 2.112A
Time: MWF 9:00-10:00 (33305)/ Location: UTC 2.112A

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Office Hours: MWF 10:00-11:00am
or by appointment

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Office Hours: TTh 11:00-12:30pm
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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. Because 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.

Course Expectations

Please bear in mind that you are responsible for the material covered in class **and** the material in the textbook. Daily assignments will consist of readings from the required text. The chapter readings are available on the syllabus. Students are expected to consult the syllabus and do the assigned reading **before** coming to class. As this course is in many respects a 'language' course, you will need to study the presented material on a daily basis. 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. It is your responsibility to do the exercises and bring your problems to my attention. Unless stated otherwise, you

are responsible for the literal and medial definition of the terms in the tables in your textbook. It is imperative that you learn the component parts of these terms (i.e. root, combining form, prefix, suffix). 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.

Required Text

Marjorie Canfield Willis, *Medical Terminology: A Programmed Learning Approach to the Language of Health Care*, 2nd edition, ISBN 978-0-7817-9283-7

*If you chose another edition of this text, it is your responsibility to confirm whether your edition is consistent with the course textbook.

Recommended Text

Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary, 21st edition. ISBN: 978-0803615601.

* Although any medical dictionary which includes the etymology for each term will do, Taber's is highly recommended for this course. The online version of Taber's contains around 30,000 audio files of the pronunciations of medical terms. <http://www.tabers.com/tabersonline/ub/logout>

Useful Resources

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

* *The Classical World in Medical Terminology* is a website created by one of my predecessors. 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 much of the material covered in your textbook to aspects of Classical literature and culture.

2. <http://www.whonamedit.com/index.cfm>

* *Whonamedit.com* is a biographical dictionary of medical eponyms.

3. <http://www.etymonline.com/abbr.php>

* *Online Etymology Dictionary* is a useful source of information on word etymologies.

4. <http://quizlet.com/>

* Large website which allows you to make and review your own flashcards.

Grading

There will be 7 scheduled tests which will be administered every other week on Friday. The tests are based on the assigned readings **and** the material covered in class. Each test will include 50 multiple

choice questions. Scores for each test will be posted the next day on Blackboard under View Grades. Your grade for the course is based on your best six test grades. Thus, your lowest test grade will be dropped when calculating your final grade. **There will be no final exam.**

In addition to your lowest test grade being dropped, you can improve your grade by correctly answering the extra credit questions which will be in the form of 7 pop quizzes. You will **not** be allowed to makeup these pop quizzes. **Please note that I do not offer any other type of extra credit work.**

Every question you answer correctly, whether on a test or quiz, is worth one point toward your final grade. Your final grade is determined by the total points earned (i.e. points earned on the 6 best tests + the 7 extra credit pop quizzes). I will not be assigning plus-minus final grades. Therefore, the grading scale is as follows:

A = 270 pts.
B = 269-240 pts.
C = 239-210 pts.
D = 209-180 pts.
F = 179 pts. or less

*** Please note that I do not round grades up, and there is no curve for this course.**

It is your responsibility to keep track of your grades. If you perceive that there was an error on a test or quiz or in the grading, you should contact my TA **before** the next test or pop quiz.

NB: Only the most recent test/quiz will be available for review during the TA's posted office hours or by appointment (i.e. once Test 2 has been administered, Test 1 will no longer be available for review).

Tentative Test Dates

Feb. 4, Feb. 18, Mar. 4, Mar. 25, Apr. 8, Apr. 22, May 6

If a test has to be moved you will be given at least a week advanced notice. I will never move the test up. As long as I schedule the test during our regularly scheduled class time, your previous plans don't count as an excused absence.

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 the Dean of Students: <http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/>). No make-up tests 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 presentations or lecture notes.

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.

Computer Access

Students are expected to have access to a computer and to the internet. Class material including the syllabus, test information, grades as well as other information and announcements will be posted on Blackboard (courses.utexas.edu). To access this site, students must have an uteid 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 be referred to Student Judicial Services with my recommendation that he or she receive a failing grade (F) for the course. 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.

Email Abuse

Use of Blackboard's email should be for course-related messages only; please see UT Austin Acceptable Use Policy. **Messages such as selling football tickets and posting party invites are not considered course-related.** Violations of the UT Austin Acceptable Use Policy will be vigorously pursued. Violators may face disciplinary action including, but not limited to verbal warnings, negative impact on grades, or loss of email privileges. For more information on reporting emails that you believe violate the policy, please visit the UT Austin Acceptable Use Policy website. <https://www.utexas.edu/cio/policies/aup/index.php>

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), 329-3986 (video phone), and on their website: <http://www.utexas.edu/diversity/ddce/ssd/>

Important Dates

January 21

Friday Last day of the official add/drop period; after this date, changes in registration require the approval of the department chair and usually the student's dean.

February 2

Wednesday Last day to drop a class for a possible refund.

March 14–19 – NO CLASS

Monday–Saturday Spring break.

March 28

Monday Last day an undergraduate student may, with the dean's approval, withdraw from the University or drop a class except for urgent and substantiated, nonacademic reasons. Last day a student may change registration in a class to or from the pass/fail or credit/no credit basis

May 6

Friday Last class day

****NO FINAL EXAM****

Tentative Reading Schedule

By tentative, I mean that this schedule is subject to change. See above. Please do the assigned readings and exercises **before** coming to class.

1. 1/19 Welcome and Introduction
2. 1/21 User's Guide and Ch. 1: Basic Term Components
3. 1/24
4. 1/26
5. 1/28 Ch. 2 Health Care Records
6. 1/31
7. 2/2
8. 2/4 **TEST 1**
9. 2/7 Ch. 3: Integumentary System
10. 2/9

11. 2/11 Ch. 4: Musculoskeletal System
12. 2/14
13. 2/16
14. 2/18 **TEST 2**
15. 2/21 Ch. 5: Cardiovascular System
16. 2/23
17. 2/25 Ch. 6: Blood and Lymphatic System
18. 2/28 Ch. 7: Respiratory System
19. 3/2
20. 3/4 **TEST 3**
21. 3/7 Ch. 8: Nervous System and Psychiatry
22. 3/9
23. 3/11 ***NO CLASS***
24. 3/14 **NO CLASS- SPRING BREAK**
25. 3/16 **NO CLASS-SPRING BREAK**
26. 3/18 **NO CLASS-SPRING BREAK**
27. 3/21 Ch. 9: Endocrine System
28. 3/23
29. 3/25 **TEST 4**
30. 3/28 Ch. 10: The Eye
31. 3/30
32. 4/1
33. 4/4 Ch. 11: The Ear
34. 4/6
35. 4/8 **TEST 5**
36. 4/11 Ch. 12: The Gastrointestinal System
37. 4/13
38. 4/15
39. 4/18 Ch. 13: Urinary System
40. 4/20
41. 4/22 **TEST 6**
42. 4/25 Ch. 14: Male Reproductive System
43. 4/27
44. 4/29 Ch. 15: Female Reproductive System
45. 5/2
46. 5/4
47. 5/6 **TEST 7**

Updated 1/17/2011
Dr. Curtis