Developed by
NCSBN Learning Extension
National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), Chicago, IL

Credits & Acknowledgments
This course would not have been possible without the contributions of many nursing faculty and e-learning professionals. A full list of contributors is available online.

This syllabus provides
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I. Course Description
Course Overview
This course was developed by the NCSBN Learning Extension to help candidates prepare to take the NCLEX-RN® examination. The course provides both a comprehensive content review and “NCLEX-style” questions for practice.

This course is designed for graduates of a RN nursing program who are preparing for the NCLEX-RN Examination. Although the course is also appropriate for non-U.S. candidates, please be aware that all course materials are written in English.

The course content is based on the NCLEX-RN Test Plan.

The content consists of an introduction, diagnostic pretest, 8 lessons with posttests, Links to Knowledge, additional practice questions, and interactive quizzes. You also have unlimited access to Epocrates Rx online, A.D.A.M SmartEngage Medical Encyclopedia, and Merriam-Webster’s Medical Dictionary for the duration of your subscription.

Logistics
This course is self-paced and not mediated by an instructor.

Time and schedule
You have immediate 24-hour access to the course materials for the entire subscription period of 3 weeks, 5 weeks, 8 weeks or 15 weeks, depending on the subscription length purchased.

Although we estimate that it may take you about 85 hours to review the entire course at a slow and thorough pace, you can adjust your study schedule to meet your specific learning needs. We also offer study plans to help you organize your study time.

Technology
NCSBN Learning Extension online courses are accessible using an Internet connection and a computer that meets the specified technical requirements. The courses are designed to make learning fun and interactive. Having the appropriate hardware and software will allow you to fully utilize all the great features of the course.

We strongly recommend that you review the technical requirements before starting the course.
Course Materials

We encourage you to share your experiences with others who are preparing for the NCLEX exam, to ask questions, discuss topics or to form study groups by participating on the Learning Extension student community.

If you are a registered user currently enrolled in the review course, you can also get specific course content questions answered by posting questions in the Ask the Instructor forum.

Lesson Content

The course content is arranged in an outline format. A wide variety of images are included to help you visualize and remember important information. Icons are used to highlight information about diet, complementary and alternative therapies, medications (including high alert medications and black box warnings), audio clips, and laboratory tests. Additional strategies, such as “quick tips” and mnemonics, can be found throughout the course to help you remember key concepts and prepare you for the NCLEX exam.

You have unlimited access to Merriam-Webster’s Medical Dictionary to look up unfamiliar medical terms or A.D.A.M. SmartEngage Medical Encyclopedia to access detailed information on a topic. Detailed information about medications, lab values and even diseases can be found by using Epocrates Rx Online Reference.

Pretest, Lesson Posttests, and Practice Questions

The diagnostic pretest is a 150-question exam. Print or save the printable scorecard report to help develop a personal study plan.

Lessons 1 through 7 each have a 20-question posttest; lesson 8 has 40 questions. The remaining questions are found in the banks of practice questions.

A rationale is provided for all questions. The questions are primarily multiple-choice, but there are also alternate types of “NCLEX-style” questions including fill-in-the-blank, select all that apply (SATA), ordering, and hot spot.

Course Evaluation

We want your feedback! Please remember to fill out the course evaluation after completing the course.

II. Course Policies

You must read and abide by the end-user license agreement, which outlines our policies, including the policy regarding usernames and passwords.

It is important to note that you are not allowed to distribute your username and password to give others access to any NCSBN Learning Extension course. Furthermore, the end-used license agreement is NCSBN’S notice of ownership of copyright, which prohibits the distribution of course materials to others. Also note that courses are designed for single user access; tests will be scored incorrectly if accessed by multiple users.

There are no extensions given for any subscription length. If you need more time to complete the course, you must sign up for another (3 weeks, 5 weeks, 8 weeks, or 15 weeks) subscription.

Contact support with any technical issues. You may want to refer to the help section for more information.
III. Assignments & Grading

In order to provide documentation of attendance and grades, you are expected to complete the reading assignments and tests as listed on the course schedule. If you are required to provide proof of course completion (to a board of nursing, a school of nursing, or an employer, for example) simply save or print your Course Progress Report. This can be downloaded from the My Grades section.

Certificate of Completion

In order to receive a certificate of completion, you must score 75% or higher on the diagnostic pretest and all 8 lesson posttests.

A link to print or save a certificate appears upon successful completion of all 9 scored tests. Once your course expires the certificate link will move to the My History section.

IV. Course Schedule

Even though there’s no right or wrong way to study, you may want to complete the course materials and accompanying exercises in the order presented below. We have provided a study time estimate, but how much time you study is entirely up to you.

Based on the results of your pretest, and using your printable scorecard report as a guide, you may decide to review only those areas where you scored “below the passing standard.” If you want a more prescriptive plan for studying, you may want to use one of NCSBN Learning Extension’s Study Plans.

Introduction

The introduction contains information about the NCLEX examination and study tips. Please contact support if you experience problems with course access or the use of any course feature.

Average time for completion: 2-3 hours

- Read the material carefully and understand the course features
- Complete the 150-question diagnostic pretest
- Review the printable scorecard report and understand your performance in each of the areas of the NCLEX Test Plan

Lesson 1: Management of Care

Average study time: 1-2 hours

- Complete the reading for Lesson 1
- Complete the interactive quiz
- Complete the 20-question lesson posttest with a score of 75% or higher

Lesson 2: Safety and Infection Control

Average study time: 1-2 hours

- Complete the reading for Lesson 2
- Complete the interactive quiz
- Complete the 20-question lesson posttest with a score of 75% or higher
Lesson 3: Health Promotion and Maintenance

Average study time: 4-5 hours
- Complete the reading for Lesson 3
- Complete the 3 interactive quizzes
- Complete the 20-question lesson posttest with a score of 75% or higher

Lesson 4: Psychosocial Integrity

Average study time: 3-4 hours
- Complete the reading for Lesson 4
- Complete the 2 interactive quizzes
- Complete the 20-question lesson posttest with a score of 75% or higher

Lesson 5: Basic Care and Comfort

Average study time: 3-4 hours
- Complete the reading for Lesson 5
- Complete the interactive quiz
- Complete the 20-question lesson posttest with a score of 75% or higher

Lesson 6: Pharmacological and Parenteral Therapies

Average study time: 15-18 hours

6A. Pharmacological Therapies
- Complete the reading for SubLesson 6A
- Complete the interactive quiz

6B. Classification of Medications by Body System
- Complete the reading for SubLesson 6B
- Complete the interactive quiz

6C. Classification of Medications by Health Status
- Complete the reading for SubLesson 6B
- Complete the 6 drug classification quizzes

Lesson 6 Comprehensive Posttest
- Complete the 20-question lesson posttest with a score of 75% or higher

Lesson 7: Reduction of Risk Potential

Average study time: 6-8 hours
- Complete the reading for Lesson 7
- Complete the interactive quiz
- Complete the 20-question lesson posttest with a score of 75% or higher
Lesson 8: Physiological Adaptation

Average study time: 30-40 hours (yes – this is a big lesson!)

8A. Cardiovascular
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8A
• Complete the 3 interactive quizzes

8B. Respiratory
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8B
• Complete the interactive quiz

8C. Neurological
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8C
• Complete the 2 interactive quizzes

8D. Gastrointestinal
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8D
• Complete the interactive quiz

8E. Genitourinary
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8E
• Complete the interactive quiz

8F. Endocrine
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8F
• Complete the 2 interactive quizzes

8G. Orthopedic
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8G
• Complete the interactive quiz

8H. Oncology
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8H
• Complete the interactive quiz

8I. Emergency
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8I
• Complete the interactive quiz

8J. Pediatric
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8J
• Complete the interactive quiz

8K. Complicated Obstetrics
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8K
• Complete the interactive quiz

8L. Integumentary
• Complete the reading for SubLesson 8L
• Complete the 2 interactive quizzes

Lesson 8 Comprehensive Posttest
• Complete the 40-question lesson posttest with a score of 75% or higher
**Practice Questions**

The Practice Question modules contain the bulk of the “NCLEX-style” questions found in the course. When you submit an answer, you will be given immediate feedback.

Average study time: 4-5 hours

- Complete the practice questions in all banks of questions

**Course Evaluation**

Complete the course evaluation form.

**V. Help**

Check out the FAQs and Technical Requirements pages on the website for more information.

24/7 Customer Support

Online Chat: 24/7 Customer Support Chat
Email: 24/7 Customer Support
Phone: 1.866.906.0572

If the 24/7 Customer Support agent is not able to answer your question, please contact our Customer Services Department for additional assistance. Responses may take up to 4 business hours.

Email: elearning@ncsbn.org
Phone/Voicemail: 1.312.525.3749 (M–F/9–5 central)