

San Bernardino Valley College
Course Outline for PHT 020
INTRODUCTION TO PHARMACY TECHNOLOGY

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

PHT 020 Introduction to Pharmacy Technology

2 hours lecture = 2 units

Course description: An introduction to the role of the pharmacy technician in the delivery of pharmacy services in the acute and ambulatory care settings. Emphasizes pharmaceutical terminology, distribution systems and pharmacy standards. Includes ethical, legal and professional issues.

Prerequisites: None

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: One

III. EXPECTED OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS:

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- A. describe the types of pharmacy services in the hospital and the community.
- B. determine the organization structure, functions and responsibilities of each department within an acute care agency.
- C. describe the primary responsibilities of the pharmacy technician in both acute and ambulatory care settings; and explain how these differ from the pharmacist.
- D. identify the functions which a pharmacy technician may legally perform and the conditions and controls under which the pharmacy technician may perform pharmacy tasks.
- E. define what is meant by a decision requiring a pharmacist's judgement.
- F. explain ethical and legal issues associated with the functions of a pharmacy technician.
- G. identify the major pharmacy professional organizations and resources.
- H. explain the purpose of the Joint Commission of Accreditation and standards for hospital pharmacies.
 - 1. describe the types of drug distribution systems.

IV. CONTENT

- A. Acute care agencies
 - 1. Primary functions
 - 2. Major departments
 - 3. Types of organizational plans
- B. Community pharmacies
 - 1. Home health care
 - 2. Long term care
 - 3. Responsibilities of the pharmacy technician
- C. Functions of the pharmacy technician
 - 1. Legal constraints in the performance of pharmacy tasks

2. Conditions and controls in the performance of pharmacy tasks
3. Pharmacy functions requiring the pharmacist's judgement and decision making
- D. Communication
 1. Elements of effective communication within the pharmacy
 2. Barriers to effective communication
 3. Dealing with the difficult person
- E. Legal and ethical issues.
 1. Confidentiality
 2. Standard of Care -Liability
 3. Ethical guidelines
- F. Accreditation and legal standards for pharmacies
 1. Joint Commission of Accreditation and Standards
 2. State and Federal Laws
- G. Pharmaceutical terminology
 1. Medical terms
 2. Medical/Pharmacy abbreviations
 3. Apothecary symbols
- H. Pharmacy professional organizations and resources
 1. Pharmacy associations
 2. Publications
 1. Association journals
 2. Reference books
 3. Computerized drug information
 4. On-line drug information

V. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

- A. Lecture
2. Written Assignments
3. Field Trip to a pharmacy
4. Group discussion

VI. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS

1. Visit a retail pharmacy and record your observations of the following:
 1. Who waited on the customer?
 2. How long did the customer wait?
 3. Did the pharmacist tell the customer about the medication?
 4. Describe the interaction between the pharmacy technician and the customer or the pharmacist and the customer.
2. Give two examples of situations requiring a decision by the pharmacist.

VII. EVALUATION

1. Methods of Evaluation
 1. Graded written assignments
 2. Examinations
 3. Final Examination
2. Frequency of Evaluation
 1. Two written assignments
 2. Quizzes throughout the semester

3. Three major examinations and the final.

VIII TYPICAL TEXTS

Durgin, Sr. Jane and Zachary Hanan. Pharmacy Practice for Technicians. New York: Delmar, 1994.

IX OTHER SUPPLIES REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: None