



Course Syllabus

MDCA 1291 – Special Topics for Medical Assisting

Catalog Description: Topics address recently identified current events, skills, knowledge, and /or attitudes and behaviors pertinent to the technology or occupation and relevant to the professional development of the student. This course was designed to be repeated multiple times to improve student proficiency.

Lecture hours = 1, Lab hours = 3

Prerequisites: Medical Assisting One Year Certificate

Semester Credit Hours: 2

Lecture Hours per Week: 1

Lab Hours per Week: 3

Contact Hours per Semester: 64

State Approval Code: CIP 51.0801

Instructional Goals and Purposes: The purpose of this course is to provide students with knowledge of clinical duties related to medical specialties.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify common pathology related to each body system as related to common skin disorders.
2. Apply dressing and bandages to wounds.
3. Identify common pathology related to each body system including signs, symptoms, and etiology
 - A. Describe common disorders of the musculoskeletal system
 - B. Compare the different types of fractures
 - C. Identify and explain diagnostic procedures of the musculoskeletal system
4. Discuss the role of the medical assistant in caring for the patient with a musculoskeletal system disorder
5. Apply an arm sling.
6. Identify common pathology related to each body system including signs, symptoms, and etiology
 - A. Describe common eye, ear, nose, and throat disorders
 - B. Identify and explain diagnostic eye, ear, nose, and throat procedures
7. Identify common pathology related to each body system including signs, symptoms, and etiology
 - A. Identify the primary defense mechanisms of the respiratory system
 - B. Identify and explain diagnostic procedures of the respiratory system
 - C. Describe the physician's examination of the respiratory system
8. Identify common pathology related to each body system including signs, symptoms, and etiology
 - A. List and describe common cardiovascular procedures and tests
 - B. Obtain a 12-lead EKG
9. Identify common pathology related to each body system including signs, symptoms, and etiology

- A. List and describe common disorders of the alimentary canal and accessory organs
 - B. Identify and explain the purpose of common procedures and tests associated with the gastrointestinal system
10. Identify common pathology related to each body system including signs, symptoms, and etiology
- A. List and describe common diseases of the nervous system
 - B. Describe the physical and emotional effects of degenerative nervous system disorders
 - C. List potential complications of a spinal cord injury
 - D. Name and describe the common procedures for diagnosing nervous system disorders
11. Identify common pathology related to each body system including signs, symptoms, and etiology
- A. List and describe common diseases of the urinary system and the male reproductive system
 - B. Describe and explain the purpose of various diagnostic procedures associated with the urinary system
 - C. Name and describe the common procedures for diagnosing urinary system disorders
12. Perform a male and female catheterization.
13. List and describe common gynecologic and obstetric disorders
14. Identify your role in the care of gynecologic and obstetric patients
15. Describe the components of prenatal and postpartum patient care
16. Identify abnormal conditions of the thyroid, pancreas, adrenal, and pituitary glands
17. List types and schedule of immunizations
18. Explain the difference between a well-child and a sick-child visit
19. Explain how aging affects thought process
20. Discuss communication problems that may occur with the older adult and list steps to maintain open communication
21. List and describe physical changes and diseases common to the aging process

Specific Course Objectives (includes SCANS):

After studying all materials and resources presented in the course, the student will be able to:

1. Discuss the important aspects of Dermatology (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
2. Discuss the important aspects of Orthopedics (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
3. Discuss the important aspects of Ophthalmology and otolaryngology (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
4. Discuss the important aspects of Pulmonary Medicine (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
5. Discuss the important aspects of Cardiology (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
6. Discuss the important aspects of Gastroenterology (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
7. Discuss the important aspects of Neurology (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
8. Discuss the important aspects of Urology (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
9. Discuss the important aspects of Obstetrics and Gynecology (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
10. Discuss the important aspects of Endocrinology (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
11. Discuss the important aspects of Pediatrics (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
12. Discuss the important aspects of Geriatrics (1. a-iv,v; b-ii, iii, c-I, ii)
13. Perform skills related to above areas of Medicine (2. b-I,ii, vi; c-I, iii; d-ii; e-I, ii, iii)
14. Demonstrate assisting with related procedures (2. b-I,ii, vi; c-I, iii; d-ii; e-I, ii, iii)

Course Content:

A general description of lecture/discussion topics included in this course is listed in the Learning Objectives / Specific Course Objectives sections of this syllabus.

Applicable to All units:

AAMA/CAAHEP 2008 Standards

1. Assist physician with patient care.
2. Prepare a patient for procedures and/or treatments.
3. Practice standard precautions.
4. Document patient care.
5. Document patient education.
6. Practice within the standard of care for a medical assistant.

7. Apply critical thinking skills in performing patient assessment and care.
8. Use language/verbal skills that enable patients' understanding.
9. Demonstrate empathy in communicating with patients, family, and staff.
10. Use appropriate body language and other nonverbal skills in communicating with patients, family and staff.
11. Demonstrate awareness of the territorial boundaries of the person with whom you are communicated.
12. Demonstrate sensitivity appropriate to the message being delivered.
13. Demonstrate recognition of the patients' level of understanding in communications.
14. Recognize and protect personal boundaries in communicating with other.
15. Demonstrate respect for individual diversity, incorporation awareness of one's own biases in area including gender, race, religion, age, and economic status.
16. Apply active listening skills.
17. Apply local, state, and federal health care legislation and regulation appropriate to the medical assisting practice setting.

ABHES Competencies:

1. Assist the physician with the regimen of diagnostic and treatment modalities and they relate to each body system.
2. Comply with federal, state, and local health laws and regulations.
3. Serve as a liaison between the physician and others.
4. Show empathy and impartiality when dealing with patients.
5. Document accurately.

Unit I – Dermatology

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. Describe common skin disorders.
2. Describe implications for treatment related to pathology.
3. Explain common diagnostic procedures.
4. Prepare the patient for examination of the integument.
5. Assist the physician with examination of the integument.
6. Identify guidelines for applying bandages.
7. Apply a warm or cold compress (27-1).
8. Assist with therapeutic soaks (27-2).
9. Apply a tubular gauze bandage (27-3).

Unit II – Orthopedics

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. Describe disorders of the musculoskeletal system.
2. Identify and explain diagnostic procedures of the musculoskeletal system.
3. Describe the various types of ambulatory aids.
4. Apply an arm sling (28-1).
5. Apply cold packs (28-2).
6. Use a hot water bottle or commercial hot pack (28-3).
7. Measure a patient for axillary crutches (28-4).
8. Instruct a patient in various crutch gaits (28-5).

Unit II – Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. List and define disorders associated with the eye and identify commonly performed diagnostic procedures.
2. List and define disorders associate with the ear and identify commonly performed diagnostic procedures.

3. List and define disorders associated with the nose and throat and identify commonly performed diagnostic procedures.
4. Describe patient education procedures associated with the eye, ear, nose, and throat.
5. Measure distance visual acuity with a Snellen chart (29-1)
6. Measure color perception with an Ishihara color plate book (29-2).
7. Instill eye medication (29-3).
8. Irrigate the eye (29-4).
9. Irrigate the ear (29-5).
10. Administer an audiometric hearing test (29-6).
11. Instill ear medication (29-7).
12. Instill nasal medication (29-8).

Unit IV – Pulmonary Medicine

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. Identify the primary defense mechanisms of the respiratory system.
2. Explain various diagnostic procedures of the respiratory system.
3. Discuss the role of the medical assistant with regard to various diagnostic and therapeutic procedures.
4. Instruct a patient in the use of the peak flow meter (30-1).
5. Administer a nebulized breathing treatment (30-2).
6. Perform a pulmonary function test (30-3).

Unit V – Cardiology

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. List and describe common cardiovascular disorders.
2. Identify and explain common cardiovascular procedures and test.
3. Describe the roles and responsibilities of the medical assist and during cardiovascular examinations and procedures.
4. Discuss the information recorded on a basic 12-lead electrocardiogram.
5. Explain the purpose of a Holter monitor.
6. Perform electrocardiography (31-1).
7. Apply a Holter monitor for a 24-hour test (31-2).

Unit VI – Gastroenterology

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. List and describe common disorders of the alimentary canal and accessory organs.
2. Identify and explain the purpose of common procedures and test associated with the gastrointestinal system.
3. Describe the roles and responsibilities of the medical assistant in diagnosing and treating disorders of the gastrointestinal system.
4. Assist with colon procedures (32-1).

Unit VII – Neurology

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. Identify common diseases of the nervous system.
2. Describe the physical and emotional effects of degenerative nervous system disorders.
3. List potential complications of a spinal cord injury.
4. Name and describe the common procedures for diagnosing nervous system disorders.
5. Assist with lumbar puncture (33-1).

Unit VIII - Urology

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. List and describe the disorders of the urinary system and the male reproductive system.
2. Describe and explain the purpose of various diagnostic procedures associated with the urinary system.
3. Discuss the role of the medical assistant in diagnosis and treating disorders of the urinary system and the male reproductive system.
4. Perform a female urinary catheterization (34-1).
5. Perform a male urinary catheterization (34-2).
6. Instruct a male patient on the testicular self-examination (34-3).

Unit IX – Obstetrics and Gynecology

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. List and describe common gynecologic and obstetric disorders.
2. Identify the role of the medical assistant in the care of gynecologic and obstetric patients.
3. Describe the components of prenatal and postpartum care.
4. Explain the diagnostic and therapeutic procedures associated with the female reproductive system.
5. Identify the various methods of contraception.
6. Describe menopause.
7. Instruct the patient on the breast self-examination (35-2).
8. Assist with the pelvic examination and Pap smear (35-2).
9. Assist with colposcopy and cervical biopsy (35-3).

Unit X – Endocrinology

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. Identify abnormal conditions of the thyroid, pancreas, adrenal, and pituitary glands.
2. Describe the test commonly used to diagnose disorders of these endocrine system glands.
3. Explain your role in working with patients with endocrine system disorders.
4. Manage a patient with a diabetic emergency (36-1).

Unit XI – Pediatrics

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. List safety precautions for the pediatric office.
2. Explain the difference between a well-child and a sick-child visit.
3. List types and schedule of immunizations.
4. Describe the types of feelings a child might have during an office visit.
5. List and explain how to record the anthropometric measurements obtained in a pediatric visit.
6. Identify two injection sites to use on an infant and two used on a child.
7. Describe the role of the parent during the office visit.
8. List the names, symptoms, and treatments for common pediatric illnesses.
9. Obtain an infant's length and weight (37-1).
10. Obtain the head and chest circumference (37-2).
11. Apply a urinary collection device (37-3).

Unit XII – Geriatrics

Using critical thinking skills and demonstrating respect for diversity in approaching patients and families, at the end of the unit, the student will be able to:

1. Explain how aging affect thought process.
2. Describe methods to increase compliance with health maintenance programs among older adults.
3. Discuss communication problems that may occur with the older adult and list steps to maintain open communication.

4. Recognize and describe the coping mechanisms used by the older adult to deal with multiple losses.
5. Name the risk factors and signs of elder abuse.
6. Explain the types of long-term care facilities available.
7. Describe the effects of aging of the way the body processes medication.
8. Discuss the responsibility of the medical assistants with regard to teaching older adult patients.

Methods of Instruction/Course Format/Delivery: Students are expected to demonstrate basic competency in reading, writing, oral communication, math, and computer skills. Students are expected to be an active learning participant by assuming accountability in preparing for each class by completing required readings and/or other learning activities as listed in each unit assignment. Proficiency will be measured by examination scores, oral discussions and/or presentations, case studies and internet research activities.

Students should use the Email within Canvas to communicate with the instructor. Using Canvas email gives you access to the instructor and other classmates without having to remember or type email addresses – you must select a name from the list. If you are not able to contact me using email in Canvas, you may use my Panola College email address, contact me by telephone, or stop by my office. I attempt to respond to all email within 24 hours. Please always include a subject line and your name in your email.

Major Assignments / Assessments:

The following items will be assigned and assessed during the semester and used to calculate the student's final grade.

Assignments

1. There will be 12 assignments from the study guide to include chapters 28-39.

Assessment(s):

1. Exam 1 includes Ch. 28-30
2. Exam 2 includes Ch. 31-34
3. Exam 3 includes Ch. 35-39

Course Grade:

The grading scale for this course is as follows:

Assignments (class participation, skills practice) 10%
Exams 20%
Professional Points 10%
Lab Skills Check offs 30%
Final Exam 30%

Texts, Materials, and Supplies:

Kronenberger, J., Durham, L., and Woodson, D., (2013). *Comprehensive Medical Assisting, 4th Edition*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Kronenberger, J., Durham, L., and Woodson, D., (2013). *Study Guide to Comprehensive Medical Assisting, 4th Edition*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.

Required Readings:

Chapter 28-39

Other:

- For current texts and materials, use the following link to access bookstore listings: <http://www.panolacollegestore.com>
- For testing services, use the following link: <http://www.panola.edu/elearning/testing.html>
- If any student in this class has special classroom or testing needs because of a physical learning or emotional condition, please contact the ADA Student Coordinator in Support Services located

in the Administration Building or go to <http://www.panola.edu/student-success/disability-support-services/> for more information.

- Withdrawing from a course is the student's responsibility. Students who do not attend class and who do not withdraw will receive the grade earned for the course.
- Student Handbook, *The Pathfinder*: <http://www.panola.edu/student-success/documents/pathfinder.pdf>

SCANS CRITERIA

1) **Foundation skills are defined in three areas: basic skills, thinking skills, and personal qualities.**

- a) **Basic Skills:** A worker must read, write, perform arithmetic and mathematical operations, listen, and speak effectively. These skills include:
 - i) **Reading:** locate, understand, and interpret written information in prose and in documents such as manuals, graphs, and schedules.
 - ii) **Writing:** communicate thoughts, ideas, information, and messages in writing, and create documents such as letters, directions, manuals, reports, graphs, and flow charts.
 - iii) **Arithmetic and Mathematical Operations:** perform basic computations and approach practical problems by choosing appropriately from a variety of mathematical techniques.
 - iv) **Listening:** receive, attend to, interpret, and respond to verbal messages and other cues.
 - v) **Speaking:** Organize ideas and communicate orally.
- b) **Thinking Skills:** A worker must think creatively, make decisions, solve problems, visualize, know how to learn, and reason effectively. These skills include:
 - i) **Creative Thinking:** generate new ideas.
 - ii) **Decision Making:** specify goals and constraints generate alternatives, consider risks, and evaluate and choose the best alternative.
 - iii) **Problem Solving:** recognize problems and devise and implement plan of action.
 - iv) **Visualize ("Seeing Things in the Mind's Eye"):** organize and process symbols, pictures, graphs, objects, and other information.
 - v) **Knowing How to Learn:** use efficient learning techniques to acquire and apply new knowledge and skills.
 - vi) **Reasoning:** discover a rule or principle underlying the relationship between two or more objects and apply it when solving a problem.
- c) **Personal Qualities:** A worker must display responsibility, self-esteem, sociability, self-management, integrity, and honesty.
 - i) **Responsibility:** exert a high level of effort and persevere toward goal attainment.
 - ii) **Self-Esteem:** believe in one's own self-worth and maintain a positive view of oneself.
 - iii) **Sociability:** demonstrate understanding, friendliness, adaptability, empathy, and politeness in group settings.
 - iv) **Self-Management:** assess oneself accurately, set personal goals, monitor progress, and exhibit self-control.
 - v) **Integrity and Honesty:** choose ethical courses of action.

2) **Workplace competencies are defined in five areas: resources, interpersonal skills, information, systems, and technology.**

- a) **Resources:** A worker must identify, organize, plan, and allocate resources effectively.
 - i) **Time:** select goal-relevant activities, rank them, allocate time, and prepare and follow schedules.
 - ii) **Money:** Use or prepare budgets, make forecasts, keep records, and make adjustments to meet objectives.
 - iii) **Material and Facilities:** Acquire, store, allocate, and use materials or space efficiently. Examples: construct a decision time line chart; use computer software to plan a project; prepare a budget; conduct a cost/benefits analysis; design an RFP process; write a job description; develop a staffing plan.
- b) **Interpersonal Skills:** A worker must work with others effectively.
 - i) **Participate as a Member of a Team:** contribute to group effort.
 - ii) **Teach Others New Skills.**
 - iii) **Serve Clients/Customers:** work to satisfy customer's expectations.

- iv) **Exercise Leadership:** communicate ideas to justify position, persuade and convince others, responsibly challenge existing procedures and policies.
- v) **Negotiate:** work toward agreements involving exchange of resources, resolve divergent interests.
- vi) **Work with Diversity:** work well with men and women from diverse backgrounds.

Examples: collaborate with a group member to solve a problem; work through a group conflict situation, train a colleague; deal with a dissatisfied customer in person; select and use appropriate leadership styles; use effective delegation techniques; conduct an individual or team negotiation; demonstrate an understanding of how people from different cultural backgrounds might behave in various situations.

- c) **Information:** A worker must be able to acquire and use information.

- i) **Acquire and Evaluate Information.**
- ii) **Organize and Maintain Information.**
- iii) **Interpret and Communicate Information.**
- iv) **Use Computers to Process Information.**

Examples: research and collect data from various sources; develop a form to collect data; develop an inventory record-keeping system; produce a report using graphics; make an oral presentation using various media; use on-line computer data bases to research a report; use a computer spreadsheet to develop a budget.

- d) **Systems:** A worker must understand complex interrelationships.

- i) **Understand Systems:** know how social, organizational, and technological systems work and operate effectively with them.
- ii) **Monitor and Correct Performance:** distinguish trends, predict impacts on system operations, diagnose deviations in systems' performance and correct malfunctions.
- iii) **Improve or Design Systems:** suggest modifications to existing systems and develop new or alternative systems to improve performance.

Examples: draw and interpret an organizational chart; develop a monitoring process; choose a situation needing improvement, break it down, examine it, propose an improvement, and implement it.

- e) **Technology:** A worker must be able to work with a variety of technologies.

- i) **Select Technology:** choose procedures, tools or equipment including computers and related technologies.
- ii) **Apply Technologies to Task:** understand overall intent and proper procedures for setup and operation of equipment.
- iii) **Maintain and Troubleshoot Equipment:** Prevent, identify, or solve problems with equipment, including computers and other technologies.

Examples: read equipment descriptions and technical specifications to select equipment to meet needs; set up and assemble appropriate equipment from instructions; read and follow directions for troubleshooting and repairing equipment.