

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY - CORPUS CHRISTI  
COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES**

**GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAM**

**NURS 5324 ADVANCED HEALTH ASSESSMENT**

**GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION:**

**Credit:** 3 Semester Hours (2 class hours and 4.5 clinical hours each week-45 hours)

**Prerequisite:** Graduate Status, Undergraduate Health Assessment

**Faculty:**

**NOTE:** This course is delivered via Web CT for Didactic, and Clinical is 45 hours of practicum with an acceptable preceptor. Please be sure to check the Current Computer Requirements, and log on to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences for the preceptor manual:

<http://www.sci.tamucc.edu/nursing/apnpGuide/intro.html>

**Course Description:**

During this course students will learn and practice complex skills for comprehensive health assessment and focus on the differentiation and interpretation of normal and abnormal findings. Selected laboratory techniques are included. Oral and written communication of findings in a collaborative relationship with other health care providers is emphasized. Variables related to rural and multicultural populations are incorporated into the total assessment. Opportunities are provided to develop skills necessary for the identification of health problems, while considering variables associated with multicultural populations. The clinical component of the course provides the opportunity for the student to interpret as well as to practice complex health assessment techniques.

## **Course Objectives:**

By the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. Systematically apply a problem solving approach in the collection and synthesis of relevant data.
  - A. Perform a risk assessment of a client including assessing lifestyle and other risk factors.
  - B. Develop a comprehensive database, including a complete functional assessment by health history, physical examination and appropriate diagnostic examination.
2. Critically analyze and interpret health assessment findings.
  - A. Demonstrate sound critical thinking and clinical decision making.
  - B. Identify signs and symptoms of common emotional illnesses.
  - C. Establish a differential diagnosis based on the assessment data.
3. Incorporate into practice a structured format to communicate health assessment findings to other health care professionals. Provide appropriate documentation of the patient information in the medical record.
4. Demonstrates an advanced practice health assessment.