Medical Terminology Course Syllabus 2022-23

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Office Hours: Mon (2:34 – 3:19 pm) Tues & Thurs (2:40 – 3:25 pm);
             and before school by appointment

Course Description

The Medical Terminology course is designed to introduce students to the structure of medical terms, including prefixes, suffixes, word roots, singular and plural forms, and medical abbreviations. The course allows students to achieve comprehension of medical vocabulary appropriate to medical procedures, human anatomy and physiology, and pathophysiology.

About the Teacher

I am a native Houstonian, who grew up on the West-side of Houston and am a product of the HISD School System. After graduating from Robert E. Lee (now Wisdom) High School, I attended the University of Texas in Austin studying Architecture, Interior Design, Sociology, Psychology and Behavioral Science. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Natural Science and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Architectural Interiors, I returned to Houston to begin the first of my careers.

Prior to taking on a career in education, I worked as an Interior Designer for a Houston-based Architectural firm, travelling all over the United States, Mexico, Canada, Haiti and Belize designing banks and hospitals. At the height of a construction boom in Houston, I moved to M. D. Anderson Cancer Center to work on their Capital Campaign as a Development Officer and Proposal Writer, then worked in Marketing and Technical Writing for University of Houston and Hewlett Packard Enterprises.

In 2017, I fulfilled a life-long dream by becoming an Associate Teacher with HISD; this is my sixth-year teaching at Waltrip High School. I spend my free time training and showing dogs or pursuing my love of photography.
Course Objectives

By the end of this course the student will:

✓ have a working knowledge of the terminology related to health care.
✓ know how to communicate using the terminology applicable to the health care industry.
✓ know how to use available resources such as a medical and dental dictionary, multimedia resources, electronic media, and telecommunication resources and be able to utilize these resources to interpret technical materials.
✓ and be able to use health care terms, appropriately.

Curriculum

Unit 1: Meeting Employer Expectations in Health Science

This unit is designed to inform future Health Science students about industry expectations for employability skills and professional standards.

Unit 2: Medical Terminology Resources

At the completion of this unit students will be able to use a variety of medical terminology resources. Students are expected to become familiar with medical dictionaries, multimedia resources, and investigate electronic media under the supervision of their instructor.

Unit 3: Building Blocks of Medical Terminology

In this unit students learn the basic building blocks of medical terminology as it relates to the health care industry. Students will build and analyze words based on prefixes, suffixes, root words, combining vowels, combining forms, and abbreviations. Students will describe anatomical planes and positions, diagnostic procedures, diseases and their treatment.

Unit 4: Abbreviations Use in the Medical Industry

Students will learn to interpret medical abbreviations and to distinguish between common medical abbreviations used in the medical field in this unit. Students will successfully translate physician’s notes, progress sheets, lab reports, and radiological reports.

Unit 5: Communications Skills and Applied Medical Terminology

In this unit students will apply what they have learned about medical terminology to a variety of health science scenarios. The student’s ability to correctly pronounce and use medical language along with translating medical related materials will be evaluated and assessed.

Unit 6: Putting Medical Terminology to Use

Students in this unit will demonstrate more complex skills. Students will be expected to translate medical terms into conversation, summarize medical content, and interpret
medical scenarios correctly. Students will also be able to identify terminology common to specific medical specialist such as oncologist, dermatologists, and pathologists.

A complete listing and explanation of the above course objective as listed in Chapter 130 of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills is available here.

**Daily Required Materials**

✓ Laptop (fully charged and functioning properly)
✓ black or blue ink pen and notebook paper
✓ three ring notebooks (to maintain an organized portfolio of handouts and completed work)
✓ index cards (optional, but highly suggested)

**Text**

The class will read a variety of printed and electronic text, assigned by the teacher.

**Grading Scale**

✓ Grades: Classwork and Homework 40%
✓ Test, Quizzes and Projects 40%
✓ Daily and Participation 20%

**Student Expectations**

✓ **Be Respectful**: When the teacher or anyone is talking, please be attentive and quiet. Do not get up and wander in the class while instruction is taking place.
✓ **Be Responsible**: Bring all materials to class. Turn in your work when it is due.
✓ **Engage in the learning process**: Attendance and participation are required. Be sure to see me about any missed work if you are absent.
✓ **Be on Time**: and come to class prepared to work. Students are required to have their school laptop for every class period. **Phones are not allowed to be used during class, at any time, unless specified by the instructor.**
✓ **Class Dismissal**: The class will be dismissed by the teacher not the bell. You will remain in your seat. There will be no congregating at the door.
✓ **Obey All School Rules**: You will be expected to obey all school rules in your student handbook including following dress code. Students are **not to wear hoodies** over their head during instruction.