

Introduction to Health Professions (Dual Credit)

HLTHS 1110 - Biomedical Terminology / HLTHS 1100 – Survey of Health Care Careers

College of DuPage / Wilco Area Career Center

Instructor: Michelle Sharp, RT(R) (ARRT)

Email: msharp@wilcoacc.org

Phone: 815-838-6941

Office Hours: 7:30 AM–3:00 PM (school days)

Class Platform: Google Classroom

Course Description

This course provides students with an introduction to the healthcare industry through the study of both medical terminology and health professions. Students will develop foundational knowledge of medical language—including word roots, prefixes, suffixes, and body systems—while also building an understanding of basic anatomy and physiology and how structure and function relate to health and disease. Through hands-on activities, career exploration, case studies, and authentic healthcare experiences, students will explore a wide range of healthcare careers while developing communication skills, professionalism, and an understanding of healthcare delivery, ethics, patient care, and career readiness. This course is designed to prepare students for future healthcare education and informed career decision-making.

This course is offered for **dual credit through College of DuPage (HLTHS 1100 and HLTHS 1110)**.

Course Goals

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Use foundational medical terminology to communicate healthcare concepts
- Describe basic anatomy and physiology and relate body systems to healthcare terminology
- Explore major healthcare career pathways and professional opportunities
- Explain healthcare roles, responsibilities, and patient care concepts
- Demonstrate professionalism and workplace expectations
- Apply concepts of healthcare law, ethics, safety, and confidentiality
- Investigate education requirements and career readiness skills
- Participate in hands-on activities and authentic healthcare experiences

Course Materials

Students should bring:

- Charged **school-issued device** (1:1 Chromebook) *Personal laptops and tablets are **not** permitted.
- Notebook/binder
- Assigned handouts
- Access to Google Classroom

Textbooks:

The Language of Medicine (13th Edition) - Davi Ellen-Chabner & *Health Careers Today (7th Edition)* – Judith Gerdin

Major Course Topics

Topics may include:

- Medical terminology foundations (prefixes, suffixes, root words, combining forms, abbreviations)
 - Basic anatomy and physiology by body system
 - Medical language and healthcare communication
 - Healthcare systems, organizations, and patient workflow
 - Healthcare careers and career pathways
 - Roles and responsibilities of healthcare professionals
 - Healthcare law, ethics, patient rights, and confidentiality
 - Safety, infection prevention, and standard precautions
 - Professionalism, employability, and workplace communication
 - Healthcare technology and electronic health records
 - Career exploration, education pathways, and workforce readiness
 - Hands-on healthcare activities and authentic learning experiences
-

Pre-Enrollment Criteria

Biomedical Terminology - Course requires Reading Placement Category One.

- ACT Composite score of 20 or higher, ACT English subscore of 18 or higher, or ACT English Language Arts (ELA) subscore of 20 or higher.
- SAT total score of 950 or higher or SAT Reading/Writing subscore of 480 or higher.
- Minimum high school cumulative, non-weighted GPA of 2.6 on a 4.0 scale, or equivalent, with a minimum of 5 semesters (3.6/5.0). (Four semester GPA is acceptable for 11th grade only).

If the student does not meet the minimum requirement, they will need to complete the Accuplacer assessment by 11/1/2026. Accuplacer can be taken at the College of DuPage testing sites. Please visit <https://cod.edu/academics/testing/locations.html> for a list of testing site locations.

Assignments & Assessments

Student grades may include:

- Chapter assignments and worksheets
- Career exploration activities
- Hands-on skills and lab participation
- Midterm assessment
- Final assessment
- Professionalism
- Final Career Exploration Project

Final Career Exploration Project

Students will complete **one major healthcare career project** per semester which may include:

- Career portfolio (job search log, cover letter, resume, mock application, mock interview)
 - Future career research project
-

Grading Scale

Grade	Percent
A	90–100
B	80–89

C	70–79
D	60–69
F	Below 60

Late Work & Retakes

Late Work

- Late work submitted before the unit assessment receives a **10% deduction**
- After a unit closes, work may receive **up to 50% credit**
- No late work accepted after nine weeks grading closes unless approved

Retakes

- Students may complete **up to 2 retakes per semester**
 - All missing work must be completed before retakes are allowed
 - Retakes must occur before the next assessment
-

Attendance & Professional Expectations (IMPORTANT)

Attendance, punctuality, participation, and professionalism are part of student success and may impact grades.

Makeup Work

- Excused absences: students receive **one day per day absent** to make up work
- Unexcused absences: If there is an assignment issued on the day of the unexcused absence, or if you have an unexcused absence on the day an assignment, quiz, or assessment is scheduled, you will receive a **zero**

Dual Credit Attendance Requirement

Students participating in **dual credit must maintain regular attendance.**

Students enrolled in 1st semester who accumulate MORE THAN 10 absences will NOT be eligible to enroll in dual credit coursework during the spring semester. Similarly, students with more than 5 unexcused absences first semester will NOT be eligible to enroll in dual credit.

You must maintain a 70% or higher or you will be ineligible for / dropped from dual credit.

Additionally:

- More than **5 unexcused absences** second session may result in removal from dual credit.
- Excessive absences may require an attendance contract and will result in being dropped from dual credit.

Students are responsible for checking **Google Classroom** and communicating with classmates/instructor regarding missed work.

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate respect and professionalism
 - Participate in labs and activities safely
 - Maintain academic honesty
 - Follow Wilco handbook expectations
 - Use technology appropriately
 - Contribute positively to the learning environment
-

Student Support & Accommodations

Students needing accommodations should contact:

College of DuPage Center for Access and Accommodations

Email: **AccessAccommodations@cod.edu**

Please communicate accommodations early to support success.

Final Note

This syllabus is intended to provide an overview of course expectations. Activities, schedules, and assignments may be adjusted to meet instructional needs. To see the full syllabi for both classes, please check google classroom.

Welcome to Introduction to Health Professions—I am excited to explore healthcare careers with you this year!

First Nine Weeks	Second Nine Weeks
-------------------------	--------------------------

Med Term CH 1-4 Introductions to Medical Terminology Rules CH 5-6 Gastrointestinal System	Med Term 7 Urinary System 11 Cardio System 12 Respiratory System
Career Topics 1.1 Health Care in the United States 1.2 Healthcare Facilities and Organizations 1.3 Healthcare Delivery and Patient Workflow 1.4 Healthcare Workforce	Career Topics 2.15 Employment and Career Development 1.5 Healthcare Law and Ethics Communication on the Job 2.8 Health Insurance and the Revenue Cycle
9 week exam/Mid term (expectation of 70% or better)	Semester 1 exam/ Second 9 weeks (expectation of 70% or better)
	Project 1 - Employment Portfolio Project
Third Nine weeks	Fourth Nine Weeks
Med Term 10 Nervous System 15 Musculoskeletal System CPR	Safety 16 Integumentary System 8-9 Reproductive System CERT Response
Career Chapters 2.9 Healthcare Technology and Electronic Health Record 2.11 Wellness, Growth, and Development 2.12 Safety and Health Practice	Career Chapters 2.13 Professionalism and Effective Communication 2.14 Cultural Competence and Workplace Diversity 2.16 Academic Foundation
3rd Nine Week Exam/ Semester 2 Mid term	4th Nine Weeks/Final Exam COD Final, CPR Written, First Aid Assessment
	Project 2 - Future Career Project

Note: Your instructor reserves the right to rearrange unit order as necessary.