

Looking to change the world one patient at a time? Wanting to improve the lives of patients in your community? Then look no further!

The Professional Practice Skills Lab series will prepare you to be an exceptional patient advocate who serves patients on a daily basis. Our course will help you develop the tools you need to become an amazing pharmacist! Certain fundamental skills are necessary to reach the pinnacle of pharmacy practice. You will be taught these skills and will learn to integrate them with knowledge and attitudes, including patient interviewing, documenting patient care activities, patient assessment, promoting health and wellness, solving pharmaceutical calculations, preparing non-sterile compounds, and displaying professionalism. Everything you learn in our course will provide a strong foundation for you to excel in practice during years 2 through 4. Additionally, our course will prepare you to enter community practice settings during your first Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE), where you will engage with real patients.

**Course Prerequisites:** Admission to the Pharm.D. program.

**Course Corequisites:** PHA5103, PHA5007, PHA5727, PHA5021C, PHA5560, PHA5439, and PHA5176

Course Faculty and Staff	
<b>Course Director</b>	<b>Instructional Designer</b>
Angelina Vascimini, Pharm.D., BCACP Office: GNV HPNP 3306 Phone: 352-273-6224 Email: <a href="mailto:avascimini@ufl.edu">avascimini@ufl.edu</a>	Chris Egan, M.Ed., NRP, PMD, CHSE <a href="mailto:cegan@ufl.edu">cegan@ufl.edu</a>
<b>Orlando Campus Coordinator</b>	<b>Jacksonville Campus Coordinator</b>
Akash Alexander, Pharm.D., M.S. Office: ORL 420D Phone: 407-313-7040 Email: <a href="mailto:alexander.aj@ufl.edu">alexander.aj@ufl.edu</a>	Eric Egelund, Ph.D., Pharm.D. Office: JAX Tower One, First floor, Room 103 Phone: 904-244-9876 Email: <a href="mailto:eeegelund@cop.ufl.edu">eeegelund@cop.ufl.edu</a>
<b>Academic Coordinators</b>	
Marcus Hagins (GNV) Email: <a href="mailto:mhagins@ufl.edu">mhagins@ufl.edu</a>	Jessica Linares (ORL) Email: <a href="mailto:Jnoriegalinares@ufl.edu">Jnoriegalinares@ufl.edu</a>
Jaime Welsh (JAX) Email: <a href="mailto:jaimewelsh@ufl.edu">jaimewelsh@ufl.edu</a>	Nadja Rivera (ORL) Email: <a href="mailto:nl.riverarivera@ufl.edu">nl.riverarivera@ufl.edu</a>
<b>Teaching Faculty</b>	
Stacey Curtis, Pharm.D. Office GNV HPNP 2336 Email: <a href="mailto:scurtis@cop.ufl.edu">scurtis@cop.ufl.edu</a>	

[Faculty and Staff: Who to Contact and Questions to Ask](#)

**Office Hours:** Please see the Canvas course site for posted office hours.

<b>Course Objectives and Educational Outcomes</b>	
<b>Course Objectives</b>	<b>Linked Educational Outcome</b>
1. Understand the role of the pharmacist within the healthcare system.	Provider
2. Describe how low health literacy and health disparities related to access, culture, gender, and geography impacts healthcare.	Learner Provider
3. Utilize drug information resources and tools within the community pharmacy setting to formulate a response to a drug information question posed from a patient/caregiver or health care professional.	Learner Provider Communicator
4. Collect basic subjective and objective evidence related to patient, medications, allergies/adverse reactions, and disease by interviewing the patient and by gathering data from chat/electronic health records, pharmacist records, and patient/family interviews.	Learner Provider
5. Demonstrate empathic attributes that promote a professional therapeutic relationship with patients and their families through organized structure and specific questioning techniques.	Provider Communicator
6. Document appropriate information needed from patients and providers to accurately fill prescriptions.	Provider Communicator
7. Collect and disseminate pertinent information needed to transfer prescriptions.	Provider
8. Assist patients and caregivers in addressing insurance/prescription coverage.	Provider Communicator
9. Provide counseling to a patient or caregiver on a new prescription in a simulated community pharmacy setting.	Provider Communicator
10. Perform health screenings by measuring basic vital sign assessment and interpret data for a simulated patient.	Learner Provider Communicator
11. Interpret patient data for a cardiovascular patient to identify basic drug-related issues and counsel the patient on lifestyle modifications.	Provider Communicator
12. Interpret patient data for a respiratory patient to identify basic drug-related issues and counsel the patient on the proper use of respiratory devices to improve patient outcomes.	Provider Communicator

<b>Entrustable Professional Activities</b>
1. Collect information necessary to identify a patient's medication-related problems and health-related needs.
2. Assess collected information to determine a patient's medication-related problems and health-related needs.
5. Answer medication-related questions using scientific literature.
7. Fulfill a medication order/prescription.
8. Educate the patient and others trusted by the patient regarding the appropriate use of a medication, device to administer a medication, or self-monitoring test.
9. Monitor and evaluate the safety and effectiveness of a care plan.
11. Deliver medication or health-related education to health professionals or the public.
12. Identify populations at risk for prevalent diseases and preventable adverse medication outcomes.
13. Perform the technical, administrative, and supporting operations of a pharmacy practice site

<b>Course Resources and Fees</b>
<b>Course Outline</b>
See Appendix A. Please routinely check your Google campus calendar and the Canvas course site for any messages about changes in the schedule including meeting dates/times, deadlines, and room changes.

Required Textbooks/Readings
Top 300 Pharmacy Drug Cards – Available for free at <a href="https://accesspharmacy.mhmedical.com/qa.aspx?groupid=955">https://accesspharmacy.mhmedical.com/qa.aspx?groupid=955</a> Use <a href="#">UF VPN to access UF Libraries Resources</a> when off-campus. The UF HSC library staff can assist you with questions or issues related to accessing online library materials. For assistance contact your College of Pharmacy librarian or visit the <a href="#">HSC Library Website</a> at this URL: <a href="http://www.library.health.ufl.edu/">http://www.library.health.ufl.edu/</a>
Suggested Textbooks/Readings
1. Nemire RE, Kier KL, and Assa-Eley M (2023). Pharmacy Student Survival Guide, 4 <sup>th</sup> edition. McGraw-Hill Education. ISBN: 978-1-264-27856-5. Available through Access Pharmacy at <a href="https://accesspharmacy.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?bookid=3269">https://accesspharmacy.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?bookid=3269</a> 2. Herrier RN, Apgar DA, Boyce RW, and Foster SL (2015). Patient Assessment in Pharmacy. McGraw-Hill Education. ISBN: 978-0-07-175194-0. Available through Access Pharmacy at <a href="http://accesspharmacy.mhmedical.com/Book.aspx?bookid=1074">http://accesspharmacy.mhmedical.com/Book.aspx?bookid=1074</a>
Other Required Learning Resources
Students are also required to bring their laptops or tablet devices with webcam capabilities to each class session in order to take pre-lab quizzes via Canvas and record simulated patient interactions for upload and later review.
Materials & Supplies Fees
\$7.02

## Evaluation and Grading

Student Evaluation & Grading	
The Canvas© gradebook will be set-up using the percentages below to compute the grade.	
Assessment Item	Grade Percentage
Weekly Pre-Lab Quizzes (n=12 @ 2% each)	24%
Weekly Performance Assessments (n=12 @ 1% each)	12%
Mini OSCE Simulation Exams (n=4 @ 7% each)	28%
Self-Assessments (n=4 @ 1.5% each)	6%
Top 200 Drug Exam	15%
SIG Code Exam	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Grading Scale

Percentage	Letter Grade	Percentage	Letter Grade	Percentage	Letter Grade
92.50-100%	A	79.50-82.49%	B-	66.50-69.49%	D+
89.50-92.49%	A-	76.50-79.49%	C+	62.50-66.49%	D
86.50-89.49%	B+	72.50-76.49%	C	59.50-62.49%	D-
82.50-86.49%	B	69.50-72.49%	C-	< 59.50%	E

#### Rounding of grades:

Final grades in Canvas will be rounded to the 2nd decimal place. If the decimal is X.495 or higher, Canvas will round the grade to X.50. The above scale depicts this policy and grades are determined accordingly. Grade assignment is made using this policy and NO EXCEPTIONS will be made in situations where a student's grade is "close."

#### University of Florida Honor Pledge and Academic Dishonesty

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or

implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."  
The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Expectations for Artificial Intelligence and when use constitutes academic dishonesty is outlined below.

Tendering information (giving your work to another to be copied, giving someone answers to assessment questions, informing another person in a later section about the questions that appear on an assessment that you have taken, or giving or selling a paper to another student), is considered academic dishonesty.

Students are required to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. Failure to report is also considered academic dishonesty. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult the course's Teaching Partnership Leader/Course Director or Assistant Dean for Curricular Affairs.

See the [UF Conduct Code website](#) for more information. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

## Assignment Descriptions

**Weekly Pre-Lab Quizzes:** Quizzes will consist of multiple choice, true/false, or case-based questions. Additionally, each quiz may contain questions in relation to the list of Top 300 drugs and SIG Codes for the semester. Weekly pre-lab quizzes will be completed at the start of each lab session. If you are tardy for lab, you will not be allowed to take the pre-lab quiz and will receive a zero. If you have an excused absence from lab, you will be excused from taking the quiz (EX in the gradebook). No makeup quizzes will be offered. Quiz questions/answers for pre-lab quizzes in skills labs will not be released to students. This is consistent with the patient care courses. Faculty may choose to clarify difficult questions and students are encouraged to come talk to the faculty if they have questions about what they missed on a specific pre-lab quiz. Pre-Lab Quizzes will occur in Modules 1 - 12.

**Weekly Performance Assessments:** For each module, in-lab activities will consist of specific performance assessments related to the content of the prior module. Objectives for this course will primarily be assessed by weekly performance assessments in addition to the Mini OSCE simulation exam. Performance assessments will include tasks and skills required of a pharmacist including collecting and interpreting subjective and objective patient information through patient interview, measuring vital signs, and conducting health screenings. Assessments will take place the week following the lab activity and consist of individual or team format. Assessments will be completed during the lab session or potentially assigned to complete at home. Weekly performance assessments will be evaluated using grading rubrics or checklists specific to that task or activity. Each assessment is worth 1% of the overall grade. Assessments may be evaluated individually or in teams. Rubric/checklist criteria and expectations for the in-lab assessments will be posted for each module.

**Mini OSCE Simulation Exams:** Objective Structured Clinical Exams (OSCEs) consist of several stations/encounters in which a student must interact with a patient/provider or solve a clinical problem. A mini-OSCE is a smaller version of a final/milestone OSCE and consists of 2 to 3 stations that will evaluate skills learned in modules prior to the scheduled mini-OSCE. Students will be assigned a specific time to complete their simulation exam. Please check your local campus schedule. Performance will be evaluated using rubrics or checklists for both active (stations that include speaking to a mock patient or provider) and passive (stations involving a problem on a computer or sheet of paper) stations.

- Simulation Exam, Part 1 – 7%
- Simulation Exam, Part 2 – 7%
- Simulation Exam, Part 3 – 7%
- Simulation Exam, Part 4 – 7%

**Self-Assessments:** Students will record themselves completing specific module assessments (listed below) on their personal device. Then the student will upload their performance assessment video and complete the self-reflection assignment in Canvas. This applies to the following module assessments:

- Module 4: Introduction to Patient Interviewing
- Module 5: Communication Techniques
- Module 9: Introduction to Patient Counseling
- Module 11: Introduction to the Cardiovascular Patient

**Top 200 Drug Exam:** This exam will consist of 50 multiple choice questions taken from the Top 300 Drugs. A list of the drugs will be provided. Eligible content includes brand name, generic name, therapeutic drug class, and main indication. Those who do not achieve  $\geq 80\%$  will retake the exam (maximum of two retakes permitted). Please see that course syllabus for minimum performance requirements and how the results are used as milestone assessments. The score earned on the first attempt will be used for determining the course grade. Students who fail to obtain a passing score after three attempts will fail the course. Failing to pass this exam may result in a student's progression through the curriculum being delayed. This is a self-taught portion of the course, and students are responsible for preparing themselves for the exam. A list of the drugs that will appear on the examination will be released at the beginning of the course.

**Sig Code Exam:** This exam will complete SIG Codes used by healthcare providers when prescribing medications. A list of SIG Codes will be provided. The student is responsible for translating SIG Codes and converting words to SIG Code. The score earned on the first attempt will be used for determining the course grade.

## Course-Related Policies

### UF Resources and Policies

University of Florida resources and policies can be found at this URL: <https://go.ufl.edu/syllabuspolicies>

### PharmD Course Policies

The Policies in the following link apply to this course. Review the General [Pharm.D. Course Policies](http://curriculum.pharmacy.ufl.edu/current-students/course-policies/) carefully, at this URL: <http://curriculum.pharmacy.ufl.edu/current-students/course-policies/>

### Attendance Policy

Attendance is mandatory for active learning sessions such as team-based learning sessions, case discussions, laboratory sessions, and other activities that the instructor designates as required. This course has 15 required sessions (laboratory sessions). A student who misses greater than 3 session(s) for this course will receive an incomplete in the course and will retake the course during the next offering, resulting in delayed graduation.

### Makeup Assignments

Makeup assignments may be required for **absences** from Skills Lab Sessions. Students should follow up with their Skills Lab faculty to schedule the make-up assignment(s). In addition, for excused absences students will be responsible for working with their teammates/classmates to review missed material. If you want to review material in more detail, please attend office hours or set up a time with your campus coordinator. Students will be required to make up the missed module before November 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:59PM. Failure to make up an assignment will result in a zero in the gradebook. Makeup assignments will not be accepted past the deadline.

### Late Assignments

Assignments **unrelated to absences** that are submitted late will have the following deductions in addition to grading for accuracy and completeness:

- Less than 24 hours late: 25% reduction of the percentage score available on an assignment
  - For example, student earns 18/20 on assignment which is 90% was 6 hours late so gets 25% reduction.  $90 - 25\% = 65\%$ .  $0.65 \times 20 = 13$ . Students will receive 13/20 in gradebook.
- 24-48 hours late: 50% reduction of the percentage score available on an assignment
  - For example, student earns 18/20 on assignment which is 90% was 46 hours late so gets 50% reduction.  $90 - 50\% = 40\%$ .  $0.4 \times 20 = 8$ . Students will receive 8/20 in gradebook.
- More than 48 hours late: Assignment will be assigned a score of zero

### Educational Technology Use

The following technology will be used during the course, and the student must have the appropriate technology and software.

1. ExamSoft™ Testing Platform
2. Canvas™ Learning Management System

For technical support, navigate to [Educational Technology and IT Support Contact Information](http://curriculum.pharmacy.ufl.edu/current-students/technical-help/) at this URL:  
<http://curriculum.pharmacy.ufl.edu/current-students/technical-help/>

### Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use for Assessments

**The use of generative AI in assessments is prohibited**, unless explicitly allowed by the course instructor. Assessments include any submitted work, graded or ungraded, that will be evaluated. These include, but are not limited to, quizzes, exams, assignments, writing projects, etc. If a student is uncertain about the use of AI technology, it is the student's responsibility to ask the instructor prior to beginning the assignment or assessment.

When authorized by the course director/course instructors, students may use AI technologies in the completion of an assessment if they acknowledge all use by naming the technology, describing how it was employed, and adhering to any other requirement stipulated in the assessment's instructions. Failure to acknowledge the use of AI technology or disregarding instructions related to the use of AI for assessments is considered academic misconduct. Students must disclose the use of AI and AI-assisted technologies by following the instructions below.

Application of AI technology must be done with human oversight and control, and students should carefully review and edit the result, as AI can generate outputs that can be incorrect, incomplete, or biased. **Students assume full responsibility for all content, including errors and omissions, if AI is employed.** Additionally, privacy is a concern with AI-generated content. Most commercially available AI systems are not compliant with [HIPAA](#) or FERPA protections, inputting patient or student information is prohibited by federal law.

Instructions to acknowledge the use of AI:

Statement: During the preparation of this assignment I/we, [INSERT NAME/S], used [INSERT TOOL / SERVICE] in order to [INSERT REASON OR PURPOSE]. After using this tool/service, I/we reviewed and edited the content as needed and take full responsibility for the content of the submission.

### Penalties for unauthorized use:

**Unauthorized use of AI text generators for assessments is considered evidence of academic dishonesty (see [policy on academic dishonesty](#)).**

### Disability Resource Center

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. See the [Get Started with the DRC webpage](#) on the Disability Resource Center site. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

**Course Evaluation Process**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online. Students can complete evaluations in three ways:

1. The email they receive from GatorEvals,
2. Their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or
3. The central portal at <https://my-ufl.bluera.com>

Guidance on how to provide constructive feedback is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>

## Appendix A: Course Outline

Date / Time	Mod #	Activity	Activity Title	Contact Time (min)	Responsible
		Module	Module 01 Orientation and Introduction to Community Pharmacy		Angelina Vascimini
08/18/25	1	Lab	Skills Lab Session 01	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
	2	Module	Module 02 Introduction to Health Literacy and Health Disparities		Stacey Curtis
08/25/25	2	Lab	Skills Lab Session 02	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund, Stacey Curtis
			LABOR DAY HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL		
	3	Module	Module 03: Introduction to Drug Information in the Pharmacy		Stacey Curtis
09/08/25	3	Lab	Skills Lab Session 03	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund, Stacey Curtis
	4	Module	Module 04: Patient Interviewing		Akash Alexander
09/15/25	4	Lab	Skills Lab Session 04	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
	5	Module	Module 05: Communication Techniques		Akash Alexander
09/22/25	5	Lab	Skills Lab Session 05	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
	6	Module	Module 06: New Prescriptions in the Pharmacy - Part 1		Angelina Vascimini

<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Mod #</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Activity Title</b>	<b>Contact Time (min)</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
09/29/25	6	Lab	Skills Lab Session 06	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
	7	Module	Module 07: New Prescriptions in the Pharmacy - Part 2		Eric Free Egelund
10/06/25	7	Lab	Skills Lab Session 07	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
	8	Module	Module 08: Introduction to Prescription Insurance		Eric Free Egelund
10/13/25	8	Lab	Skills Lab Session 08	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund, Stacey Curtis
	9	Module	Module 09 Introduction to Patient Counseling		Akash Alexander
10/20/25	9	Lab	Skills Lab Session 09	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
	10	Module	Module 10 Introduction to Vital Signs and Community Health Screening		Angelina Vascimini
10/27/25	10	Lab	Skills Lab Session 10	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
	11	Module	Module 11 Introduction to the Cardiovascular Patient and Point of Care Testing		Angelina Vascimini
11/03/25	11	Lab	Skills Lab Session 11	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
			VETERANS DAY HOLIDAY - NO SCHOOL		
	12	Module	Module 12 Introduction to the Respiratory Patient and Inhaler Counseling		Eric Free Egelund

<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Mod #</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Activity Title</b>	<b>Contact Time (min)</b>	<b>Responsible</b>
11/10/25	12	Lab	Skills Lab Session 12	100	Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
11/17/2025 at 9am-12pm		Lab	Open Lab - Skills Lab Make-up		Akash Alexander, Angelina Vascimini, Eric Free Egelund
11/17/2025 at 2-3:30pm		Exam	SIG Code Exam		Angelina Vascimini
12/05/2025 at 9-11am		Exam	TOP 200 EXAM		Angelina Vascimini
12/01/25		Exam	MINI-OSCE		Angelina Vascimini
12/15/2025 at 9-11am		Exam	Top 200 (Make Ups/Retakes)		Angelina Vascimini