



# CA State Chico, Online RN Refresher Course

## Syllabus

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The CA State Chico Online RN Refresher Course is designed to prepare actively licensed registered nurses to care for adult medical-surgical patients in hospital and clinical settings. This comprehensive, self-paced program combines web-based instruction, hands-on skills practice and simulation to enhance knowledge, skills, and confidence for re-entry into the nursing workforce.

Course content includes the nursing process, medical-surgical nursing, pharmacology, and professional practice. Participants are supported throughout by dedicated staff who guide engagement in both online learning and simulation activities. The goal is to equip nurses with the competence and assurance needed to succeed in today's complex healthcare environment. Please note that this course does not confer academic credit. Upon completion of this course, participants will receive verification of 54 hours of continuing education.

### CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

- A valid California RN license, or license in progress
- Current BLS/CPR card
- Access to high-speed internet
- Clinical experience in the past 5-7 years (recommended)
- Adult patient care experience (preferred)

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

*The student will be given the tools to meet the following objectives:*

1. Complete the online programs with a self-paced approach to learning.
2. Review the principles of the nursing process.
3. Relate current practices in the care of the medical-surgical patient as evidenced by successful completion of the online modules and practical experiences at the Simulation Center.

*(Objectives continued)*

4. Gain comfort with current pharmacological and medication administration principles that lead to safe clinical practice.
5. Demonstrate current knowledge during the study of online modules, utilizing self-administered testing.
6. Demonstrate critical thinking skills using patient simulation and High-fidelity manikins.
7. Participate in the practice of clinical skills during a comprehensive active learning environment with One-on-one guidance from clinical experts.

### **TIME ALLOTMENT**

Nurses are enrolled in this course for ONE 16-week semester. The course structure is a hybrid format that includes a scheduled, one-day visit to the Rural Northern California Simulation Center, located in Chico, California. Though you will be given a course schedule, you are allowed to complete the online educational components as self-paced. During the 16 weeks, the faculty will maintain oversight of your online coursework. The course will culminate in the participation of an in-person skills review and the use of simulation. The Sim and Skills Day provides the opportunity to apply your nursing knowledge, encourages critical thinking, and builds the confidence of a working RN.

### **COURSE CONTENT**

The program consists of 32 online learning modules and assessments through which learning will occur independently using the course schedule of assignments. We recommend you follow our schedule as closely as possible, to prevent falling behind. In addition to the comprehensive text and audio portions of each lesson, the e-learning modules consist of many cognitive aids such as videos, skills checklists, photos, diagrams, tips for documentation, and clinical judgment questions to boost your skills. Flexibility in the completion of assignments is accepted, however, all assignments must be completed before attending the Skills and Simulation Session at the end of the course. The faculty is available on an ongoing basis for guidance, assistance in course-related concerns, and to track records of assignment completion.

### **EVALUATION METHODS**

The assigned course modules encompass sections that will evaluate knowledge gained through a defined process consisting of pre-testing, reviewing the lesson, and post-testing. Each module requires a minimum test score of 75% or greater in the post-test. In addition to achieving the minimum test scores,

students are expected to review the lesson for each module. Suggested Remediation Review of the material is available, with directed learning and additional areas of study presented as an option.

### **TEXTBOOK/ MATERIALS**

The ATI Adult Medical-Surgical e-text is accessed through the course in the same manner as the modules. We do not offer hard copies to ensure the information we provide is the most up-to-date.

### **CLINICAL FACILITY SITE**

The online program is considered phase 1. Approximately one week after completing Phase 1, Phase 2 (Skills/Sim Day) will be held at the Rural Northern California Simulation Center in Chico, CA. Students are expected to attend this session after successful completion of all online modules. Skills review practice is held in the AM, with an afternoon of patient care scenarios in the PM. There is no testing on Simulation Day. There is no direct patient care contact for this course. The RN Refresher course clinical simulation uses manikins exclusively.

**OFFICE HOURS: Please use email and we will reply at the earliest opportunity.**

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Sim Center / RN Refresher Project Director: Elisabeth (Betsy) Voelker - [evoelker@csuchico.edu](mailto:evoelker@csuchico.edu)

For phone assistance, please call 530-332-5091 and ask for Betsy or leave a message.

### **FACULTY**

- Margaret Lingafeldt MSN, FNP-C  
RN Refresher Course Director/Instructor
- Gema Knipe, MSN  
CSU, Chico, School of Nursing, Faculty/ RN Refresher Course Instructor

### **ADMINISTRATION**

- Elisabeth Voelker, MBA  
RN Refresher Project Director / Rural Simulation Center Director