

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
College of Health, Education and Human Sciences
Allied Health
5210 Grand Avenue, Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649

General Syllabus

ALHE 10006 Phlebotomy

Credit Hours: 6 Lecture Hours: 4 Laboratory or other types of Hours:4

Prerequisite(s): Admission to WATC
Prerequisite(s) or corequisite(s): N/A
Corequisite(s): N/A

Effective Catalog: Fall 2024

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

This course is designed to prepare students for certification as a Certified Phlebotomy Technician. Students will receive training in the proper collection and processing of blood specimens to perform venipuncture and capillary punctures. Upon completion of the course and hours, students will be scheduled with American Allied Health for their national certification exam.

B. Additional Information

This course is on the PEAK Innovation Center campus and will utilize multiple teaching/learning strategies including, but not limited to lectures, discussions, small group work, simulated activities, and multimedia that will enhance instructional strategies to meet the individual learning needs of the student.

The student has performed and received satisfactory grades on all clinical skill areas in both instruction and lab practicums. The student has displayed appropriate behavior in class and lab. The student has completed a post-TABE assessment. The student will be required to have a total of 10 venipunctures to complete this class. The student will perform 10 successful venipunctures on the mannequin's arm and 10 successful venipunctures on their classmates in a controlled environment that will be closely observed by the instructor. Upon completion of course, the student will take a national exam through American Allied Health to become certified. The exam will be 150 multiple-choice and True/False questions. The student will have 120 minutes to complete the exam and must score a 75% to pass and obtain certification. Results are immediate and have no wait time. Western Arkansas Technical Center will pay for your first exam registration, which allows the student to take the test one additional time, if he/she does not pass the first time. The student will be responsible for paying for the second registration fee if required.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. **Anatomy and Physiology:**
 - Understand the structure and function of the circulatory system, including veins, arteries, and capillaries of the arm and hand and landmarks for venipuncture.
2. **Medical Terminology:**
 - Utilize terminology related to phlebotomy, blood collection, and laboratory testing to effectively communicate with healthcare professionals and patients.
3. **Infection Control and Safety:**
 - Apply principles of infection control, including hand hygiene, personal protective equipment (PPE), and safe handling of blood specimens to prevent the spread of infections in a healthcare setting.
4. **Venipuncture Techniques:**
 - Demonstrate various venipuncture techniques, including the use of vacutainer systems, butterfly needles, and syringe methods while locating veins and performing venipuncture for collecting blood samples including finger sticks and heel sticks.
5. **Specimen Handling and Processing:**
 - Demonstrate techniques for labeling, handling, and transporting blood specimens to ensure sample integrity through patient identification and chain of custody procedures and accuracy of test results.
6. **Quality Assurance and Quality Control:**
 - Recognize the importance of accuracy, precision, and reliability in blood collection and laboratory testing processes as it relates to the principles of quality assurance (QA) and quality control (QC) in phlebotomy practice.
7. **Patient Communication and Care:**
 - Exhibit therapeutic communication skills for interacting with patients during the phlebotomy process, including explaining procedures, obtaining consent, providing reassurance, with professionalism and empathy considering cultural competence.
8. **Ethical and Legal Considerations:**
 - Identify ethical principles and legal regulations governing phlebotomy practice, including patient confidentiality, informed consent, and documentation requirements and potential legal liabilities and consequences of non-compliance.
9. **Professional Certification:**
 - Participate in a national certification exam.

B. University Learning Outcomes

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills

Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes.

Global and Cultural Perspectives

Students will appreciate and reflect upon cultural difference and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Phlebotomy past and present
- B. Quality assurance and ethical, legal issues in healthcare
- C. Infection control, safety, personal wellness
- D. Medical terminology for phlebotomist
- E. Anatomy and physiology for the phlebotomist
- F. Equipment and supplies
- G. Venipuncture procedures
- H. Pre-examination/pre-analytical considerations
- I. Capillary puncture procedures
- J. Special collections
- K. Specimen handling and processing
- L. Urine and other nonblood specimens
- M. Arterial puncture procedures
- N. Professional development and certification