

Medical Terminology Course Description

This course description provides a concise summary of the most important characteristics of the course and the learning outcomes expected from the student to achieve, demonstrating whether he has made the utmost benefit from the available learning opportunities. It is necessary to link them with the program description.

1. Educational Institution	Shatt Al-Arab University
2. Scientific Department	Radiological Techniques
3. Course Name / Code	Medical Terminology
4. Available Attendance Forms	
5. Semester / Year	Second Semester 2025-2026
6. Total Study Hours	
7. Date of Preparation of This Description	18/7/2026

1. Course Objectives

The Medical Terminology course aims to:

1. Enable students to identify the four basic elements used in building medical words.
2. Develop students' ability to divide medical words into their basic components (root, prefix, suffix, combining vowel).
3. Apply the basic rules to correctly define and build medical words.
4. Equip students with the ability to identify the correct pronunciation sites for medical words and interpret their symbols.
5. Enable students to pronounce medical terms correctly.
6. Link and connect combining forms and word roots with different types of suffixes to build meaningful terms.
7. Identify terms related to directions, positions, and planes of the body.
8. Describe pathological conditions, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, and other terms related to the systems of the human body.

A - Cognitive Objectives

1. Identify the structural analysis of medical words and their basic constituent elements.
2. Understand the functions of Prefixes, Suffixes, and Roots in medical terms.
3. Comprehend the terminology specific to various body systems (skin, digestive, respiratory, cardiovascular, and others).
4. Understand terms related to Oncology and the Endocrine system.

B - Course-Specific Skill Objectives

1. Correctly use the rules of building medical terms to deconstruct any medical term and understand its meaning.
2. Apply linguistic skills to determine the medical specialty based on the terms used.
3. Distinguish between similar medical terms in terms of pronunciation or spelling.
4. Ability to link the medical term with the description of the pathological condition or the organ concerned.

Teaching and Learning Methods

1. Theoretical lectures to explain the rules of building medical terms and their constituent elements.
2. Interactive in-class exercises to analyze and deconstruct medical words.
3. Group discussions and classroom dialogues to discuss terminology related to each system.
4. Self-learning through the use of medical dictionaries and specialized digital resources.
5. E-learning through the use of educational platforms and digital content for medical terms.

Assessment Methods

1. Written tests (short, midterm, and final) to measure the student's ability to memorize and understand terms.
2. Written assignments and in-class exercises to assess the student's ability to divide medical words.
3. Oral tests to measure the student's ability to pronounce medical terms correctly.
4. Class participation and student interaction during the explanation of new terms.

C - Affective and Value Objectives

1. Enhance interest in learning medical terminology as a fundamental tool for communication in the health field.
2. Develop a spirit of accuracy and attention while writing and pronouncing medical terms (as errors may change the meaning).
3. Adherence to professional ethics when using medical terms with colleagues and patients in the future.

D - General and Transferable Qualification Skills (Other Skills Related to Employability and Personal Development)

1. Developing research and inquiry skills in medical dictionaries to understand new terms.
2. Enhancing teamwork skills during group class exercises.
3. Developing self-learning skills and continuous review of emerging medical terms.
4. Time management and organizing study efforts to retain the large amount of medical terminology.

9. Course Structure

Week	Lecture Topic	Learning Method	Learning Outcomes
1	Structural analysis: Basic elements of the medical word	Lecture, problem-solving	Understanding the components of medical words (root, prefix, suffix)
2	Suffixes	Lecture, examples	Recognizing common suffixes and their meanings
3	Prefixes	Interactive lecture	Recognizing common prefixes and their effect on word meaning
4	Roots, word terminals, and disease conditions	Lecture, written applications	Ability to form a medical term and determine the condition
5	Terms related to body structure	Lecture, illustrative diagrams	Understanding terms for anatomical directions and planes
6	Terms of the Integumentary System	Lecture, written exercises	Memorizing skin terminology and skin diseases
7	Terms of the Digestive System	Lecture, reading texts	Memorizing digestive system terms and diseases
8	Midterm Exam	Written test	Assessing cognitive and skills achievement
9	Terms of the Respiratory System	Lecture, exercises	Memorizing respiratory system terms and diseases
10	Terms of the skin and its appendages (skin, hair, and nails)	Lecture, illustrative diagrams	Understanding additional terms related to the skin
11	Terms of the Cardiovascular System	Lecture, written exercises	Memorizing heart and blood vessel terms

12	Terms of blood, lymphatic, and immune systems	Lecture, reading texts	Understanding blood and immunity terms
13	Terms of the Musculoskeletal System	Lecture, written exercises	Memorizing muscle and bone terms
14	Terms of the Endocrine System	Lecture, discussion	Memorizing hormone and gland terms
15	Terms of the special senses and Oncology	Lecture, problem-solving	Memorizing eye, ear, and cancer terminology

10. Infrastructure

Required Prescribed Books and Sources

1. David Andersson, Medical Terminology: The Best and Most Effective Way to Memorize, Pronounce and Understand Medical Terms, Second Edition.
2. Barbara A. Gyls, Medical Terminology Systems: A Body Systems Approach, Eighth Edition.

1. Course Development Plan

1. Periodically update the list of medical terms to keep pace with modern developments in medical sciences.
2. Benefit from training courses and modern international books in the field of medical terminology.
3. Review the course based on the opinions of students, instructors, and the requirements of the labor market, and make necessary improvements to content and teaching methods.

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