MEDTERM101 | **Medical Terminology**

Course Text

No need to track down a textbook; the readings are built right into this course. We adapted the lessons from the following source:

Medical Terminology for Healthcare Professions. Adapted from Carter & Rutherford (2020) and Betts et al. (2013). Pressbooks. https://pressbooks.uwf.edu/medicalterminology/

Course Description

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to medical terminology. Students will learn to decipher medical terms by understanding their component parts, prefixes, suffixes, and root words. The course covers terms related to all body systems and emphasizes their usage in clinical vignettes. After completing the course, students will not only be able to comprehend medical notes and other documentation, but will also be able to use accurate nomenclature to effectively communicate with healthcare professionals. The course is ideal for students considering a career in a healthcare setting but would also be valuable to anyone interested in deepening their understanding of medical language and terminology.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify medical nomenclature, prefixes, and suffixes
2. Associate medical terminology with specific organ and/or functional systems
3. Employ positional, directional, regional, and planar anatomical terms to effectively communicate the relative positions of bodily structures
4. Decipher unfamiliar medical terminology as applied to anatomical terminology, procedures, and pathologies
5. Discuss common diseases, disorders, and procedures within their respective organ system categories
6. Identify and define common diagnostic procedures and their associated terminology, encompassing imaging, laboratory tests, and other investigative methods
7. Read and interpret medical literature and/or medical materials integrating the terminology to form an accurate understanding of the content
8. Explain the meaning of medical terms within the context of patient scenarios presented in the textbook, and practice how these terms would be used to communicate medical information in a clinical setting

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Academic Integrity Statement

Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an honest, truthful and responsible manner. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication and academic misconduct. Failure to comply with the Academic Integrity Policy can result in a failure and/or zero on the attempted assignment/examination, a removal from the course, disqualification to enroll in future courses, and/or revocation of an academic transcript.

Course Completion Policy

In order for a course to be considered complete, **all required coursework must be attempted, submitted, and graded.** Required coursework consists of graded assignments. Any Academic Integrity Policy violations may prevent a course from being considered complete.

Assessment Types

StraighterLine courses may include any combination of the assessment types described below. Review the descriptions to learn about each type, then review the Course Evaluation Criteria to understand how your learning will be measured in this course.

Benchmarks
Benchmarks test your mastery of course concepts. You have 3 attempts, and your highest score counts. **Note:** Cumulative Benchmarks (final exams) only allow 1 attempt.

Capstones
Capstones are project-based assessments that help you apply concepts to real-world scenarios. You have 2 attempts, and your highest score counts.

Checkpoints
Checkpoints are quick knowledge checks on important course concepts. All are open-book, and most have 1-3 attempts.

AI Use-Case Policies

StraighterLine Capstone assessments operate under one of three AI Use-Case Policies. These designations are selected intentionally to support learners in developing digital literacy, ethical reasoning, and authentic communication skills. Each model requires students to engage meaningfully with the course outcomes while adhering to academic standards.

Independent Work Requirement: Capstones with this designation must be completed independently without using AI tools. The goal is for learners to showcase their own understanding and skills without AI assistance. Students are expected to generate and submit original work developed solely through their own reasoning and effort.

AI-Assisted Planning Option: Capstones with this designation may allow AI tools to support brainstorming and assessment planning. If allowed, students will be asked to document any AI assistance by noting how it informed their work. Documentation must be included within the assignment or in a designated reflection field. Examples include describing how an AI tool helped organize an outline, generate ideas, or surface sources for further exploration.

AI-Integration Requirement: Capstones with this designation require AI tools as part of the learning process. Students will be asked to reflect upon their AI interactions and AI contributions to the assessment. Reflections must include which tools were used, how they were used, and what insights students gained from the process. This promotes transparency, ethical use, and metacognitive skill-building.

Course Evaluation Criteria

Your score provides a percentage score and letter grade for each course. A passing percentage is 70% or higher.

There are a total of 1000 points in the course:

Assessment	Points	Learning Outcomes
Checkpoint 1: Introduction to Nomenclature, Prefixes, and Suffixes	3	1, 2, 4, 8
Checkpoint 2: Body Terminology	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 8
Checkpoint 3: Skeletal System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 4: Muscular System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 5: Integumentary System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Benchmark 1: Checkpoints 1-5	140	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 6: Blood Vessels and Blood	3	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8
Checkpoint 7: Cardiovascular System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 8: Respiratory System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 9: Digestive System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Benchmark 2: Checkpoints 6-9	140	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Capstone 1: Medical Terms in Action	150	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 10: Sensory Systems	3	2, 4, 5, 6, 8
Checkpoint 11: Nervous System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 12: Endocrine System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 13: Lymphatic & Immune System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Benchmark 3: Checkpoints 10-13	140	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 14: Urinary System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 15: Male Reproductive System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 16: Female Reproductive System	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Checkpoint 17: Obstetrics	3	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Benchmark 4: Checkpoints 14-17	140	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
Capstone 2: Endocrinology Terms in Clinical Use	239	1, 4, 7, 8
Total	1000	

Course Roadmap

This roadmap provides an overview of the checkpoints and lessons covered in this course.

Checkpoint 1: Introduction to Nomenclature, Prefixes, and Suffixes

- Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Word Parts and Rules
- Textbook Reading: Prefixes and Suffixes

Checkpoint 2: Body Terminology

- Textbook Reading: Body Terminology
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 3: Skeletal System

- Skeletal Systems Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Skeletal Systems
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 4: Muscular System

- Muscular System Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Muscular System
- Case Study: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 5: Integumentary System

- Integumentary System Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Integumentary System
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 6: Blood Vessels and Blood

- Blood Vessels and Blood Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Blood Vessels and Blood
- Case Study: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 7: Cardiovascular System

- Cardiovascular System Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Cardiovascular System
- Case Study: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 8: Respiratory System

- Respiratory Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Respiratory System
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 9: Digestive System

- Digestive System Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Digestive System
- Case Study: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 10: Sensory Systems

- Sensory Systems Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Sensory Systems
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 11: Nervous System

- Nervous System Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Nervous System
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 12: Endocrine System

- Endocrine System Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Endocrine System
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 13: Lymphatic & Immune System

- Lymphatic & Immune System Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Lymphatic & Immune Systems
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 14: Urinary System

- Urinary System: Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Urinary System
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 15: Male Reproductive System

- Male Reproductive System Word Parts

- Textbook Reading: Male Reproductive System
- Case Study: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 16: Female Reproductive System

- Female Reproductive System Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Female Reproductive System
- Case Studies: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

Checkpoint 17: Obstetrics

- Obstetrics Word Parts
- Textbook Reading: Obstetrics
- Case Study: Medical Terms in Context
- Vocabulary and Test Yourself

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