

# HTEC-1080: MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

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## Cuyahoga Community College

**Viewing: HTEC-1080 : Medical Terminology**

**Board of Trustees:**

May 2026

**Academic Term:**

Fall 2027

**Subject Code**

HTEC - Health Technology

**Course Number:**

1080

**Title:**

Medical Terminology

**Catalog Description:**

This course will provide exposure to medical language. Terms related to human body structure, procedures, abbreviations, the treatment of diseases, and standard abbreviations will be introduced. The course offers information that applies to the fundamental understanding of terms from many areas of medicine. Students will progressively build skills in medical word construction, interpretation, and application across all body systems, preparing them for further study and professional use in health careers.

**Credit Hour(s):**

3

**Lecture Hour(s):**

3

### Outcomes

**Course Outcome(s):**

Apply the rules of medical word construction.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Not Applicable: No Essential Learning Outcomes mapped. This course does not require application-level assignments that demonstrate mastery in any of the Essential Learning Outcomes.

**Objective(s):**

1. Define prefixes, suffixes, combining forms, word roots, compound words, and standard abbreviations.
2. Describe how medical terms are constructed using word elements.
3. Construct and correctly spell medical terms by combining forms, prefixes, and suffixes.
4. Apply rules for forming singular and plural terms derived from Greek and Latin.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Interpret and define medical terminology in context.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Not Applicable: No Essential Learning Outcomes mapped. This course does not require application-level assignments that demonstrate mastery in any of the Essential Learning Outcomes.

**Objective(s):**

1. Define medical terms by dividing them into their elements.
2. Spell, define, and pronounce terms related to pathology, diagnostic and treatment procedures, and pharmacology.

3. Identify common diagnostic procedures and laboratory/radiology tests.
4. Utilize a medical dictionary proficiently for spelling, definitions, and pronunciation.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Correlate medical terminology with anatomy, physiology, and pathology.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Not Applicable: No Essential Learning Outcomes mapped. This course does not require application-level assignments that demonstrate mastery in any of the Essential Learning Outcomes.

**Objective(s):**

1. Identify major body systems in terms of structures, functions, and related word parts.
2. Correlate anatomy and physiology with pathology and diagnostic testing across all body systems.
3. Identify medical specialists who treat disorders of each system.
4. Identify body planes, directions, cavities, quadrants, and regions.

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**Course Outcome(s):**

Demonstrate effective use of medical language in professional contexts.

**Essential Learning Outcome Mapping:**

Oral Communication: Demonstrate effective verbal and nonverbal communication for an intended audience that is clear, organized, and delivered effectively following the standard conventions of that language.

**Objective(s):**

1. Pronounce medical terms accurately and appropriately in professional settings.
2. Interpret medical reports that use diagnostic, symptomatic, and procedural terms and standard abbreviations.
3. Compose and translate medical documentation using appropriate terminology and conventions.
4. Demonstrate clarity and accuracy in written and oral communication using medical language.

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**Methods of Evaluation:**

1. Class discussion and activities
2. Homework, written or oral assignments
3. Quizzes
4. Examinations
5. Comprehensive final examination

**Course Content Outline:**

1. Rules for Proper Medical Term Formation
  - a. Combining rules
  - b. Multiple root combinations
  - c. Exceptions to rules
  - d. Word analysis (identification, definition, usage)
  - e. Word building (spelling, pronunciation, order of components)
2. Word Elements / Components
  - a. Word root
  - b. Combining vowel
  - c. Combining form
  - d. Prefix
  - e. Suffix (noun and adjective forms)
  - f. Compound words
  - g. Singular/plural rules (Greek & Latin origins)
3. Body as a Whole

- a. Body systems overview:
  - i. Muscular System
  - ii. Skeletal System
  - iii. Respiratory System
  - iv. Digestive System
  - v. Urinary System
  - vi. Male Reproductive System
  - vii. Female Reproductive System
  - viii. Cardiovascular System
  - ix. Hematology
  - x. Integumentary System
  - xi. Nervous System
  - xii. Special Senses (Eye and Ear)
  - xiii. Endocrine System
  - xiv. Lymphatic System
4. For each system, the following items will be covered:
  - a. Basic anatomic terms
  - b. Word analysis
    - i. identification
    - ii. definition of components
    - iii. proper English definition
  - c. Word building
    - i. combining rules
    - ii. order
    - iii. exceptions
    - iv. pronunciation
  - d. Diagnostic terms and procedures
  - e. Disorders, diseases, and pathology terms
  - f. Selected abbreviations
5. Body planes, directions, cavities, quadrants, regions
6. Anatomic position, membranes, and divisions of the abdomen.

### Religious Accommodation

Before reviewing the course schedule, students should carefully review the following religious accommodation policy and other required instructional policies:

#### Religious Accommodation:

Students seeking an accommodation for absences permitted under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act must provide the instructor with written notice of the specific dates for which the student requires an accommodation and must do so not later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of instruction. Please submit requests for accommodations at this link: <https://portal2.tri-c.edu/ReligiousAccommodation/ReligiousAccommodationForm>. Students with questions about their religious accommodations under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act may contact the College's Office of General Counsel and Legal Services by phone at 216.987.4856 or via email at [legal@tri-c.edu](mailto:legal@tri-c.edu).

#### Other Required Instructional Policies:

<https://www.tri-c.edu/student-resources/curriculum/documents/syllabus-part-b.pdf>

### Weekly Schedule

	Topics
Week 1	Word Parts & Basics (Root words, prefixes, and suffixes)
Week 2	Body Structure & Organization
Week 3	The Integumentary System
Week 4	Muscular System
Week 5	Skeletal System

Week 6	Cardiovascular System Hematology
Week 7	Digestive System
Week 8	Midterm
Week 9	Urinary System
Week 10	Male Reproductive System
Week 11	Female Reproductive System
Week 12	Nervous System Special Senses
Week 13	Respiratory System
Week 14	Endocrine System
Week 15	Lymphatic System
Week 16	Final Exam

The Course Schedule is subject to change due to pedagogical needs, instructor discretion, parts of term, and unexpected events.

**Required/Recommended Readings**

- Basco, R. C., Gilmore, T. W., & Allan, D. M. *Essentials of Medical Language*.
- Venes, D. *Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary*.

**Resources for the Instructor**

Schroeder, Carol L; Ehrlich, Laura; Schroeder, Katrina A; and Ehrlich, Ann. (2023) *Comprehensive Medical Terminology for Health Professions*, Cengage.

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Venes, Donald. (2025) *Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary*, F.A. Davis.

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O'Toole, Mary T. Editor. *Mosby's Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing, & Health Professions*. 11th ed. Elsevier, 2022.

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Basco, R. C., Gilmore, T. W., & Allan, D. M. *Essentials of Medical Language*. New York: McGraw Hill, 2024.

**Additional Resources for the Instructor**

- Harper, D. (2021). Online etymology dictionary. <http://etymonline.com/>  
Frucht, S. (2020). Pearson's MyLab medical terminology. <http://pearson.com>