

## Helpful Resources for ESL Nursing Students

The Academic Center for Excellence offers a variety of academic resources for Germanna ESL nursing and allied health students, including helpful handouts, nursing tutorials and modules, academic links, workshops, individual tutoring appointments, and supplemental study sessions. Germanna also offers several courses that would aid in the understanding of medical terminology.

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Due to the length of the hyperlinks, please go to  
<https://www.germannna.edu/academic-center-for-excellence/>  
to locate the following websites:

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### Helpful Handouts

The Academic Center for Excellence has created a collection of “[Helpful Handouts](#)” that supplement academic content taught at Germanna. Students can access them from the Academic Center for Excellence website, or by visiting one of our Centers to obtain copies. Some of the available nursing handouts include: [Nursing Conversions and Formulas](#), [Test Taking Strategies for Nursing](#), and the [Drug Dosage Calculation Packet](#). The handouts are not limited to nursing topics. ESL students may also find the following writing handouts useful in writing nursing papers: [APA Format Guide](#), [Comma Rules](#), and [Subject-Verb Agreement](#).

### Academic Links

Click on “Academic Links” → “Nursing” to view useful websites for nursing. Some websites include [Learning Nurse](#), [NCLEX Test Preparation](#), and [Drug Dosage Calculation Tutorial](#).

### Nursing Tutorials and Modules

View tutorials on topics such as [Introduction to Drug Dosage Calculations for RNs](#) and [Test-Taking Tips for Nursing Students](#) by clicking “Tutorials” → “Nursing.” Click “Interactive Modules” → “Nursing” to apply your critical thinking skills to various case studies involving concepts such as [perfusion](#) and [gas exchange](#). In addition, ESL students may find the tutorial on [APA Citation Style](#) helpful in writing nursing papers (“Tutorials” → “Writing”), as well as the interactive writing modules such as [Understanding Subject & Verb Agreement](#) and [Positioning Your Words with Prepositions](#) (“Interactive Modules” → “Writing”).

### Nursing Workshops

Click on “[Workshops, Open Labs, and Study Groups](#)” to view current schedules. The Academic Center for Excellence usually offers Drug Dosage Calculation Workshops the week prior to the start of the fall and spring semesters.

### Individual and Group Tutoring Appointments

There are several registered nurses (RNs) who work in the Academic Center for Excellence, and they can help you understand your coursework. Click on “[Individual Tutoring Appointment Request](#)” to submit a request for an appointment, or feel free to call or visit one of our Centers.

### **Supplemental Instruction (SI)**

Supplemental Instruction (SI) is available in several nursing courses. Registered nurses serve as SI Leaders to help nursing students understand the content presented in the classroom. Students will find that when they collaborate with one another during SI discussion sessions, they can gain a deeper understanding of nursing concepts.

### Brainfuse Online Tutoring

If you are unable to come to campus for an appointment, online tutoring might be an option for you. The Academic Center for Excellence offers online tutoring for nursing students via Brainfuse. It can be accessed directly from each Canvas course shell by selecting “Brainfuse Tutoring.”

Brainfuse includes:

- Free live nursing tutoring is available by going to the Live Help section.
- Practice tests for TEAS and HESI by clicking “SkillSurfer” → “Nursing School Exams.”
- Flashcards for studying nursing terminology by clicking “Flashbulb” → “Medical” → “Nursing.” You can use flashcards that have been created by other users or create your own.

### Resources to Reinforce Vocabulary and Medical Terminology

Often, medical terminology is very technical in nature and requires extra effort to memorize. When learning scientific words, you can often divide terms into understandable parts. Once you become familiar with the meaning of word parts, you can understand the meaning of complex terms. For example, consider the following term:

DERMATITIS

Now, divide the term into its component parts:

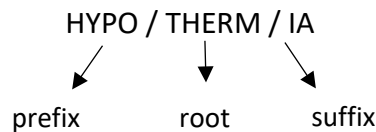
DERMAT / ITIS  
↓            ↓  
root        suffix

The root word or foundation of the word is “dermat,” which means skin. The suffix or word ending is “itis,” which means inflammation. The entire word, reading from the suffix to the beginning, means inflammation of the skin.

Next, consider this term:

## HYPOTHERMIA

This word can be divided into smaller parts:



The root word “therm” means heat. “Hypo” is the prefix, or the small part that is attached to the beginning of a term. The meaning of “hypo” is deficient, below, under, or less than normal. Finally, the suffix is “ia,” which means a condition or state. To understand the meaning of the word, first define the suffix, then the beginning of the word (prefix or root word), and finally the middle of the word (root word). In this case, hypothermia means the condition of having an abnormally low body temperature. As you can see, once you become familiar with the meaning of word parts, it becomes much easier to decipher medical terminology.

To help you learn medical terminology, the Academic Center for Excellence has selected some fun, interactive online sites and useful books:

- [Nursing Root Words Flashcards](https://www.studystack.com/flashcard-689838) - <https://www.studystack.com/flashcard-689838>  
This site can help you learn nursing terminology root words using a variety of methods including flashcards, matching games, hangman, crossword puzzles, and quizzes.
- [Medical Terminology Prefix/Suffix/Root Word Quizzes](http://msjensen.cbs.umn.edu/webanatomy/med_terminology/default.html) - [http://msjensen.cbs.umn.edu/webanatomy/med\\_terminology/default.html](http://msjensen.cbs.umn.edu/webanatomy/med_terminology/default.html)  
On this site, you can practice medical terminology prefixes, suffixes, and root words with short quizzes.
- [Body Systems Flashcards](https://medicalterminology.guide/flashcarddecklist) - <https://medicalterminology.guide/flashcarddecklist>  
On this site, nursing students can use flashcards to learn medical terms and abbreviations organized by body systems.
- [The PenguinProf Medical Terminology Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fiEszFPRE8) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fiEszFPRE8>  
This video simplifies breaking up medical terminology by prefixes, roots, and suffixes, and provides visual aids, along with the explanations.

- [OchsNurse Medical Terminology Video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UI2IRQGuhwc) -  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UI2IRQGuhwc>  
In this video, you will learn how to break up common medical terminology with simple, straightforward explanations.
- [Adonis Health Informatics 1-Minute Medical Terminology Videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClea7kAMuAcDiUCosGD-lnA/featured) -  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClea7kAMuAcDiUCosGD-lnA/featured>  
These short one-minute videos present medical terminology with visual aids and explanations that make them fun and easy to remember. Playlist categories include: [Medical Terminology for Beginners](#), [Medical Terminology for Body Parts](#), [Common Medical Prefixes](#), and [Common Medical Suffixes](#).
- [The Language of Medicine by Davi-Ellen Chabner](https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/product/9780323370813?role=student) and Evolve Study Resources -  
<https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/product/9780323370813?role=student>  
This book engages the learner with colorful illustrations, practical exercises, pronunciation guides, and content reviews. The chapters are organized by body systems, and words are broken down into simple explanations by prefixes, roots, and suffixes. The Evolve Study Resource that accompanies the book can be used online to do interactive activities, games, quizzes, and flash cards.
- [Medical Terminology: A Short Course by Davi-Ellen Chabner](https://www.elsevier.com/books/medical-terminology-a-short-course/chabner/978-1-4557-5830-2) and Evolve Study Resource -  
<https://www.elsevier.com/books/medical-terminology-a-short-course/chabner/978-1-4557-5830-2>  
In this book, you will be guided through the process of learning the most common prefixes, roots, and suffixes by labeling diagrams, practicing pronunciation, and completing reviews. Case studies demonstrate how the medical terms are used in practice. There is also an English to Spanish glossary to help Spanish-speaking students translate common medical terms. This book provides access to the Evolve website, which includes word games, learning exercises, audio pronunciations, animations, an anatomy coloring book, and electronic flash cards.

### **Medical Terminology Classes Offered at Germanna**

The following Germanna courses can also assist you with medical terminology:

- HLT 143 – Medical Terminology I  
This is a credit course taught at Germanna, which provides an understanding of medical abbreviations and terms. It includes the study of prefixes, suffixes, word stems, and technical terms with an emphasis on proper spelling, pronunciation, and usage. It is

highly recommended for ESL nursing students to take this course as an elective. See the course catalog for current dates and times.

- Medical Terminology Career Prep

[https://germanna.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int\\_class\\_id=8791&int\\_category\\_id=0&int\\_sub\\_category\\_id=0&int\\_catalog\\_id=0](https://germanna.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=8791&int_category_id=0&int_sub_category_id=0&int_catalog_id=0)

This course is offered through Germanna's Center for Workforce and Community Education. Students will learn how to recognize word roots, prefixes, and suffixes used in medical language today. They will learn how to combine words to describe medical conditions, how to comprehend their definitions, and how to spell the words correctly. They will also learn medical terms related to all major body systems.

- Medical Terminology – Root Terms and Word Associations

[https://germanna.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int\\_class\\_id=8905&int\\_category\\_id=0&int\\_sub\\_category\\_id=0&int\\_catalog\\_id=0](https://germanna.augusoft.net/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=8905&int_category_id=0&int_sub_category_id=0&int_catalog_id=0)

This course is also offered through Germanna's Center for Workforce and Community Education, and it presents a comprehensive overview of medical terminology in a straightforward and easy manner for students who have no previous background in biology or medicine. Students will gain hands-on, practical experience working with word parts and medical terms related to each of the body systems. Through interactive activities, students will gain the fundamental knowledge needed to be successful in one of the many fastest-growing fields in allied health.