

Valencia College  
School of Health Sciences  
Echocardiography Advanced Technical Certificate  
RET 4924L CARDIAC ULTRASOUND CLINICAL I  
CRN 22209

**SYLLABUS- Spring 2024**

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**COURSE INFORMATION**

**Course Title:** Cardiac Ultrasound Clinical Practice I

**Credit Hours:** 2 credits; Clinical Objectives achieved at Clinical facility.

**Pre-requisite:** Admission to the Echocardiography ATC, and Completion of Cardiac Ultrasound I course.  
Admission to the BS Radiologic and imaging Science Program as a registered sonographer and completion of Cardiac Ultrasound I course.

**Refund of Fees:** The Drop/Refund deadline is January 16, 2024.

**Method:** Clinical facility training with Canvas documentation.

**Meeting days/times/location:** This is an instructor-facilitated clinical course with documentation in the online Canvas learning management system, based on sixteen hours of clinical experience /week. There is 24/7 access to the course, and students are expected to follow the planned clinical schedule and complete the clinical objective assignments within the deadlines indicated. The clinical facility hours are between the hours of 0700-1900 Monday through Friday, as scheduled. The expected time commitment for this 2-credit course includes 16 hours of clinical experience along with Canvas clinical journal documentation and submission of clinical objectives each week.

**Course Description:** This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of cardiac ultrasound from its function as a modality to its use in diagnosing cardiac states. Students will learn how to use both the tools of the ultrasound machines to their optimum. They will also be learning to provide accurate data to the reading cardiologist through the images obtained.

**Course Learning Outcomes:** These are the primary objectives of this course:

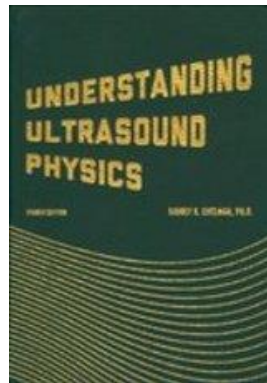
- The student will learn and demonstrate to the clinician's satisfaction proper patient identification using name, date of birth (DOB) and arm band for verification.
- The student will demonstrate how to professionally introduce themselves to the patient and explain the procedure which they are going to perform.
- The student will demonstrate how to obtain and recognize structures within the heart from tomographic images obtained by both Trans Thoracic Echocardiograms (TTE) and Trans Esophageal Echocardiograms (TEE).
- The student will demonstrate the use of Doppler signals to evaluate the flow within the heart, both normal and abnormal flow in a clinical setting.
- The student will be able to apply these tools to the evaluation of structures within the heart and determine their function in a clinical setting.

- The student will be able to perform a basic echocardiogram examination including 2D, M-mode, spectral and Color Doppler modalities in a clinical setting to the satisfaction of the sonographer clinician.
- The student will learn how to review a patient’s chart for information that could affect their exam and what the goal of that exam should be.
- The student should be able to view and offer objective analysis and calculations to make this determination of function.
- The student will learn and demonstrate professional demeanor in communication with the patients, sonographers, and other health care professionals in a clinical setting.

**Valencia College Core Competencies:** The faculty of Valencia College have identified four core competencies, **Think, Value, Communicate, and Act**, which define learning outcomes for the successful Valencia graduate. These competencies provide the context for learning and assessment at Valencia. In this course, these core competencies will be developed and practiced through critical thinking and decision-making exercises, online discussion posts, case study analysis, online research, and reasoned choices made by acquiring, analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating knowledge. Effective reading, listening, writing and verbal communication skills will also be developed as key components in demonstrating these core competencies.

**Helpful Texts:** The textbooks from Cardiac Ultrasound I will be good references for use throughout the program.

- Otto, C. (2018) Textbook of Clinical Echocardiography, 6th ed., ISBN:9780323480482
- Edelman, S.K. (2012) *Understanding Ultrasound Physics 4<sup>th</sup> ed.* E.S.P. Ultrasound, ISBN 0962644455



**Additional Handouts, Readings and Learning Resources:** Additional learning resources will be provided within Canvas and during the Laboratory component by the instructor; Internet-based learning resources and research will also be assigned.

**Library Resources:** There are a multitude of Valencia Library services available to students; the following services as well as many others can be found at: [Valencia Library](#)

- **Borrowing and Circulation.** Students can borrow books from the library; there are also many eBooks available online.
- **Reference Services.** Reference librarians are available to help students. This is a free service on campus to help students with research, located at the library 2<sup>nd</sup> floor reference desk.
- **Online Resources.** Most research can be done from home, as many resources and help from librarians, are also available online.
- **Free Skill shops.** The Library's Computer Access Lab offers many free, 1-hr workshops on all types of computer software, including Microsoft Office products, Canvas, and Windows.
- **Ask-a-Librarian E-mail, Chat and Texting.** Students can contact a Florida librarian with research questions using this statewide service with extended hours.
- **Cardiopulmonary Sciences Library Guide:** [BS Cardiopulmonary Sciences LibGuide](#)

**Clinical Attendance Expectations:**

- Clinical Orientation Modules must be completed before beginning your clinical hours at the facility.
- You are to arrive fifteen minutes before the start of your assigned clinical time.
- You are to remain there the full time assigned unless arrangements are made with the instructor or the clinical facilities supervisor.
- Attendance of the weekly 16 hours of Clinical practice is mandatory. Any missed clinical must be made up at the facility and instructor's discretion.
- In clinical absence (absence=4+hours) or tardiness the student must contact the clinical site immediately and then the course instructor. Speak to someone directly at the facility and speak or leave a message for the instructor. Failure to do this will result in a five- point deduction off your final grade.
- Make up time will be done at the facility at which the assigned clinical was missed.

Questions and communication regarding course content should be posted under the specified discussion topic in Canvas. The instructor is available via course communication tools within Blackboard, and during the Lab periods. Students are encouraged to seek assistance from the instructor as needed. Students are expected to check Canvas and their Atlas email for important communication and updates on a regular basis, and at a minimum of every other day. Failure to participate in online activities and complete discussion posts and assignments due to computer error is not considered to be an acceptable excuse. Technical communication issues that may be experienced by the student should be documented, e.g., copy emails, save screen shots, etc. and communicated to the instructor immediately.

**Note:** *Just logging into the course does NOT count as attendance. For the instructor to document that you are in the class and actively participating, you must submit the first assignment by the scheduled due date, during Week 1, and continue to stay engaged in the course throughout the entire semester.*

**Resources and Technical Requirements for Online Hybrid Courses:** In order to participate in online courses, students must have access to a computer with reliable internet access. Valencia offers many online resources to help students with the online learning environment. "Getting Started Online, Valencia 101" is a great place to start. Steps needed to determine computer system requirements and browser compatibility, as well as

tutorials and strategies for online learning using the Blackboard learning system, are all available at: [Technology Requirements](#)

### **IMPORTANT VALENCIA DATES \***

Classes Begin	January 8, 2024
Withdrawal Deadline	March 15, 2024
Final Exams	April 22 – 28, as scheduled
Holidays	Martin Luther King Day (January 15, 2024) Spring Break (March 18 - 24, 2024)

\*The Valencia College Calendar can be accessed at: [Valencia Calendar](#)

**ASSESSMENT:** Your grade will be determined by:

Weekly Clinical Journals	10%
Clinical Objectives	60%
Clinical attendance	20%
Staff Evaluation	10%

### **GRADING SCALE**

A	93-100%
B	85-92%
C	76-84%
D	69-75%
F	Below 69%

**Weekly Clinical Journals:** The student will complete and submit in Canvas a weekly journal of their clinical experiences, describing opportunities they had in the clinical setting to further strengthen their skills and knowledge base of cardiac sonography.

**Make-up Clinical:** If you are unable to complete an assigned clinical scheduled, you must notify the instructor prior to the scheduled clinical session. Make up of a clinical will be at the instructor's discretion and will not be available unless prior arrangements have been made. An approved make-up clinical session must be arranged and approved by the instructor and the clinical facility. Students should not arrange make-up shifts on their own. Make-up clinical shifts cannot take place when the college is closed, or between semesters.

**Work Missed:** Students must complete course assignments and activities according to their weekly due dates. Generally, there are no make-ups for missed assignments and Clinical Journal post. Late assignments will be accepted up to one day after the due date, with a 10% penalty. Extenuating circumstances that interfere with completing course requirements, such as death of a family member, immediate family medical emergency must be documented and may be discussed with the instructor.

**Extra Credit Policy:** There will be limited opportunities to earn extra credit but not to make up for missed assignments. Extra credit, when made available, will post in Canvas as the course progresses.

**Withdrawal Deadline and Policy:** According to Valencia College policy: “A student who withdraws from class before the **withdrawal deadline of March 15, 2024** will receive a grade of “W.” It is the student’s own responsibility to withdraw before the withdrawal deadline. A student is not permitted to withdraw from class after the withdrawal deadline; if you remain in the class after the withdrawal deadline, you will receive a grade of A, B, C, D, F or I, based on work completed. An “I” grade will only be assigned under extraordinary circumstances that occur near the end of the semester. If you receive an “I”, the work missed must be made up during the following semester, at which time you will get an A, B, C, D or F. Failure to make up the work during the following semester will result in you getting a grade of “F” in the course. Any student who withdraws from this class during a third or subsequent attempt in this course will be assigned a grade of “F.”

In the event that a student does not meet the online participation and attendance requirements described in the syllabus, the faculty member is permitted to withdraw a student from their class up to the beginning of the final exam period. If withdrawn by the instructor, your transcript will reflect a “W” and this will count as one attempt for this course.

If you have decided not to complete this course, it is better for you to drop the course yourself during the add/drop period to avoid negative consequences. During a first or second attempt in the same course at Valencia, if you withdraw, or are withdrawn by the professor, you will receive a W (Withdrawn). You will not receive credit for the course, and the W will not be calculated in your grade point average; however, the enrollment will count in your total attempts in the specific course.

**Note:** Students on financial aid should consult an advisor or counselor before withdrawing from a course; there may be financial implications to the student which he or she must know about to make an informed decision before withdrawing from a course. Students with certain forms of scholarships who withdraw or are withdrawn from a class must pay the college for the cost of the class. Other scholarship sponsors may also require repayment.

### **ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM INFORMATION**

**Faculty/Student Communication:** Valencia College is committed to providing each student with a quality educational experience. Faculty members have set high standards of instruction for themselves and for you. If you have a problem in a class, your first step is to talk to your instructor. If you are still dissatisfied, you may talk with the academic dean of the division. We are committed to working together to resolve any issues that may arise.

**Expected Student Conduct:** By enrolling at Valencia College, the student assumes responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by the general rules of conduct. The primary responsibility for managing the online classroom environment rests with the faculty. Violation of any online classroom or Valencia rules may lead to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from Valencia. Disciplinary action could include being withdrawn from class, disciplinary warning, probation, suspension, expulsion, or other appropriate and authorized actions. You will find the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.

**Academic Integrity:** As healthcare professionals you are expected to adhere to and maintain the highest standards of academic integrity and professional and ethical conduct. Unless otherwise stated, all assignments, quizzes and exams are to be completed individually by each student enrolled. You may not communicate with other students during completion of a quiz or examination. You are expected to submit only your own original work and not cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else.

According to the Random House Dictionary of the English Language, 2d ed., “*Plagiarism is the unauthorized use or close imitation of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one’s own original work*”. If you copy someone else's words into your paper or project and you do not give the original author appropriate credit for their work, you are plagiarizing. You are stealing the hard work of another person and passing it off as if it were your own effort. Working with other students on individual assignments, giving or

receiving assistance during quizzes or exams is a form of academic dishonesty and will be considered cheating. Copying or printing of any quiz or test questions (for any purpose) is expressly prohibited and also considered cheating.

**NOTE:** *Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment will result in at least an "F" for that assignment (depending on the severity of the case, may lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate sanctions according to the Student Code of Conduct in the current Valencia Student Handbook.* [Valencia Policies](#).

**Online Rules of Student Behavior / Netiquette:** The term "**netiquette**" refers to the awareness of the need for a certain code of behavior (etiquette) in electronic environments (the net) ... Net + Etiquette = netiquette. All students are expected to:

- Show respect for the instructor and for other students in the class.
- Respect the privacy of other students.
- Express differences of opinion in a polite and rational way.
- Maintain an environment of constructive criticism when commenting on the work of other students.
- Avoid bringing up irrelevant topics when involved in group discussions or other collaborative activities.

Students should not:

- Show disrespect for the instructor or for other students in the class.
- Send messages or comments that are threatening, harassing, or offensive.
- Use inappropriate or offensive language.
- Convey a hostile or confrontational tone when communicating or working collaboratively with other students.
- USE ALL UPPERCASE IN THEIR MESSAGES -- THIS IS THE EQUIVALENT OF SHOUTING!!

If a faculty member feels that a student is violating any of the above guidelines, they will contact that student to discuss the situation in person. If you feel that another student is behaving inappropriately, please send your instructor a private e-mail message explaining the situation as soon as possible.

**Valencia ID Cards:** All students are required to obtain a Valencia ID card to access the campus and any student services that are provided. A valid Valencia ID is the only form of identification that is accepted at the Library and Testing Center. After you have registered and paid for your fees, bring a photo ID to Student Development to obtain your Student ID card. Student IDs are free. If your ID is lost, there is a \$5 fee to replace it.

## **STUDENT HELP / SUPPORT SERVICES**

Your success is very important to us! Students are encouraged to seek assistance from the instructor as needed. When additional support is needed, Valencia provides many student support resources including Computer Labs, Learning Centers, Student Success Workshops, Online Tutoring, Testing Center Support and Writing Consultations. For more information, go to: [Learning Support](#).

**Baycare Behavioral Health's Student Assistance Program:** Valencia is committed to making sure all our students have a rewarding and successful college experience and aids students in need of private counseling. To that purpose, Valencia students can get immediate help that may assist them with psychological issues dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, adjustment difficulties, substance abuse, time management as well as relationship problems dealing with school, home, or work. Students have 24-hour unlimited access to the

Baycare Behavioral Health's confidential student assistance program phone counseling services by calling (800) 878-5470. Three free confidential face-to-face counseling sessions are also available to students.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students with disabilities who qualify for academic accommodations must provide a Notification to Instructor (NTI) form from the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) and discuss specific needs with the professor, preferably during the first two weeks of class; accommodations will not be applied retroactively. The Office for Students with Disabilities determines accommodation based on appropriate documentation of disabilities. The OSD is located on the West Campus SSB, Rm. 102 Phone: 407-582-1523 Fax: 407-582-1326.

**Disclaimer:** The course outline and syllabus are subject to change as needed; changes will be announced in Canvas and/or via ATLAS email, in a timely manner. Your continued participation in this course after the drop-add deadline period constitutes an agreement with and an acceptance of the conditions presented in this syllabus.