

Program Planning Guide
Advanced Medical Coding

Credential: Diploma in Advanced Medical Coding (D45530)

The Advanced Medical Coding curriculum provides the didactic and clinical experience necessary to become competent credentialed coders.

Coursework includes reimbursement, advanced International Classification of Diseases-10th Revision-Clinical Modification/Procedure Coding System (ICD-10-CM/PCS), Current Procedural Terminology (CPT), and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS).

Graduates may be eligible to take either of the Certified Coding Specialist exams: the Certified Coding Specialist and/or the Certified Coding Specialist-Physician Based (CCS/CCS-P).

Individuals entering this curriculum must hold a minimum of an associate's degree in a healthcare field or health informatics from a regionally accredited college or university.

See the College Catalog for details regarding: Entrance Standards; Required Admissions Criteria, and Requirements for Acceptance. <http://www.cccc.edu/curriculum/majors/hit/>

Program Length: 5 semesters, part-time

Career Pathway Options: Associate in Applied Science in Health Information Technology

Program Site(s): Online

Suggested Course Schedule

1 st Semester (Fall)		Hours				Grade	Semester	Notes
		Class	Lab	Clinic	SHC			
BIO 163	Human Anatomy & Physiology	4	2	0	5			
MED 121	Medical Terminology I	3	0	0	3			
ENG 111	Writing and Inquiry	3	0	0	3			
		10	2	0	11			

2 nd Semester (Spring)		Hours				Grade	Semester	Notes
		Class	Lab	Clinic	SHC			
BIO 271	Pathophysiology	3	0	0	3			
AMC 200	Health Information for Coders	2	0	0	2			
MED 122	Medical Terminology II	3	0	0	3			
		8	0	0	8			

3 rd Semester (Summer)		Hours				Grade	Semester	Notes
		Class	Lab	Clinic	SHC			
AMC 201	Legal and Compliance	2	0	0	2			
AMC 202	Coding for Reimbursement	2	0	0	2			
HUM	Humanities Elective	3	0	0	3			
		7	0	0	7			

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4 th Semester (Fall)		Hours				Grade	Semester	Notes
		Class	Lab	Clinic	SHC			
AMC 203	Intermediate ICD Diagnoses	2	3	0	3			
AMC 204	Intermediate ICD Procedures	2	3	0	3			
AMC 205	Intermediate CPT Coding	2	3	0	3			
		6	9	0	9			

5 th Semester (Spring)		Hours				Grade	Semester	Notes
		Class	Lab	Clinic	SHC			
AMC 206	Clinical Documentation	2	3	0	3			
AMC 207	Advanced Medical Coding Lab I	0	6	0	2			
AMC 209	Professional Practice Exp.	0	0	6	2			
		2	9	6	7			

Total Semester Hours Credit: 42

Course Descriptions:

AMC 200 Health Information for Coders 2-0-0-2

This course provides a detailed look at the role of a coder within the healthcare system. Topics include health record content and documentation for all record types, roles and responsibilities of various providers and disciplines, data source reliability and accuracy, policies and procedures to ensure compliance with regulations and standards, and legal and regulatory requirements. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the role of coding in the healthcare organization and apply various policies and procedures as they relate to documentation and compliance and comply with regulatory standards.

AMC 201 Legal and Compliance 2-0-0-2

This course covers legal and regulatory processes, privacy and security rules as applied to the coding environment. Topics include legal terminology, health record laws and regulations, internal and external standards and regulations, data security, storage and retrieval, and access and disclosure. Upon completion, students should be able to apply healthcare legal terminology, maintain a legally defensible health record, comply with state and federal privacy and security laws, and adhere to security policies and procedures.

AMC 202 Coding for Reimbursement 2-0-0-2

This course covers the revenue cycle and reimbursement for acute and ambulatory care. Topics

include payment methodologies and systems, utilization review, case management, billing processes and procedures, and fraud and abuse. Upon completion, students should be able to apply policies and procedures for the use of data required in healthcare reimbursement, evaluate the revenue cycle, and identify potential fraud and abuse.

AMC 203 Intermediate ICD Diagnoses 2-3-0-3

This course covers the proper application of ICD diagnosis coding conventions and guidelines and application of codes. Emphasis is placed on reviewing clinical documentation to determine appropriate code selection. Upon completion, students should be able to accurately assign and sequence diagnosis codes according to the current coding and reporting requirements for acute care and outpatient services.

AMC 204 Intermediate ICD Procedures 2-3-0-3

This course covers ICD procedure coding conventions and guidelines, Procedure Coding System (PCS) Table navigation, and application of codes. Emphasis is placed on the interrelationship between anatomy and physiology and the application of procedure codes by reviewing clinical documentation to determine procedure intent and extent. Upon completion, students should be able to navigate the PCS tables to accurately assign and sequence diagnosis codes according to the current coding and reporting requirements for acute care and outpatient services.

AMC 205 Intermediate CPT Coding 2-3-0-3

This course covers the application of Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes as applied to current coding and reporting requirements. Emphasis is placed on the interrelationship between anatomy and physiology and the application of procedure codes by reviewing clinical documentation. Upon completion, students should be able to apply the official CPT and HCPCS Level II coding guidelines, and apply the appropriate reporting measures such as modifiers.

AMC 206 Clinical Documentation 2-3-0-3

This course covers the importance of clinical documentation and its role in accurate coding. Topics include communication with providers, documentation in the health record, how to formulate ethical queries to clarify conflicting diagnoses, and implications of accurate coding. Upon completion, students should be able to identify discrepancies between supporting documentation and coded data and develop appropriate physician queries.

AMC 207 Advanced Medical Coding Lab I 0-6-0-2

Prerequisite: AMC 203, AMC 204, AMC 205, and AMC 206

This course covers the practical application of current ICD diagnosis and CPT guidelines by using encoders to code patient charts. Emphasis is on analyzing and applying current regulations and established guidelines in clinical classification systems by using standard data set definitions and resources. Upon completion, students should be able to accurately code a variety of chart types and recommend coding resources.

AMC 209 Professional Practice Experience 0-0-6-2

This course provides supervised clinical coding experience in healthcare settings. Emphasis is placed on the practical application of coding concepts through demonstration of critical thinking and integration of didactic and clinical components. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate the comprehensive knowledge required of an advanced level coder.

BIO 163 Basic Anatomy and Physiology 4-2-0-5

This course provides a basic study of the structure and

function of the human body. Topics include a basic study of the body systems as well as an introduction to homeostasis, cells, tissues, nutrition, acid-base balance, and electrolytes. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the fundamental principles of anatomy and physiology and their interrelationships. This course has been approved for transfer under the CAA and ICAA as a premajor and/or elective course requirement.

MED 121 Medical Terminology I 3-0-0-3

This course introduces prefixes, suffixes, and word roots used in the language of medicine. Topics include medical vocabulary and the terms that relate to the anatomy, physiology, pathological conditions, and treatment of selected systems. Upon completion, students should be able to pronounce, spell, and define medical terms as related to selected body systems and their pathological disorders.

MED 122 Medical Terminology II 3-0-0-3

Prerequisite: MED 121

This course is the second in a series of medical terminology courses. Topics include medical vocabulary and the terms that relate to the anatomy, physiology, pathological conditions, and treatment of selected systems. Upon completion, students should be able to pronounce, spell, and define medical terms as related to selected body systems and their pathological disorders.

BIO 271 Pathophysiology 3-0-0-3

Prerequisite: Take one: BIO 163, BIO 166, or BIO 169

This course provides an in-depth study of human pathological processes and their effects on homeostasis. Emphasis is placed on interrelationships among organ systems in deviations from homeostasis. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a detailed knowledge of pathophysiology. This course has been approved for transfer under the CAA and ICAA as a premajor and/or elective course requirement.

ENG 111 Writing and Inquiry 3-0-0-3

Prerequisites: Take one set: RED 090 and ENG 090, ENG 095, DRE 098, or appropriate placement test scores; or Multiple Measures waiver.

This course is designed to develop the ability to

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produce clear writing in a variety of genres and formats using a recursive process. Emphasis includes inquiry, analysis, effective use of rhetorical strategies, thesis development, 200 audience awareness, and revision. Upon completion, students should be able to produce unified, coherent, well developed essays using standard written English. This course has been approved for transfer under the CAA and ICAA as a universal general education transfer component (UGETC) course in English Composition.