

Course Syllabus
BIOLOGY 131 – SYSTEMIC PHYSIOLOGY
Summer 2013

Contact information:

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Office Hours: (MTW) noon – 12:20 p.m.; (R) 9:40 – 10:40 a.m.; or by appointment

Course Information:

Lecture: (Sequoia 456) MTWR from 8 a.m. – 9:35 a.m.

Lab: (Sequoia 218) MTW Sec. 2: 9:45 a.m. - 11:55 p.m.

Sec. 3: 12:20 - 2:30 p.m.

Sec. 4: 2:45 - 4:55 p.m.

Description: Physiology of organ systems with emphasis on control and integration of system function. Experiments using selected vertebrate animal models are performed in the laboratory to illustrate functional characteristics of organ systems discussed in lecture and to provide direct experience with techniques, recording systems, and methods of data analysis commonly used in physiology and related fields. Lecture 6.3 hours; laboratory 6.5 hours.

Prerequisites: One year of college chemistry and BIO 1, BIO 2, BIO 10, BIO 20 or BIO 22.

Text (recommended):

Silverthorn

Human Physiology: An Integrated Approach, 5th edition.

Lecture Format/Requirements: The 3-unit lecture portion of the course will meet four times a week. The material is complex, so to follow lecture, it is encouraged that students read the background material in the textbook before coming to class. The laboratory portion meets three times a week for 3 hours. Students should come prepared by reading the instructions for each week's lab in the lab manual **before** coming to lab.

Attendance: Attendance and participation for the lab is mandatory. Missing three or more labs will result in a "WU" ("unauthorized withdrawal") letter grade. It is not mandatory that you attend the lectures and your grade will not be based in any way on lecture attendance. It's your tuition money; spend it how you see fit. However, it is *strongly* recommended that you attend lectures since the material is complex and builds on itself.

Make-up labs: Labs cannot be made up unless they are computer simulation labs.

Evaluation:

Lecture (70% of grade): Three lecture exams will be given (including the final), each worth 150 points. The exam format will be scan-tron and short answer. Typically about 2/3 of the points come from multiple choice and 1/3 come from short answer questions. A #2 pencil and a scan-tron (form 882E) are required. Additional assignments (in class group problems or essays) including extra credit may also be given during the course at the instructor's discretion.

Lab (30% of grade): Lab assignments will be given out after most labs and are always due at the beginning of the next week's lab. If you don't attend a lab, you may not turn in any assignments that are associated with it. Additionally, before each lab session (except the first one) students will need to complete an online quiz through SacCT. Quizzes become unavailable when the lab starts. Finally, 20 subjective points will be given for the lab portion. Each student starts off with the 20 points. 10 points will be deducted for missing a lab and 5 points will be deducted if a student is excessively late or leaves early before completing the lab. Points can also be deducted for misbehavior, failure to follow directions, leaving the lab messy, or not participating.

Grading: Final letter grades will be assigned as follows:

A	90-100%	Outstanding achievement
B	80-89%	Excellent performance; clearly exceeds course requirements
C	70-79%	Meets course requirements
D	60-69%	Passed, but not at average achievement standards
F	< 60%	Failure to meet course requirements

Breaking points for plus and minus grades will be decided at the end of the semester. If the class average is relatively low a curve will be used to determine the letter grades.

Make-up exams: Exam's may only be taken on a day other than the scheduled date for serious or compelling reasons.

Drops or Incompletes: Students may drop the course during the first week of class for any reason.

Academic Misconduct: Any type of communication between students on an exam is considered cheating and will not be tolerated. No resources materials (such as notes) are permitted during exams. Students who fail to comply will be given a zero for that exam, the incident will be reported to the Biology Department Chair and the Dean of Students, and the student may receive an "F" in the course.

All work submitted by the student must be their own work. Failure to do so will be considered plagiarism. This includes using someone else's words or work without giving credit to that person. Plagiarized work will receive no credit and may be reported to the Biology Department Chair.

The most frequent cases of plagiarism that occur in this class are when lab mates turn in a homework assignment that has exactly the same wording for some or all of the answers. **You may work together but make sure you write your answers in your own words.** If you are turning in a graph or figure, make sure that YOU made it and it is not just a copy from someone else. Other cases of plagiarism usually involve written work where some of the information is gathered from the internet and then copied and pasted into the student's work without the student putting quotes around it or citing it. If you are in doubt about whether or not what you intend to do is plagiarism or not, ask.

Tips for doing well in the course:

- Study until you know the material well enough to earn the grade you want. Studies show that to do well in a college course, students should study 2-3 hours outside of class for every hour they spend in lecture.
- Don't study alone. Finding people in the class to study with is extremely beneficial. Ask each other to explain how each process works.
- Ask questions when you aren't clear on a concept. Do this in lecture, lab, and office hours. Odds are if you don't understand it than neither do a lot of other people in the class. Since much of the information builds on itself, don't let me move on until you understand what I just went over.
- Take advantage of office hours. I guarantee that one-on-one in office hours I can make any concept clear to you.
- Come prepared to the labs. Reading up on the lab before you arrive will not only allow you to finish faster but it will allow you to concentrate more on the physiology behind the exercises rather than trying to figure out what the next step is.
- If after the first test your score is not what you hoped for, then make a change in your studying. Continuing to study the same way as before will most likely yield similar results.