

Course Syllabus
PCB3713C Cellular & Systems Physiology
Fall 2022

Syllabus Policy

You are solely responsible for reading and following the instructions, guidelines, and schedules in this syllabus, and for checking the e-Learning site at least weekly for announcements regarding any changes. Not having read the information in this syllabus or the announcements will not constitute an excuse for missing an assignment or deadline.

Course Description

How cells, organs, and higher-level systems are integrated and coordinated in the functions of humans and other animals. Emphasis will be placed on the use of model organisms, mathematical models, and the physical sciences to understand the mechanistic basis of normal physiology and dysfunction. 4 credits.

Prerequisites

One semester of general biology (BSC 2010), and two semesters of general chemistry (CHM 2046 or CHM 2047 or CHM 2051 or CHM 2096) and two semesters of general physics with calculus (PHY 2049 or PHY 2061), all with a minimum grade of C.

Corequisite

None

Course Schedule

Tuesdays and Thursdays, periods 5-6 (11:45 AM - 1:40 PM) in ARCH 120

Instructor

David Julian, Ph.D. (Physiology)
Associate Professor, Department of Biology
Pronouns: he/him
Contact: via Canvas messaging

Student Hour

Student hours (office hours) will be held weekly as follows:

- Wednesdays, period 3 (9:35 - 10:25 AM)

Meetings are in person (123 BAR) or by video conference. To attend by video conference, sign up by 8:00 AM on the day of the session using the signup tool in the Canvas calendar (select the Calendar icon on the left menu, click the **Find Appointment** button on the right side of the window, select this course, then select an appointment option).

Course Fee

There is no course fee, but you will need to purchase a subscription for JustPhysiology.com (\$15). Instructions are below.

Course Objectives

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Explain physiological mechanisms of humans and representative model organisms by applying basic principles of physics, chemistry, and engineering.
- Describe the fundamental mechanisms underlying normal function of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems in humans and other animals.
- Explain the basic mechanisms of homeostasis by integrating the functions of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems.
- Effectively solve basic problems in physiology, working independently and in groups.
- Apply knowledge of functional mechanisms and their regulation to explain the pathophysiology underlying common diseases.
- Generate hypotheses about physiological processes, design experiments to test these hypotheses using dynamic models of physiological systems, and then analyze, interpret, and report experimental results.

Course Materials, Software, and Licenses

The primary reference textbook for the course content is *Boron & Boulpaep Concise Medical Physiology* (published 2021, ISBN: 9780323655309). This textbook is available for purchase as a paperback (\$65) and as an eTextbook to purchase (\$59) or rent (\$19) (e.g.: [purchase and rental option link](#)). There is also a full (not "concise") version of this textbook (*Boron & Boulpaep Medical Physiology*) that contains the same information along with much more advanced material. This full version is also suitable as a primary reference.

Active Learning System

We will be using iClicker for class participation. You will be able to submit answers to in-class questions online using your computer (and via Apple or Android smartphones and tablets, but these will likely be irrelevant for class activities). You can sign up for and access your iClicker account at <https://student.iclicker.com/>. The course join code is XXXXXX.

Should you require assistance with iClicker at any time you can contact their Support Team directly by email or the in-app support. Specific user information may be required by their technical support team when troubleshooting issues.

Physiology Simulation System

We will use JustPhysiology to conduct physiology experiments. The subscription is \$15. JustPhysiology is a web application based on the HumMod simulation engine, which has a mathematical model of human physiology that utilizes over 12,000 physiological variables. The model was initially developed at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Dr. Julian is associated with HC Simulation LLC (the company that produces JustPhysiology) but will receive **no financial benefit** from subscriptions associated with this course.

To subscribe, use the discount code "XXXXXX" (without quotes) when registering at <https://justphysiology.com>. Note that the subscription can only be paid using PayPal. If you don't use the discount code your subscription cost will be \$40 instead of \$15.

Other Content

All other required digital content will be accessible from the course eLearning site (<https://elearning.ufl.edu>).

Activities and Assessments

The class content will include textbook reading, in-class lessons, in-class problem-based learning ("active learning" questions), experiments using physiological simulations, and writing and peer-review of case reports.

Tutorials

You will be given the opportunity to complete tutorials throughout the course. These are self-paced and should be completed outside of the class meeting times (i.e., as “homework”). The tutorials include experiments for you to perform in JustPhysiology and knowledge-check questions interspersed throughout.

Problem-based Learning

During most class sessions, you will participate in problem-based learning (PBL), during which you will be asked to work with your classmates to answer questions and solve problems. You will use Canvas and the iClicker system to submit answers. You must be in attendance to participate in any synchronous class activity (this can include remote attendance according to the policies listed below in Class Participation).

Exams

There will be a midterm exam and a final exam. These will consist of knowledge-check and problem-based questions with a variety of question types: short answer, multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, ordering, and numeric (calculation). The midterm will cover all course material through session 14 and will be administered during a normal lecture session (115 minutes in duration). It will be worth 100 points. The final exam will cover all course material from the entire term but will focus primarily on the last half of the course. It will also be worth 100 points, but it will be administered during the final exam period (2 hours duration). Both exams will be closed book and you will not be allowed to use notes, but you may be expected to utilize the physiology simulation software to answer some of the questions.

Portions of each exam will be completed collaboratively. Your total score for each exam will be weighted as 80% from your individual exam score and 20% from your collaborative exam score.

You will complete each exam using a classroom computer (you may not use a personal computer). You will be given access to the on-screen scientific calculator within the Canvas quiz environment, and you will be provided a sheet of scratch paper that you must return at the end of the exam. You must bring your own pen or pencil if you plan to use the scratch paper.

Grading

Assessments

Assessment Type	Quantity	Points	Subtotal	Pct of Total
Tutorials and PBL	~200	1	200	50%
Midterm Exam	1	100	100	25%
Final Exam	1	100	100	25%
Total			400	100%

Grade Distribution

Point Range (%)	Letter Grade
93.33 or higher	A
90-93.32	A-
86.66-89.99	B+
83.33-86.65	B
80-83.32	B-
76.66-79.99	C+
73.33-76.65	C
70-73.32	C-
66.66-69.99	D+
63.33-66.65	D
60-63.32	D-
< 60	E

Grades will not be assigned by a curve, but the grade cutoffs may be adjusted downward. In other words, if your final point accumulation is 93.33%, then you are guaranteed to receive an A. This means there is no upper limit to the number of “A” grades that can be assigned.

A “C-” is not a qualifying grade for critical tracking courses at UF. In order to graduate, students must have an overall GPA and an upper-division GPA of 2.0 or better (C or better). A “C-” average is equivalent to a GPA of 1.67, and therefore, it does not satisfy this graduation requirement. More information on grades and grading policies is here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Extra Credit

There will be no opportunities for extra credit.

Time Commitment

The UF College of Liberal Arts and Sciences assumes that you will devote 3-4 hours per week per credit-hour to each course during the regular fall and spring semesters. This course is 4 credits, so you should therefore expect to devote 12-16 hours per week to this course (for a total of 180-240 hours over the semester), of which only 4 hours per week will be spent in class. Therefore, you are responsible for budgeting more than 2/3 of the time you will spend on this course. If you find yourself spending more than 16 hours per week on average, discuss this with your course instructor to see if you can refine your work and study habits. If you find yourself spending less than 12 hours per week on average, you should recognize that you may have difficulty fully learning and comprehending the material in this time, which will probably be reflected in poor performance on the various activities and assessments, causing you to receive a lower overall course grade.

Activity	Minimum Time (Hours)
In-class lectures and synchronous PBL	56
Asynchronous (homework) tutorials and PBL	40
Textbook reading	60
Reviewing notes	20
Midterm exam	2
Final exam	2
Total	180

Communication

Updates and changes to the course schedule, this syllabus, and any other aspects of the class content and structure will be communicated to you via announcements on the course e-Learning site. You are responsible for checking this site regularly for announcements.

Communicating Electronically with the Instructor

There are two primary modes of electronic communication for this class -- the discussion forum and Canvas email. To ensure that your questions are answered as promptly as possible, please follow the communications guidelines below:

Discussion Forum: You may use the discussion forum on the course website for questions/answers about the course content, structure, assignments and activities. You are strongly encouraged to respond to your peers if you know the answer or can provide guidance. The instructor will not regularly monitor this area and therefore it should **not** be used to communicate with the instructor.

Direct Canvas Messages: Direct messages to Dr. Julian using **Canvas email** (the Inbox tool) should be used for messages that are private in nature or otherwise not appropriate to be posted to the Discussion Forum. If you use any other email tool (such as UF email), it may be filtered as spam or otherwise not be seen.

Course Policies

Academic Honesty

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The [Honor Code](#) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Class Participation

- Role will not be taken, but all class meetings will include points for synchronous PBL. You must participate in person unless you arrange to participate in a session remotely due to illness or conditions that would otherwise lead to an excused absence. This must be arranged in advance by messaging the instructor at least three hours prior to the start of the class session.

- Students participating remotely are expected to do the following:
 - Participate fully and actively in all synchronous group work.
 - When working collaboratively with other students during a class session, participate via audio and when possible with video.
 - When participating via video, visible attire should be appropriate for attending a class and respectful to the other students, and any real or simulated background must not contain material that may be distracting, disturbing, or offensive to any class participants.

In-Class Recording

Students may record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

Policy on Absences and Make-up Work

- Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work are consistent with [university attendance policies](#).
- If you have an excused absence, course materials will be provided to you and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to complete any make up work. Refer to the above link for more information on the university’s attendance policy.
- If you must miss an assignment or exam due to an otherwise allowable **scheduled** absence (for example, to participate in a sanctioned university function), you must notify the instructor as soon as the event is scheduled or during the first week of classes.
- If you miss an assignment or exam due to an allowable but unscheduled and unpredictable absence (e.g., illness), you must contact the instructor as soon as possible. In the case of illness unrelated to COVID-19, you must provide a signed note from your primary care provider indicating that you were unable to complete the assignment or take the exam on the day(s) in question.

Late Work

- Late work will not be accepted unless it is the direct result of an allowable but unscheduled and unpredictable absence (e.g., illness), as defined above, at the discretion of the instructor.

Campus Resources

Health and Wellness

- *U Matter, We Care*: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center*: Visit the [Counseling and Wellness Center](#) website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center*: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the [Student Health Care Center](#) website.
- *University Police Department*: Visit the [UF Police Department](#) website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center*: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the [UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center](#) website.

Academic Resources

- *E-learning technical support*: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
- *Career Connections Center*: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
- *Library Support*: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- *Teaching Center*: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
- *Writing Studio*: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- *Student Complaints On-Campus*: visit the [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code](#) website.
- *On-Line Students Complaints*: view the [Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the [Disability Resource Center](#) (DRC). Once registered with the DRC, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure during the first week of classes or within one week of receiving their accommodation documentation from the DRC, whichever is later.

Course Evaluation Process

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at www.gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students/. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via

www.ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at www.gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Procedure for Conflict Resolution

As per UF policy, any classroom issues, disagreements, or grade disputes should be discussed first between the instructor and the student. If the problem cannot be resolved, please contact the Undergraduate Coordinator or the Department Chair. Be prepared to provide documentation of the problem, as well as all graded materials for the semester. Issues that cannot be resolved departmentally will be referred to the University Ombuds Office (www.ombuds.ufl.edu; 392-1308) or the Dean of Students Office (www.dso.ufl.edu; 392-1261).

Course Schedule (subject to change)

Week	Session	Date	Topic (Chapter Number)	Activity Due*
1	1	25-Aug	Introduction General principles and foundations (1)	
2	2	30-Aug	Cell structure (2) Signal transduction (3)	Cell Analysis (in class)
	3	01-Sep	Gene expression (4) Transport of solutes and water (5)	
3	4	06-Sep	Membrane potential (6) Action potentials (7)	Tutorial: Resting Membrane Potential
	5	08-Sep	Synaptic transmission (8) Muscle cells (9) Nervous system organization (10)	
4	6	13-Sep	Neurons (12) Neuronal synapses (13)	
	7	15-Sep	Autonomic nervous system (14) Sensory transduction (15)	
5	8	20-Sep	Central nervous system circuits (16)	
	9	22-Sep	Cardiovascular system organization (17) Blood (18)	Tutorial: Control of Blood Flow
6	10	27-Sep	Arteries and veins (19) Microcirculation (20)	
	11	29-Sep	Cardiac electrophysiology (21)	Tutorial: ANS Regulation of the CV System
7	12	04-Oct	The heart as a pump (22)	
	13	06-Oct	Regulation of MAP and cardiac output (23) Integrated control of the cardiovascular system (25)	Tutorial: Cardiovascular Reflexes
8	14	11-Oct	[NO CLASS MEETING]	
	15	13-Oct	Midterm Exam (normal class meeting time)	
9	16	18-Oct	Respiratory system organization (26) Mechanics of ventilation (27)	Tutorial: Gas Exchange
	17	20-Oct	Respiratory acid-base regulation (28) Oxygen and carbon dioxide transport (29)	

10	18	25-Oct	Gas exchange (30)	Tutorial: Control of Ventilation
	19	27-Oct	Lung ventilation and perfusion (31) Control of ventilation (32)	
11	20	01-Nov	Urinary system organization (33) GFR and RBF (34)	Tutorial: Renal Filtration, Secretion, and Reabsorption
	21	03-Nov	Renal sodium and chloride transport (35) Renal potassium transport (37) Organic molecule transport (36)	
12	22	08-Nov	Urine concentration and dilution (38) Renal acid and base transport (39) Integration of salt and water balance (40)	Tutorial: Acid-Base Homeostasis
	23	10-Nov	Endocrine system organization and control (47) [NO CLASS MEETING]	
13	24	15-Nov	Endocrine regulation of growth and body mass (48) Thyroid gland (49)	
	25	17-Nov	Adrenal gland (50) Endocrine pancreas (51) Parathyroid glands and vitamin D (52)	Tutorial: Control of Glucose
14	26	22-Nov	Gastrointestinal system organization (41) Gastric function (42) Pancreatic and salivary glands (43) [NO CLASS MEETING]	
		24-Nov	[HOLIDAY]	
15	27	29-Nov	Intestinal fluid and electrolyte movement (44) Nutrient digestion and absorption (45) Hepatobiliary function (46)	Tutorial: DDx Clinic
	28	01-Dec	Reproductive system Immune system [You will not be tested on the immune system.]	
16	29	06-Dec	Integrative review	Tutorial: Physiological Integration
		08-Dec	Reading day (no class meeting)	
		15-Dec	Final Exam: 5:30-7:30 PM	

* Asynchronous activities are due at 11:45 AM unless marked otherwise.