

PCB 4723C: Physiology & Molecular Biology of Animals  
Fall 2015 – All Sections 8/13/2015

## COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

This course will cover fundamental principles of animal physiology at the molecular, cellular, tissue, and systemic levels. The ‘discussion/lab’ portion of the course will utilize discussions, physiological simulators, a “hands-on” exercise, problem sets, and team projects to reinforce principles discussed in lectures, promote problem-based learning, introduce students to primary scientific literature, and give students experience working in teams and communicating scientific information.

Recommended prerequisites: General biology (BSC 2010&2011), general chemistry (CHM 2046/2046L), and general physics (either PHY 2048/2048L or PHY 2053/2053L), all with a grade of at least C. Genetics, cell biology, and biochemistry are also highly recommended. 5 Credit hours.

## INSTRUCTORS

### Lecturer

Galaxia A Cortés-Hinojosa, DVM, PhD, Bartram Hall room 421 (inside lab), office hours TR 8:30-9:30 AM and by appointment. Contact is by Canvas mail.

### Teaching Assistants

Joni Wright ([jwright1855@ufl.edu](mailto:jwright1855@ufl.edu)), Mark Sadfoss ([mrsandfo@ufl.edu](mailto:mrsandfo@ufl.edu)), Mitch Walters ([mjw246@ufl.edu](mailto:mjw246@ufl.edu)), and Ambuj Kumar ([ambuj@ufl.edu](mailto:ambuj@ufl.edu)) (Graduate TAs for discussion sessions). Office hour will be posted on Canvas To confirm (Undergraduate TAs).

## TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE –LECTURES TR NRN 7-8 (1:55-3:50)

Approximate Week	#	Topics	Reading
8/23	1	1-Homeostasis & Integration; 2-Cell & Molecular Physiology;	Chap. 1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.4
8/30	2	2-Cell & Molecular Physiology; 3-Approaches to Physiology	Chap. 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.4
9/6	3	4-Metabolism	Chap. 15
9/13	4	Catch-up & Review; Exam 1	
9/20	5	5-Transport of solutes and water; 6-Excretory System	Chap. 3.2, 3.3, 13; 12
9/27	6	6-Excretory System 7- Acid-Base balance	Chap.12; 13
10/4	7	8- Respiratory System	Chap. 11
10/11	8	Catch-up & Review; Exam 2	
10/18	9	11-Membrane potential and Neurons; 12-Nervous Systems	Chap. 3.5, 4
10/25	10	12-Nervous Systems; 13-Sensory Physiology	Chap. 5; 6
11/1	11	9- Digestive System 14-Defense system	Chap.14; 10
11/8	12	Catch-up & Review; Exam 3	
11/15	14	15-Endocrine control of stress; 16-Muscle physiology	Chap. 7, 8
11/22	13	16-Muscle physiology; 17-Cardiovascular physiology	Chap. 8, 9
11/30	15	17-Cardiovascular physiology 18- Reproductive system	Chap. 9; 16
12/7	16	Catch-up Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	

Exam times: Exams 1, 2, and 3 are in class on 9/17, 10/15, and 11/12. Exam 4 is 12/17 at 3 PM (17D-not cumulative)

## GRADING

Exam 1	75
Exam 2	75
Exam 3	75
Exam 4	75

In class response questions (Top Hat)	* 100
Discussions	**145
Total	545

Exams will test your understanding and application of concepts presented in lecture, in study questions, and presented in the discussion sessions. There will be many “connect the dots” questions and few based on repetition of material.

\*The total number of in class response questions will not be known until the end of the course, and your total clicker points earned will be calculated as a percentage of 100 points. You can drop 1/5th of your incorrect and missing response questions. It is YOUR responsibility to budget these for illnesses, post-graduate school interviews, university sanctioned events, religious holidays, sleeping-in, dead batteries, etc...

\*\*Discussion points will be covered by your graduate teaching assistants.

### Grading scale

low	high	letter
93.33	100.00	A
86.66	93.32	A-
83.33	86.65	B+
80.00	83.32	B
76.67	79.99	B-
73.33	76.66	C+
70.00	73.32	C
66.67	69.99	C-
63.33	66.66	D+
60.00	63.32	D
56.67	59.99	D-
0.00	56.66	E

At the end of the course, grade ranges may or may not be adjusted down, but they will not be adjusted up. For example, if you earn 93.33% of all possible points then you guaranteed an A grade.

### REQUIRED/RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

Animal Physiology: from genes to organisms, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition by Sherwood, Klandorf, and Yancey, Brooks/Cole 2013. This version has an owl on the cover. Options for access are:

- Buy new or used Hardcover ~\$150-212: From Cengage, Barnes and Noble, Amazon, UF others...
- Rent Hardcover ~\$40-100: From Cengage, Barnes and Noble
- Rent Electronic ~\$80: From Cengage, Barnes and Noble
- First Edition (2004) new or used from \$1 and up. This version has a mountain lion on the cover: From Amazon, Textbooks.com, others... Note – The instructor has not seen the first edition. Some material may be outdated, and in different places, but this can be an inexpensive option if you want to spend the least amount of money. Use this option at your own risk.
- Search Google/shopping for more options

We will heavily use the Top Hat Monocle instant response system in class to help stimulate understanding and discussions. Details on the system and how to register are at: <https://support.tophatmonocle.com/hc/en-us/sections/200002194-Getting-Started-Students->

Calculator – any scientific calculator should be sufficient and must be brought to class and exams.

## **DISCUSSIONS & EXERCISES (double check the location of your section)**

You will participate in a mixture of discussions, computer-based physiology simulations, and a “hands-on” exercise. Details are in the Discussions/Lab syllabus in Canvas/Files. A portion of exams 2, 3, and 4 will be related to papers you discuss as groups.

## **SUGGESTED STUDY METHODS**

### **Come to class and participate**

There is tremendous variation in how people learn and in the foundation they have upon entering this course. However, one thing that is certain is that you will not do well if you do not attend class. Seniors have failed or withdraw from this class and had to repeat it. Some of them had GPAs above 3.5 and were already conditionally accepted to medical or dental schools. They decided they would miss class and get through by cramming for exams. *They were wrong and it cost them.* You will need to “participate” in the class and work hard to do well.

### **Understand the concepts behind Top Hat questions**

Top Hat is used to help you learn concepts while in class and to generate an “active learning” environment. It will also introduce you to the types of questions and concepts that will be on the exams. Review questions and try to anticipate how different versions of the questions might show-up on exams.

### **Answer and understand the concepts behind the study questions**

There is an immense amount of material that is covered. To help provide focus, study questions will be posted for each exam. Exams will be limited to these concepts and material. Work on these questions as we progress. Compare your answers with those of other students, ask Dr. Cortés-Hinojosa and the undergraduate TAs for guidance, and share answers and uncertainties with other students on the discussion boards (see below). Dr. Cortés-Hinojosa will not post complete answers to these questions, as the best way to learn is to discover the answer yourself. *However, the TAs and I are always happy to help YOU come to the correct answers or CONFIRM if you are correct.*

### **Participate in discussion boards and chats**

There are over 250 other students in the class trying to learn the same material. Post and answer general questions and comments in the chat related to daily lectures and clicker questions. Use the discussion boards to ask and answer questions about the study questions as you prepare for exams. Teaching other students is a great way to make sure you know the material. Undergraduate TAs and the instructor will monitor and direct the discussions as necessary. *These are read by all students and instructors, so make sure your comments are appropriate and respectful.*

### **Keep up with material**

This is likely to be one of the most conceptually difficult courses you will take. It also has the potential to be one of the most stimulating and rewarding. You will be required to build on what you have learned in other courses and to apply concepts as opposed to memorizing facts. Physiology is where you actually get to apply what you learned in courses like algebra, physics, chemistry, biochemistry, and cell biology.

You will need to be able to interpret graphs, calculate quantitative physiological variables, and integrate multiple physiological systems to understand and predict outcomes. This will require you to learn incrementally and built on concepts as they are learned. Everyone learns differently, but the best advice I can give you is to stay current on the notes, study questions, reading, and synthesis of material.

## **Visit the undergraduate TAs or Dr. Cortés-Hinojosa**

There are undergraduate TAs for this course who hold regular office hours. They did very well in this course just last year. Find one you can communicate well with and ask them questions before class, after class, in office hours, and in online chats and discussions. Dr. Cortés-Hinojosa is also happy to answer questions after class and in office hours.

### **How much time should I be spending?**

The minimum full-time work week in the US is 40 h. Most professionals work far more hours (e.g., 55-70), but let's use 40 h/wk as a minimum. If you are taking 15 credit hours, then this course is 1/3 of your course load. So, that's  $1/3 \times 40 \text{ h} = 13.33 \text{ h}$  you should spend on this course.  $13.33 - 4 \text{ h lecture} - 3 \text{ h lab} = 6.33 \text{ h}$  you should spend outside of class each week or about 1.5 h per day for 4 days.

## **OTHER POLICIES**

### **Communication with Dr. Cortés-Hinojosa**

Written communication should be made in Canvas (e.g., mail and announcements) unless there is an emergency. If a student fails to check Canvas, the instructor is not responsible for missed information. Grades will only be made available in person or via Canvas.

### **Academic Honesty**

All students are expected to hold themselves to a high standard of academic honesty.

Of course, you must work alone on all exam questions.

If you witness any instances of academic dishonesty in this class, please notify the instructor or contact the Student Honor Court (392-1631) or Cheating Hotline (392-6999). For additional information on Academic Honesty, please refer to the University of Florida Academic Honesty Guidelines at:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.html>.

### **In class Top Hat response questions (Join code 757067)**

You are responsible for making sure that you bring a fully functioning responder (phone with text service or WIFI device) to each class meeting. There will be no make-up questions or other allowances made for failure of your unit to work properly. Please keep in perspective that there will likely be as many as 100 questions so missing any single question due to equipment failure only affects about 0.2 percentage points of your final grade. An incorrect response is worth 0.5 points, and a missing response is worth 0.0 points. You can drop 1/5th of your missed or incorrect response questions. *It is YOUR responsibility to budget these for illnesses, post-graduate school interviews, university sanctioned events, religious holidays, sleeping-in, dead batteries, etc...*

### **Grading discrepancies**

Concerns regarding the accuracy of graded assignments (discussions and lecture) will only be taken into consideration if the respective instructor has been notified within 3 working days after the assignment grade is posted. Keep a copy of all assignments in case there is a problem.

### **Attendance and Absences**

I will not take attendance in lectures, but you must attend the lectures to complete the “Top Hat” questions. Missed clicker questions will be counted as “0”.

If you must miss an exam due to an 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 class due to an allowable but unscheduled absence (e.g., illness), you must contact the instructor as soon as possible. In the case of illness, you must provide a signed note from your primary care provider indicating that you were *unable to attend class* on the day(s) in question; it is not sufficient for the note to simply indicate that you were seen in a clinic on a given day.

If you are ill with an infection that may be contagious by casual contact (e.g., a cold or flu), you should not attend class. Furthermore, if you have a fever associated with any illness, you should not attend class until you have been free of fever for at least 24 hours. The instructor reserves the right to ask any student to leave the classroom at any time if there is a reasonable likelihood that the student's presence in the classroom places other students at substantial risk of infection.

### **Students with Special Needs**

Students with disabilities are required to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC) if they are requesting accommodations. The DRC may be contacted at (352) 392-2565 or refer to the website at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc>. It is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor of any accommodation requests. I am happy to help.

No accommodations are available to students who lack this documentation. It is the policy of the University of Florida that the student, not the instructor, is responsible for arranging accommodations when needed.

### **UF counseling Services**

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals. The resources include: 1) UF Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd, 392-1575, psychological and psychiatric services. 2) Career Resource Center, Reitz Union, 392-1601, career and job search services. Many students experience test anxiety and other stress related problems. "A Self Help Guide for Students" is available through the Counseling Center (301 Peabody Hall, 392-1575) and at their web site: <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/>.

### **Dr. Cortés-Hinojosa's Requests**

- Before lecture, please avoid asking Dr. Cortés-Hinojosa questions while he is in front of the computer loading slides and trouble-shooting any computer problems.
- Only use Dr. C Cortés-Hinojosa's ufl.edu e-mail for urgent issues that must be handled ASAP. Please use Canvas mail unless it is an emergency.