

MEDICAL PHYSIOLOGY 2006-2007

The two major goals of this course are 1) to help you learn the fundamental mechanisms of human physiology needed for the study of medicine and 2) to stimulate your lifelong interest in physiology and pathophysiology. The syllabus for the course will be the *Textbook of Medical Physiology*, Guyton & Hall, 11th Edition. The lectures are intended to emphasize the most important physiological concepts. Because the textbook provides extensive coverage of almost all areas of physiology, some of the textbook material cannot be discussed in the lectures. Nevertheless, it is advantageous to be familiar with all aspects of the textbook, except for those sections specifically excluded by the various instructors. In addition to the textbook material, there may be discussion of pathophysiology and clinical medicine in order to illustrate physiological principles and to show the importance of physiology to clinical practice. Each instructor will provide a list of knowledge objectives and self assessment questions.

The attached lecture schedule gives the times and dates for the various lectures; the instructors may provide additional information or slightly modify the schedule of lectures. We will not be able to change the dates of the tests, because these are scheduled by the Curriculum Committee.

Exams, Quizzes and Grades. The grades for the course will be derived from several sources:

1. The 9 section quizzes for the various sections. (Approximately 4 questions/chapter)
2. Bonus points (a total of about 20-25 for the entire course) that will be given for correct answers to questions that will be given from time to time during the course. The timing of these questions will be left up to the instructors and they will not be announced in advance. The questions will be based mainly on the reading assignment for day. Students who miss the questions will not be penalized (the missed question will not be computed as part of the overall grade) but students who answer questions correctly will be rewarded with bonus points.
3. The Cumulative Exam which will be administered on March 5 will include approximately 2 questions per chapter from the entire course except for Chapters 45-61.
4. The National Board Exam which will be administered on May 7.
5. The laboratory. (Dr. Hester will review the objectives and procedures for the labs).

The format of the questions for all of the tests will be the same as those used for the National Board Exams and the United States Medical Licensure Exam (USMLE). Each question in the section tests and the final exam will count the same as other questions, although certain material may be given greater emphasis. The scores from the National Board Exam will be scaled so that a Board Subject Test Score of 70 will be equivalent to a local score of 83%.

According to School of Medicine policy (p. 43-44, 2006-07 *Bulletin*), "mechanical or electronic devices capable of receiving, storing or transmitting information, such as PDAs, Palm Pilots, hand-held computers, laptop computers, etc." are not permitted in School of Medicine classrooms during tests. However, the Office of Academic Affairs has agreed to provide calculators for your use during the quizzes and exams and we provide them for you when the quizzes/exams are distributed.

Listed below is the approximate number of questions on the various tests and the approximate percentage contribution of these tests to the overall course grade:

Tests:	Approximate Number of Questions:	Percentage of Total Grade (approximate):
9 Section Quizzes	340	54
Cumulative Exam	150	24
National Board Exam	140	22
Bonus points	20-25	-

The tests will be graded by computer. Therefore, it is important to fill out the computer form carefully. All grades will be computed from your answers on the Scantron sheet. If you have questions about the individual tests, please contact the instructor after the test has been completed. The instructors will not be able to answer questions during the test.

Attendance and a satisfactory laboratory grade for all laboratories is necessary for successful completion of the medical physiology course. Questions from the laboratory exercises may also be included in the section tests. For those who miss the laboratory without an acceptable excuse, or even with an excuse if too much laboratory has been missed, special exercises will be required such as writing library reports.

Attendance. We anticipate that you find the classes to be interesting and highly beneficial to your education. We also believe that the spirit of the class is greatly enhanced by the presence of all students at the teaching exercises. Attendance is expected at all lectures but will be required and monitored at all laboratory exercises, problem based learning sessions (PBLs), and Clinical Correlations given by speakers from outside the Physiology department. Participation in these sessions will be graded as Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory, and all of these special sessions must be completed in a satisfactory manner to receive a passing grade in the course. For those who miss these special sessions without an acceptable excuse, or even with an excuse if too many sessions have been missed, special exercises will be required such as writing library reports. Attendance at the designated special sessions will be taken.

You will have the opportunity to evaluate each of the instructors and the entire course. These evaluations are very important in helping us improve the course and in letting us know if we are doing a good job in certain areas. If you have suggestions that you think would help us improve the course, please let me know. We hope that you enjoy the course and wish you success.

John E. Hall, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairman