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UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE SYLLABUS
NEUROSCIENCE
Homeostasis and the Brain (3 credit hours)
Fall/Spring
Online

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Office Hours: Arranged by student on Zoom
Preferred Course Communications: Email through Canvas

Course Objective

Homeostasis is a fundamental concept in biology and neurobiology, and three of the most-studied themes are Thermoregulation, Body Fluid Balance (including drinking), and Energy Balance (including eating). Major strides have been made in the past few years in going from a description of the behavioral and physiological responses that underlie these mechanisms of homeostasis to understanding the detailed brain mechanisms involved. In this course, we will examine these mechanisms.

Instructional Methods:

The course readings are available as pdf links in the Canvas module. Lectures are given using Voice Thread and should load automatically in Canvas.

Description of Course Content:

The course is divided into 12 modules, each lasting one week starting on Monday mornings (except the first module, see below*). Each module is broken down into 3 Units, each dealing with a subset of the material that week. Each Unit is accompanied by a Voice Thread presentation, and sometimes with additional reading material. [There is no required text for this course, so the readings become important]. Each Module concludes with a multiple choice quiz on the entire Module (due Saturday 11:59 pm) and a written paper on a relevant topic (due Sunday at 11:59 pm). In addition, each Monday morning you will be assigned a paper submitted by one of your peers for peer review, and this will be due the next day, Tuesday by 11:59 pm.

Topic Outline/Course Schedule

Week	Topic(s)
1	Introduction to Homeostasis

2	Thermoregulation - Mammals
3	Thermoregulation - Humans
4	Body Fluids and Osmoregulation
5	Body Fluids – Volume Regulation
6	Integration of Thirst Sources
7	Sodium Homeostasis and Appetite
8	Nutrients and Energy
9	Hunger, Satiation, and Satiety
10	Brain Mechanisms of Feeding
11	Development of Feeding and Eating Disorders
12	Intersections and Integration

Course Materials and Technology:
All course readings are available on the internet or as pdf links provided in the Canvas modules. There is no required textbook for this course.

- **Laptop or desktop computer equipped with microphone and video camera.** The microphone and video camera can be used to post comments/questions to VoiceThread lectures and will be used to create the VoiceThread project for Module 11. There are VoiceThread apps that are available for free for iOS and Android devices that can be used to view the VT and comment on them. These apps should not be used when creating VoiceThreads. For these, I strongly recommend that you use a laptop or desktop computer.

- **High speed, broad band internet connection such as DSL or cable.** A broadband Internet connection is strongly recommended. Slower connections may affect your ability to interact with materials in the course. It is also recommended that you try to submit course exams and assignments well ahead of the deadline since we have found that network speeds can significantly slow as the deadlines in online courses approach due to increased use.

SPECIAL NOTE: Some users with satellite Internet service may find their online courses do not load quickly or consistently due to satellite network design issues.

- **Installation of LockDown Browser on computer that you will use for this course.** All tests will be taken using LockDown Browser. The computer you use to take exams should be "hard wired" to the internet. WiFi is not stable enough to support a reliable connection for taking tests. Instructions on how to install LockDown Browser are included in the course introduction module.

- Canvas courses are best viewed using Chrome or Firefox. For specific questions about browser compatibilities and general questions about e-learning at UF please go to https://wiki.helpdesk.ufl.edu/FAQs/E-Learning.

For technical support for this class, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

- Learning-support@ufl.edu
- (352) 392-HELP - select option 2
- UF eLearning

Academic Requirements and Grading:

Assignments:

The grade for the course will be based on total points, with the A-B+ boundary probably near 90% and the B-C+ near 80%. I will let you know more about this as the course progresses.

Each QUIZ will be worth about 15 points

Each essay papers 50 points

Each peer reviews 10 points

Thus, each module will have 75 points total points possible and the 12 module total will be 900 points.

Grading:

Percentage total points earned	Letter Grade	Grade Points

93-100	A	4.0
90-92	A-	3.67
87-89	B+	3.33
83-86	B	3.0
80-82	B-	2.67
77-79	C+	2.33
73-76	C	2.0
70-72	C-	1.67
67-69	D+	1.33
63-66	D	1.0
60-62	D-	0.67
Below 60	E	0.0

Please be aware that a C- is not an acceptable grade for graduate students. The GPA for graduate students must be 3.0 based on 5000 level courses and above to graduate. A grade of C counts toward a graduate degree only if based on credits in courses numbered 5000 or higher that have been earned with a B+ or higher.

More information on UF grading policy may be found at:

http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#grades

Exam Policy

Late assignments and tests

I recognize that personal circumstances arise that may interfere with your ability to meet a deadline. If you anticipate missing a deadline, please let me know as soon as possible and I will work with you to resolve the issue. Your emails will be responded to within 24 hours (typically sooner). Please see the UF Attendance Policies concerning absences, religious holidays, and illness. In general, late assignments, quizzes, and tests will not be accepted unless you have obtained a deadline extension from the instructor.

If you encounter technical difficulties with assignments (e.g. LockDown browser malfunction), be sure to include a UF helpdesk ticket number (http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/) in your request for a deadline extension if you plan to request one. The extension request MUST be submitted within 24 hours of the technical difficulty.

Class Attendance Policy

This course is entirely online and is asynchronous. Thus there is no formal class attendance policy. Requirements for make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Excused absences that lead to missed assignment deadlines must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance.

Additional information can be found here: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Expectations Regarding Course Behavior

WHEN DO I CONTACT THE UF HELPDESK?

In the event that you have **technical difficulties with E-learning**, please contact the UF helpdesk at learning-support@ufl.edu, or (352) 392-4357 - select option 2. If your technical difficulties will cause you to miss a due date, you MUST report the problem to E-learning. Include the ticket number that you are given in an e-mail to the instructor to explain the late assignment/quiz/test.

Types of questions that should be directed to the Help Desk:

1. I can't log into E-learning

2. I have clicked on the "submit" button for my quiz and nothing is happening

3. I can't upload an assignment (be sure that you have reviewed the tutorial on how to do this BEFORE you contact the Help Desk)

4. E-learning has given me an error message and I can't submit my assignment.

NOTE: *Late work that involves technical difficulties with E-learning MUST be accompanied by a ticket number from the Help Desk.*

ALSO - *Be sure to be familiar with the hours of operation for the UF help desk since they are oftentimes not available after 10:30pm on workdays and after 8:00 pm on weekends. There hours are posted at http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/about/business-hours/*

WHEN DO I POST QUESTIONS TO THE COURSE QUESTIONS DISCUSSION BOARD?

Questions that deal with the course itself should be submitted to the Course Questions board. Posted questions should NOT be about grades or a private matter. Do not post personal grade questions on the Course Questions discussion board.

Before posting a question, check those already posted to be sure that you are not duplicating a question. These should be things that other students in the class might have trouble with. For example:

1. I am unable to post comments to VoiceThread.

2. The link to a specific VoiceThread is not working.

3. One of the quiz questions did not display properly.

Posting on the Course questions board is the fastest way to get an answer to your question. Be sure to give it a meaningful heading!

Questions of a private nature should be e-mailed to the course instructor (see below on how to e-mail within E-learning). In all cases, please allow 24 hours for a response. Every effort will be made to answer questions posted over the weekend with 24 hours. If not addressed, they will be addressed on the following Monday.

WHEN DO I EMAIL MY INSTRUCTOR?

Questions about the course should be e-mailed to the instructor through the e-mail tool in E-learning.

Examples of e-mail questions for the instructor to get clear, concise responses:

1. I think there is an error in my grade for the assignment in module 3 (be sure to explain exactly why you think there is an error and provide documentation)

2. I am behind in the course and I would like to know how I may catch up (in such a case, your instructor may ask you to set up a Skype meeting or a time to call on the telephone)

If you have questions about the course itself, please reread the syllabus before asking a question. If the answer is not in the syllabus, check the Course Questions discussion board (this discussion board can be located by clicking on the discussions menu tab on the left of the course home page). If the answer to your question is not there, please post the question on the Course Questions discussion board.

DO NOT e-mail the instructor with general course questions. If your question is of a personal nature, e-mail your instructor from within e-learning system using the instructions below.

Late work that involves technical difficulties with E-learning MUST be accompanied by a ticket number from the Help Desk.

HOW TO EMAIL YOUR INSTRUCTOR

When emailing your instructor, please do so through Canvas.

To send an e-mail from the course:

1. Click on the mail icon that is located the left side of your screen.

2. Click the "Compose Message" button.

3. "To: window" will display.

4. Locate your instructor's name.

5. Always include a description in your subject line

6. Type your message and add any necessary attachments. Be sure that your subject line is meaningful.

7. Click "send."

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to act in accordance with the University of Florida policy on academic integrity. As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge:

 "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity."

You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit 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."

It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For additional information regarding Academic Integrity, please see Student Conduct and Honor Code or the Graduate Student Website for additional details:

https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/

http://gradschool.ufl.edu/students/introduction.html

Please remember cheating, lying, misrepresentation, or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior.

PLAGIARISM

Students must understand what plagiarism is and must not engage in this behavior when completing assignments and tests in this course. The University of Florida Student Honor Code states that plagiarism includes but is not limited to:

- Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.

- Submitting a document or assignment that in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student.

Student whose assignments/tests exhibit evidence of plagiarism will receive zeros for those assignments and tests for the first offense and will receive a warning. Students who continue to engage in this behavior after the warning will be reported to the UF Dean of Students Office.

PROHIBITED COLLABORATION OR CONSULTATION

Student found to be involved in sharing answers and/or collaborating on exams or assignments will receive zeros for those exams and assignments. Students who continue to engage in this behavior after the warning will be reported to the UF Dean of Students Office.

Online Faculty 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 https://gatorevals.aa.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 https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/.

Support Services

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/ . It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester. The College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to assist students in their coursework.

Counseling and Student Health

Students sometimes experience stress from academic expectations and/or personal and interpersonal issues that may interfere with their academic performance. If you find yourself facing issues that have the potential to or are already negatively affecting your coursework, you are encouraged to talk with an instructor and/or seek help through University resources available to you.

- The Counseling and Wellness Center 352-392-1575 offers a variety of support services such as psychological assessment and intervention and assistance for math and test anxiety. Visit their web site for more information: http://www.counseling.ufl.edu. On line and in person assistance is available.

- You Matter We Care website: http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/. If you are feeling overwhelmed or stressed, you can reach out for help through the You Matter We Care website, which is staffed by Dean of Students and Counseling Center personnel.

- If you live in Gainesville or the immediate surrounding areas, the Student Health Care Center at UF Health is a satellite clinic of the main Student Health Care Center that is located on Fletcher Drive on campus is available to you. Student Health at UF Health offers a variety of clinical services. The clinic is located on the second floor of the Dental Tower in the Health Science Center. For more information, contact the clinic at 392-0627

or check out the web site at: https://shcc.ufl.edu/

- If you live in Gainesville or the immediate surrounding areas, the UF Health 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 32698, ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

- University Police Department: Visit police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

- Crisis intervention is always available 24/7 from:

Alachua County Crisis Center:

(352) 264-6789

http://www.alachuacounty.us/DEPTS/CSS/CRISISCENTER/Pages/CrisisCenter.aspx

Do not wait until you reach a crisis to come in and talk with us. We have helped many students through stressful situations impacting their academic performance. You are not alone so do not be afraid to ask for assistance.

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 career.ufl.edu/.

Library Support: cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ ask 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. teachingcenter.ufl.edu/

Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers. writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/

Student Complaints On-Campus: sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/

On-Line Students Complaints: distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process