

Readings in Physiology: **BIOL 830P**  
Course Outline- SPRING 2019

**Course Description**

This course discusses popular works of nonfiction examining physiology, as well as the primary research associated with the topics. Potential topics include: 1) reproductive physiology, 2) exercise physiology, 3) gut physiology, and 4) neurology. Background in anatomy and physiology is recommended.

**Course Objectives**

1. Students will analyze popular works of nonfiction examining physiology.
2. Students will compare and contrast these nonfiction works with primary research articles.
3. Students will discuss the relevance of physiology in society.

**Instructor**

Dr. Nicholas Hobbs

201F Bruner Hall

Phone: (308) 865-1572

Email (preferred contact method): [hobbsjn@unk.edu](mailto:hobbsjn@unk.edu)

(Allow me a chance to respond to your email)

Office hours: T 11:30-12:30, Th 2:00-3:00, F 9:00-10:00; Other times by appointment

Department Secretary: 865-8548

**Required Materials**

*Textbook:* "Bonk: the curious coupling of science and sex." By Mary Roach (ISBN 03933347910)

*Technology:* As this is an online class, you will need a computer/laptop with access to the internet, a microphone and webcam, and the following programs: Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Word, and Adobe Acrobat or another program to read PDFs.

**Tentative Schedule**

Week	Topic(s)	Chapter(s)	Evaluation
1 (Jan. 7)	Introductions		
2 (Jan. 14)	Human Sexual Response 1	1	Quiz 1, Discussion Board (DB) 1
3 (Jan. 21)	Human Sexual Response 2	2	Quiz 2, DB 2
4 (Jan. 28)	Human Sexual Response 3	3	Quiz 3, DB 3
5 (Feb. 4)	Fertility	4	Quiz 4, DB 4
6 (Feb. 11)	Coital Imaging	5	Quiz 5, DB 5
7 (Feb. 18)	Impotence	6	Quiz 6, DB 6
8 (Feb. 25)	Male Reproductive Anatomy 1	7	Quiz 7, DB 7
9 (March 4)	Male Reproductive Anatomy 2	8	Quiz 8, DB 8
10 (March 11)	Female Reproductive Anatomy	9	Quiz 9, DB 9
11 (March 18)	SPRING BREAK		
12 (March 25)	Female Reproductive Health	10	Quiz 10, DB 10, Term Paper due
13 (April 1)	Sex and the Brain 1	11	Quiz 11, DB 11
14 (April 8)	Sex and the Brain 2	12	Quiz 12, DB 12

15 (April 15)	Researching the Human Sexual Response	13	Quiz 13, DB 13
16 (April 22)	Hormones	14	Quiz 14, DB 14
17 (April 29)	Finals Week		

### Point Breakdown

Introduction with a video- 10 pts total

14 weekly quizzes (10 pts each)- 140 pts total

Discussion board (40 pts each)- 560 pts total

Discussion board grading (10 pts each)- 140 pts total

Term paper- 100 pts total

Total points possible: 950 pts

**Weekly Quizzes:** You will have 14 weekly quizzes for this course. Each quiz is worth 10 points and will cover the material for that week to ensure students have read the assigned materials. All online quizzes will be available for one week (12:01 AM central time Monday through 11:59 PM central time Sunday). You will have 10 minutes to complete each weekly test. Quizzes are set so that you can exit (Canvas crashes, for example) and re-enter the exam, but the timer keeps running.

**Discussion Board:** You are posting as part of a **discussion**, not just for points. Each discussion board topic will be scored out of 40 points for a total of 320 points of your final grade. **The Discussion board will open at 8:00 am CST on the Monday of the week being discussed and close at 5:00 pm CST on the Friday of that week.** You will be graded not on the number of posts per week, but on the quality of posts. At minimum, you must post four times from M-F of the discussion week on two different days to earn a score (i.e., minimum of once on Monday and once on Wednesday). **At least one post per question on Discussion Board** must have a peer-reviewed science reference attached to it. **NO WEBSITES, NEWSPAPERS, OR BOOKS ARE ALLOWED.** This is a good practice in having an informed opinion. **DISCLAIMER--**Just because you post four times on two different days with one day having a peer-reviewed reference does NOT GUARANTEE that you will earn all the points for the week! The score for your posts will be based upon critical thinking (a post rich in content and full of insight), connection with issue and real-life situations, uniqueness (new ideas and new connections), depth and detail of posts, respect for classmates, and **discussion with classmates**. This is a discussion-based class with discussion worth over half of your total grade (560 of 950 points). I expect you will constantly be discussing the topic starting early in the week, Tuesday at the latest, all the way through Friday. The more you are engaged in discussion with your classmates, you will earn a better grade. If you wait until Friday and are discussing with yourself or one other person, you get 0 points. As you can tell, I do not want people simply agreeing with each other or posting for points. You should be discussing actively! You should be prepared to discuss the questions!

**Discussion Board (DB) Grading:** If you look at the schedule, you can see that the topics are divided into week sections. For each topic, I will present an article or an item (picture, story, clip, etc) that will be discussed on Canvas in one thread for that week. At the end of the discussion, after 5 pm CST on the Friday of the week, you will need to grade yourself and your fellow classmates in your group on their discussion for that week. You will be given a grading rubric to use. You must provide me feedback as to why you scored each person what you did for each category. If you simply hand in numbers with no explanation, you will receive a 0 out of 10 on grading. Also, you need to justify these more than "He/she

did a great job.” What was so great? What was so bad? Poor justification will lead to lost points on your grading. Your final grade for that week will come from my score of you (1/2 your grade) and your classmates score of you (the average is the other half). I will use the score you give me of yourself to help me make the determination of my score for you. You are not to give credit for posts made after the Friday 5:00 pm deadline! Any time from Friday at 5:01 pm CST to Sunday at 10:00 pm CST, you will send me an email at carlsonka1@unk.edu with your grades for Discussion Board for the week. Late grades will not be accepted! There are 8 of these worth 10 points each. On Sunday by 8 am CST, I will open the next Discussion Board with a thread for the item I picked. Please check the schedule!

**Term Paper:** Students will select a topic related to the book discussed and write a paper using primary research articles (no review articles). After providing an overview of the topic and research into it, students will compare and contrast how the popular nonfiction book and the primary research articles discuss the topic of their paper. More details about the term paper will be discussed in the opening weeks of class.

**Grade Assignment:** Grades will be assigned using the standard grading scale for the Department of Biology, as follows: A (93-100%), A- (90-92%), B+ (88-89%), B (83-87%), B- (80-82%), C+ (78-79%), C (73-77%), C- (70-72%), D+ (68-69%), D (63-67%), D- (60-62%), and F (below 60%). Grade assignments are final unless there is a calculation error. There will be no rounding of the grades; a 79.9% is a C+, not a B-. Scaling of grades is up to my discretion (don't count on it).

### **Policy on Incomplete**

To be considered for an “Incomplete” in Biology 830P-03:

1. You must submit the reasons you cannot complete the scheduled work. This must include a copy of your class schedule and description of your responsibilities outside the classroom. This should be done in writing and include confirmation from your employer when appropriate.
2. You must specify the assignments you have missed and a schedule of plans to complete them.

I expect all students to progress through the requirements for Biology 830P-03 in a timely fashion. Unless your circumstance is quite remarkable, do not consider an incomplete.

### **Academic Dishonesty Policy**

This policy is stated in the Undergraduate Catalog or at

<http://catalog.unk.edu/undergraduate/academics/academic-regulations/academic-integrity-policy/>

The bottom line is no cheating. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.

### **Problems/Questions**

If you have questions then ask or come and see me or contact me via e-mail or phone. If you are having problems with the course come and see me before it is too late (not before the last exam or when the course is over).

### **Students with Disabilities**

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students with documented disabilities. To receive accommodation services for a disability, students must be registered with UNK Disabilities Services Coordinator,

David Brandt, in the Academic Success Office, 163 Memorial Student Affairs Building, 308-865-8214 or by email [unkdso@unk.edu](mailto:unkdso@unk.edu)

### **Students who are Pregnant**

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students who are pregnant. To receive accommodation services due to pregnancy, students must contact Cindy Hayes in Student Health, 308-865-8218. The following link provides information for students and faculty regarding pregnancy rights.

<http://www.nwlc.org/resource/pregnant-and-parenting-students-rights-faqs-college-and-graduate-students>

### **Reporting Student Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence or Sexual Assault**

Reporting allegations of rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking enables the University to promptly provide support to the impacted student(s), and to take appropriate action to prevent a recurrence of such sexual misconduct and protect the campus community. Confidentiality will be respected to the greatest degree possible. Any student who believes she or he may be the victim of sexual misconduct is encouraged to report to one or more of the following resources:

Local Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Advocacy Agency: 308-237-2599

Campus Police (or Security): 308-865-8911

Title IX Coordinator: 308-865-8655

Retaliation against the student making the report, whether by students or University employees, will not be tolerated.

**If you have questions regarding the information in this email please contact Mary Chinnock Petroski, Chief Compliance Officer ([petroskimj@unk.edu](mailto:petroskimj@unk.edu) or phone 8400).**