

## **BIOSC 1455 Human Endocrinology**

**Class Info:** Class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 am -12:15 pm, Langley A221, 3 credits  
During the shelter in place period, class will be held by Zoom

**Instructor:** Dr. Anne Carlson, [acarlson@pitt.edu](mailto:acarlson@pitt.edu)

Office Hours: Tuesday 1:00-2:00 pm and Friday 11:00 am-12:00 pm.

NOTE: Office hours will be held by Zoom

I will attend the first 10 minutes of the office hours and will sign off if no one shows up during this time. If you would like to attend office hours but plan to arrive after the first 10 minutes have passed, send me an email in advance.

**Teaching Assistant:** Katherine Yang, [ksy6@pitt.edu](mailto:ksy6@pitt.edu)

**Prerequisites:** You must have passed BIOSC 1250 Human Physiology, BIOSC 1070 UHC-Human Physiology, or BIOSC 1080 Human Anatomy & Physiology with a C or better before taking this course.

### **A. Course Objective**

The goal of this course is to survey and critically evaluate historic and contemporary studies into endocrinology. Primary literature will be emphasized.

### **B. Course Organization**

The course is designed to meet two times a week for 75 minutes, totaling 150 minutes of in-class instruction per week. This time will be composed of a mix of traditional lecture-style presentation of course content, small group workshops, and in class assignments. Students are expected to read and critically evaluate primary scientific literature and summarize its content.

### **C. Course Requirements**

#### **1. Required text and materials**

- Textbook: *Integrated Endocrinology*, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, by John Laycock and Karim Meeram. ISBN 978-0-4706-8812-0.
- Published journal articles to be discussed in class are available through Top Hat.

#### **2. Attendance**

Students are expected to attend lectures and participate in discussion and in class assignments.

#### **3. Course participation**

Student progress will be assessed in-class using a student response system Top Hat to thought exercises and group work. Student must bring their Top Hat enabled device to each class to be eligible for that day's Top Hat points even if they can answer the questions correctly in person or in writing. Students who are absent cannot make up these points.

#### **4. Graded work: mini manuscript reviews**

Students will be expected to submit 5 mini manuscript reviews during the semester.

#### **5. Graded work: in class Case Studies**

Throughout the semester, various class times will be devoted to in class assignments and small group workshops. Work will be turned in at the end of each of these class times and grades from these assignments will count toward the final grade.

#### **6. Graded work: Techniques assignment**

Each student will be required to submit a 1-page summary of a technique used by endocrinologists, due Tuesday January 18<sup>th</sup> at the beginning of class time. Further instructions for this assignment will be posted on Top Hat.

#### **7. Graded work: Graphical abstracts**

Each student will create a graphical abstract for three manuscripts read by the class. Once we return to in-person learning, students should bring graphical abstracts to class and participate in peer review by evaluating abstracts produced by others in the class and sharing their own work. Students will be allowed to respond to critical feedback from their classmates and will turn in their original and revised version at the following class. A full description of the assignment is available on Top Hat.

#### **8. Graded work: pop quizzes**

Pop quizzes may be offered throughout the semester.

#### **9. Graded work: exams**

The course exam schedule will consist of three mid-term exams (February 8<sup>th</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup>, and April 14<sup>th</sup>) and a final exam. The lowest score will be dropped from the final grade. The final exam will be cumulative.

## D. Grading Policy:

### 1. Relative weight of each requirement

Component	Total Possible
<b>Top three exam scores</b>	600 points
<i>Three midterms (200 points each)</i>	
<i>Cumulative final exam (200 points)</i>	
<b>Participation</b>	100 points
<i>Top Hat Feedback (50 points)</i>	
<i>Contribution to class discussions (50 points)</i>	
<b>Out of class assessments</b>	180 points
<i>5 Mini Manuscript Reviews (75 points)</i>	
<i>Techniques Assignment (30 points)</i>	
<i>3 Graphical Abstracts (75 points)</i>	
<b>In class assessments</b>	120 points
<i>4 Case Studies</i>	
<i>Pop quizzes</i>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1000 points</b>

### 2. Policy on late work and make-ups

There will be no make-up quizzes in this course. If you miss more than one quiz you should discuss the options available to you with your advisor or the SAS Dean's Office. Please note that you are expected to show up to each exam on time. Late arrivals will be given the exam during the time that remains for the designated examination period.

If you have a university-approved excuse for missing an in-class assignment, please speak with me in advance. If you are sick and will miss a class, please send me an email **prior** to the start time (11:00 am) of class to let me know. Students should avoid submitting assignments late, I will accept late assignments for grading as follows: 1) Maximum value for the assignment will be reduced by 50% (for example, if you score 8 on an assignment that is worth a total of 10 points, if this assignment were to be turned in late, you would receive 4 out of 10 points). 2) Any late assignments will be graded **at the end of the semester**.

### 3. Extra credit opportunities

For 10 extra credit points to be added to each midterm, students can turn in practice exam questions. To receive these extra credit points, please submit:

- At least one question covering each lecture topic.
- A set of questions must include at least one multiple choice question (with five possible answers and only one correct option), one fill-in-the-blank, and one short answer question.
- Questions should be submitted as with correct answers indicated on document by highlighted text.

D) Students must submit questions by Google Form to me by noon on the following days: February 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup>, and April 8<sup>th</sup>.

Practice exam questions will be assembled disseminated to all participating students prior to exams and will be used during the exam review portion of the class. To receive full credit, the practice exam questions must be the result of individual work of the students.

### **E. Classroom Etiquette**

Lecture time is dedicated to learning and discussing the scientific principles of endocrinology; all external conversations and commitments should be set aside during class time. Students found using their laptops for applications unrelated to the course will be politely asked to leave. All mobile phones should be turned off or set to silent mode prior to the start of lecture. The use of cell phones during class is prohibited, including texting, except when used for Top Hat. Students who arrive late or leave early should do so as quietly as possible. Please plan to arrive on time and stay the entire class period. Students who arrive more than 5 minutes late may lose their Top Hat points for the day.

### **F. Mask Requirement**

During this pandemic, it is extremely important that you abide by the [public health regulations](#), the University of Pittsburgh's [health standards and guidelines](#), and [Pitt's Health Rules](#). These rules have been developed to protect the health and safety of all of us. Universal [face covering](#) is required in all classrooms and in every building on campus, without exceptions, regardless of vaccination status. This means you must wear a face covering that properly covers your nose and mouth when you are in the classroom. If you do not comply, you will be asked to leave class. It is your responsibility have the required face covering when entering a university building or classroom. For the most up-to-date information and guidance, please visit [coronavirus.pitt.edu](http://coronavirus.pitt.edu) and check your Pitt email for updates before each class.

If you are required to isolate or quarantine, become sick, or are unable to come to class, contact me as soon as possible to discuss arrangements.

### **G. Remote Attendance**

This course is designed to function fully in person beginning January 27. Requests for remote attendance will not be reviewed by myself or the department. If you believe you have a qualifying disability that prevents you from attending in-person instruction this semester, please contact Disability Resources and Services. If you are quarantined due to COVID-19, you may temporarily participate remotely by providing documentation. Under either of these circumstances, you may elect to preserve your privacy by not using video and by identifying yourself in Zoom using your initials or an alias that you have shared with me.

### **H. Disability Resources**

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 140 William Pitt Union, 412-648-7890/412-624-3346 (Fax), as early as possible in the term. Disability Resources and Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course. For more information, visit [www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drsabout](http://www.studentaffairs.pitt.edu/drsabout).

### **I. Academic Integrity Policy**

Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity, from the February 1974 Senate Committee on Tenure

and Academic Freedom reported to the Senate Council, will be required to participate in the outlined procedural process as initiated by the instructor. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz or exam will be imposed. View the complete policy at [www.cfo.pitt.edu/policies/policy/02/02-03-02.html](http://www.cfo.pitt.edu/policies/policy/02/02-03-02.html).

## J. E-mail Communication Policy

Each student is issued a University e-mail address ([username@pitt.edu](mailto:username@pitt.edu)) upon admittance. This e-mail address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read e-mail sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an e-mail forwarding service that allows students to read their e-mail via other service providers (e.g., Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their e-mail from their pitt.edu address to another address do so at their own risk. If e-mail is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University e-mail address. To forward e-mail sent to your University account, go to <http://accounts.pitt.edu>, log into your account, click on **Edit Forwarding Addresses**, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished. (For the full E-mail Communication Policy, go to [www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html](http://www.bc.pitt.edu/policies/policy/09/09-10-01.html).)

*The integrity of the academic process requires fair and impartial evaluation on the part of faculty and honest academic conduct on the part of students. To this end, students are expected to conduct themselves at a high level of responsibility in the fulfillment of the course of their study. It is the corresponding responsibility of faculty to make clear to students those standards by which students will be evaluated, and the resources permissible for use by students during the course of their study and evaluation. The educational process is perceived as a joint faculty-student enterprise which will perforce involve professional judgment by faculty and may involve—without penalty—reasoned exception by students to the data or views offered by faculty. Senate Committee on Tenure and Academic Freedom, February 1974*

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