Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences
BSC 421.01E REPRODUCTIVE PHYSIOLOGY (CRN: 22518)
COURSE SYLLABUS: SPRING 2014

Instructor: Izhar A. Khan, Ph.D.
Office Location: Science 215
Office Hours: MW 1:00 – 4:00 PM or through appointment
Office Phone: 903-468-3271
Office Fax: 903-886-5988
University Email Address: Izhar.Khan@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – Textbooks, Readings, Supplementary Readings:
Textbook(s) Required: Jones, Richard E. and Kristin H. Lopez. *Human Reproductive Biology, Third Edition.* Boston: Elsevier, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0-12-088465-0
Optional: None.

Course Description:
This upper level course is designed for majors with a well-rounded background in biology and general physiology. This course covers the study of the development and function of the male and female reproductive systems of humans. In addition to exploring basic human reproductive physiology, the course includes current topics such as reproductive aging, hormone therapies, fertility studies and treatments, sexual behavior, and the latest issues related to pregnancy. Active participation of the students is required in all classroom activities including classroom lectures, student presentations, paper writing and discussion of published research articles in order to master the learning outcomes outlined below.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs):
1. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the biological fundamentals of the adult female and male reproductive systems, sexual differentiation, development, and procreation.

2. The student will be able to apply their understanding of basic reproductive physiology by solving novel case studies on various disorders of the adult female and male reproductive systems.
3. The student will explore various special topics in human reproductive biology including, but not limited to, brain sex and sexually transmitted diseases.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional Methods/Activities/Assessments
This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes for all instructional units in the course.

Formal lectures will be supplemented with appropriate audiovisual materials, at home problems, and discussions. PowerPoint of all lectures will be available for you in the Doc Sharing portion of eCollege. I strongly encourage you to print these slides (4 or 6 slides per page) so you can take notes pertaining to the relevant slides in class. Alternatively lap top computers can be used during the lecture. I will post announcements on the home page of the course for reminders of important due dates. Progress in the class can be monitored using the Gradebook.

The final entire course grade is based on your performance on various assignments, quizzes and exams. Some of these activities will require you to answer a set of multiple choice/short answer questions (SLO #1), whereas other assignments will require you to write short essays (SLO #2) and/or prepare in-depth presentations using Microsoft PowerPoint or similar presentation software (SLO #3). In addition, a writing assignment will help improve the students' abilities to better understand and write scientific research papers.

Writing Assignment
The assignment is to write a synopsis of a paper chosen by the student. The topic must have something to do with biology/physiology of reproduction. Papers must be submitted by the end of week 8 (Before Spring Break). Keep in mind the sooner the paper is done the more opportunities are available to improve the grade as I will allow re-writes to facilitate the learning process. The paper should be edited multiple times, hopefully by multiple readers, including your peers. I would like to discuss my comments on papers, preferably in person. The goal of this exercise is to demonstrate an understanding of the selected paper. The paper will be worth 50 points of an exam grade. To earn all of your points you must be well organized and meet the deadlines. Please include an abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results including figures and figure legends and discussion (of your own writing). Papers can be submitted using the Week 8 Dropbox in eCollege. Opportunities will be available to improve your grade after the Spring Break.
It is important for the students to understand the format in which papers are written in terms of setting up hypothesis driven research, the background information on why the research was done, what were new and interesting findings and the significance or relevance of those findings to the current literature or in advancing science. This exercise is also useful for the students to better understand research methodology, especially for those with limited or no prior exposure to laboratory research and practices.

Presentation of a research paper is available for extra credit (see below). Each student will pick a week and topic for his/her presentation.

Resources
There are a variety of resources at your disposal to aid with your studies. This lecture course will be "Web Enhanced." The course has an *eCollege* site that you will be expected to use regularly. You may enter the site via your *my*Leo account, or go directly to http://online.tamuc.org.

The Academic Calendar includes information regarding University holidays, deadlines to add, drop, withdraw, and other such activities. This page also includes the link to the Final Exam schedule for each semester: http://web.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/academicCalendars/ "

Grading
Three Term Exams – 100 points each = 300 points
Comprehensive Final Exam = 100 points
Quizzes and Assignments = 100 points (Quizzes 50 points and paper writing 50 points)
Paper discussion/presentation = 10 bonus points for extra credit

At the end of the semester, the students' grade will be determined by calculating the percentage of the total possible points received by the student. Percentages are then converted to letter grades using the following rubric:

Percentage of Total Possible Points Received by student	**Letter Grade**
Greater than or equal to 89.5	A
Greater than or equal to 79.5, but less than 89.5	B
Greater than or equal to 69.5, but less than 79.5	C
Greater than or equal to 59.5, but less than 69.5	D
Less than 59.5	F

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES

Course Specific Procedures

Academic Honesty
Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

Assignments
Official due dates are for each assignment will be announced through eCollege or directly by email. Assignments must be uploaded to the eCollege Dropbox. The format of the file may vary, depending on the assignment. Please note that for every file you submit, you must have your last name included in the filename as well as in the header.

Late Work
Late work will not be accepted.

Drop a Course
A student may drop a course by logging into their *my*LEO accounts and clicking on the hyperlink labeled 'Drop a class' from among the choices found under the *my*LEO section of the Web page.

Incompletes
Incomplete grade (“I”) may be granted under extreme circumstances following the University guidelines.

University Specific Procedures

ADA Statement
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:
Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library, Room 132, Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835, Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu or visit
http://www.tamuc.edu/CampusLife/CampusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/default.aspx

Student Conduct
All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student’s Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct)

Access to Student Work
Copies of your work in this course including copies of any submitted papers and your portfolios may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes. All work used for these purposes will be submitted anonymously.

University Policy on Weather Closings
Snow closings are generally announced on area television and radio stations. Unless otherwise advised by radio announcement or by official bulletins on the number listed above, students are expected to report for class as near normal time as possible on days when weather conditions are adverse. Decisions as to snow closing or delayed opening are not generally made before 5:00 AM of the working day. Students are expected to attend class if the University is not officially closed.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE*

Weeks 1-5	Discuss Syllabus and Course Requirements and Policies Chapter 1 – Endocrinology, Brain and Pituitary Gland Chapter 2 – The Female Reproductive System Chapter 3 – The Menstrual Cycle Chapter 4 – The Male Reproductive System
Weeks 6-9	Chapter 5 – Sexual Differentiation Chapter 6 – Reproductive Aging Chapter 7 – Puberty
Week 10	Spring Break
Weeks 11-14	Chapter 8 – The Human Sexual Response Chapter 9 – Gamete Transport and Fertilization Chapter 10 – Pregnancy Chapter 11 – Labor and Birth
Weeks 15 & 16	Chapter 14 – Contraception Chapter 16 – Infertility Chapter 18 – Sexually Transmitted Diseases

Five quizzes will be administered throughout the course at the completion of different sections beginning with the first quiz on Tuesday, January 28, 2014. The schedule for paper discussion/presentation and writing assignments will be discussed in the class prior to finalizing the dates. The first exam will be scheduled during Week 5 covering Chapters 1-3. The dates for the other two term exams will be announced later during the semester.

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 6, 2014, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

***THE SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE**