

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Zoology 4181

(Vertebrate Physiology Methods Laboratory)

Spring 2024 Syllabus

Laboratory Coordinator: Dr. Zaineb Al-Dahwi

Office: Biology 104

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Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays: 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm, or by appointment

COURSE PERIOD: Tuesday January 16th, 2024 – Thursday May 2nd, 2024

PREREQUISITE COURSES: Chem 1408 and Biol 1306-1108

REQUIRED LABORATORY MATERIAL:

1. **Lab Tutor Experiments Handouts** will be available on the Lab Blackboard course in the week prior to the lab period. Printing of the experiment copy is required to participate in the exercise during the lab period
2. **Other Laboratory Experiments Handouts** will be provided on the Lab Blackboard course and should be printed in order to participate in these experiments.
3. **Lab coat** should be used during the dissection exercise in the laboratory. The Lab coats will **NOT** be provided by the Lab Instructor

GRADING POLICY:

Grades will be based on attendance, participation, lab reports, quizzes, research paper, midterm exam, and final exam.

Grade Distribution:

Attendance and Participation	10%
Lab Reports (for Lab Tutor Experiments and Other Lab Experiments)	10%
Quizzes	20%
Research Topic Presentation	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

LAB REPORTS: The lab reports for the Lab Tutor Experiments and other exercises are due in the **first 10 minutes** of the **following** lab period.

QUIZZES: There will be a total of two quizzes during the semester. Refer to the “Lab Schedule” below for the dates of the quizzes. The quiz (**taken by individual students**) will

include material covered in the **previous lab periods** and will be given in the **first 20 minutes** of the lab period.

RESEARCH TOPIC PRESENTATION: A topic related to the assigned lab material in the syllabus should be chosen and presented at the end of the semester. Refer to the Lab Schedule below for the due date of the presentation. Assignment of the research topic presentation as an individual or group presentation will be at the discretion of the Lab Instructor.

MIDTERM EXAM AND FINAL EXAM: These exams will be scheduled for the **entire** lab period. There will be **NO** make-up for the midterm exam or the final exam. The midterm and the final exams will **NOT** be given prior to the scheduled time

GUIDELINES FOR QUIZZES AND EXAMS: All quizzes and exams will be given **in the lab** during the scheduled lab period. Assignment of the quizzes and exams as a paper exam or through Blackboard will be at the discretion of the Lab Instructor. If the quiz or the exam will be via Blackboard, each student will be responsible for providing his/her own laptop. If Respondus Lock Down Browser will be used in the quizzes and the exams, a notification will be provided prior to the date of the quiz and/or the exam

COVID-19-positive students: Students who are COVID-19-positive **should provide documents indicating that they were tested to be positive, or provide a notification through the UTEP Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) Department, or a letter from the Dean of Students Office at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP).** Special arrangements will be made for these students to take the quiz or the exam.

FINAL LABORATORY GRADE: The final lab grade will be assigned based on the following grading scale:

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=59-0%

GRADE DISPUTES: Grade disputes must be brought to the attention of the Lab Instructor within one week of grade assignment. **All grade disputes must be settled by May 2nd, 2024.** Grade disputes unresolved by the lab instructor must be discussed with the Lab Coordinator (Dr. Zaineb Al-Dahwi).

MAKE UP POLICY: No make-up will be given to any quiz during the semester, to the midterm, or to the final exam.

No Make-up will be allowed for missed lab exercises. **No student will be allowed to make-up the Lab exercise in another lab section.**

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Full credit for class participation requires no absences and active contribution to all lab work and assignments. Absences will be excused only for official university activities, or for extreme health or personal emergencies documented in writing.

STUDENTS ATTENDING LAB SECTIONS OTHER THAN THE ONE IN WHICH THEY ARE ENROLLED WILL BE RECEIVING A FAILING GRADE (= F) AS A FINAL AVERAGE

DROP POLICY: The last day to withdraw with an automatic “W” is **Thursday, March 28th, 2024**. **NOTE:** Faculty-initiated drops will **NOT** be processed after November 3rd, 2023.

LABORATORY REGULATIONS: **No food or drinks are allowed in the laboratory. Shorts, open-toed shoes, and flip flops are strictly prohibited while working in the UTEP laboratories.**

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: It is the policy of the University of Texas at El Paso that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All students involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with the University regulations and procedures. For further information, please refer to UTEP’s Handbook of Operating Procedures, Chapter 1: Student Conduct and Discipline at <http://admin.utep.edu/Default.aspx?PageContentID=2084&tabid=30292>. Also, please see Plagiarism and Scholastic Integrity webpage, at UTEP’s Library: <http://libraryweb.utep.edu/research/plagiarism.php>.

CIVILITY STATEMENT: Students are encouraged to actively participate in all course activities. However, during lectures and labs, use of cell phones, talking, texting, and other disruptive activities are **unacceptable**. **All cell phones must be placed in silent mode**. Laptops, iPads, smart phones etc. are allowed in class only as a resource for class material. These devices **cannot** be used for any activity other than those related to the class session. Taking pictures by any means in the class is strictly forbidden.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES: If a student has or suspects he/she has a disability and needs classroom accommodations, he/she should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by e-mail to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located at the UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.utep.edu/CASS. ***CASS staff are the only individuals who can validate and if need be, authorize accommodations for students with disabilities.*** Students registered with CASS are responsible for **discussing** the CASS accommodation letters and instructions with the Lab Instructor.

MILITARY STATEMENT: If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact the Lab Instructor as soon as possible.

COVID-19 PRECAUTION STATEMENT:

If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide help by communication with your professors.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of

substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area

LAB INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name:

E-mail address:

LAB SCHEDULE:

Lab	Week of	Topic
1	Jan. 22	Introduction and Lab Safety
2	Jan. 29	Assignment and discussion of Research Topic
3	Feb. 5	Cell Transport Mechanisms and Permeability: Lab Experiment
4	Feb. 12	Sensory Physiology: Lab Tutor Experiment
5	Feb. 19	Gross Anatomy of the Brain and Cranial Nerves: Sheep Brain Dissection Quiz # 1
6	Feb. 26	Reflexes and Reaction Times: Lab Experiment
7	Mar. 4	Midterm Lab Exam
8	Mar. 11	Spring Break (No Lab Meeting)
9	Mar. 18	Electroencephalography (EEG): Lab Tutor Experiment
10	Mar. 25	Electromyography (EMG): Lab Tutor Experiment
11	Apr. 1	Electrocardiography (ECG) and Heart Sounds: Lab Tutor Experiment
12	Apr. 8	Breathing: Lab Tutor Experiment Quiz # 2
13	Apr. 15	Urine Analysis Experiment: Lab Experiment

14 Apr. 22 Research Topic Presentation

15 Apr. 29 **Final Lab Exam**

Important Dates

March 28th: **Course Drop Deadline:** Last day to drop the lab with automatic “W.”

NOTE: Faculty-initiated drops will **NOT** be processed after this date.

March 29th: Cesar Chavez Day Holiday/Spring Study Day/Good Friday (**No Classes**)

May 3rd: Dead Day (**No Classes**)