TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI
Clinical Laboratory Science Program

Course Number: BIMS 4327-001
Class Meeting Time: MTWR 10:00-11:50 AM
Location: CI-138

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Summer 1

BIMS 4327: Introduction to Toxicology
Syllabus SS1 2014

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will provide the student with a basic introduction to the discipline of Toxicology. A combination of human, animal, systemic and environmental toxicology will be discussed. This course will introduce the students to basic functional processes like absorption rates, toxicokinetics, and factors that influence the ability to enhance or block absorption of toxicants. It will also introduce the students to synthetic toxicants as well as naturally occurring toxins and biotoxins, pharmacological toxicity and the risk of chemical exposure.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The student will be able to:
1. Understand the types of exposure such as occupational, accidental and intentional and the pathological consequences.
2. Discuss the disposition of chemicals in the biological systems.
3. Discuss the toxicology of food additives and contaminants.
4. Understand the different types of pesticides, the various aspects of environmental pollution and poising with household products.
5. Understand testing of chemicals for toxicity and assessment of risk from chemicals.
6. Understand toxic responses of some organs and tissues.
7. Understand the basic mechanisms of pharmacological toxicity.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:


ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/PLAGIARISM

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in a failing grade.
DROPPING A CLASS

I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However, events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise. Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to do. Should dropping the course be the best course of action, you must initiate the process to drop the course by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically result in your being dropped from the class. June 20, 2014 is the last day to drop a class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

CLASSROOM/PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

STATEMENT OF CIVILITY

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi has a diverse student population that represents the population of the state. Our goal is to provide you with a high quality educational experience that is free from repression. You are responsible for following the rules of the University, city, state and federal government. We expect that you will behave in a manner that is dignified, respectful and courteous to all people, regardless of sex, ethnic/racial origin, religious background, sexual orientation or disability. Behaviors that infringe on the rights of another individual will not be tolerated.

GRADES

The final grade will be based on the following:

1. Tests = 60%
   Two examinations will be given during the course of the lectures and also the last exams at the listed time. Exam formats will be multiple choice questions.
   Exam # 1 = 15%
   Exam # 2 = 15%
   Exam # 3 = 30%

2. Problem Portfolio = 20%
   The problem portfolio will be made up of the student’s solutions to Toxicology related problems. All students are allowed to use information from in-class discussions in their portfolios. However, the portions of the problems not discussed in class are to be answered by each student individually without any help from anyone or anything other than cited sources. Each solution in the portfolio is to include
references cited page that includes all sources consulted in answering the problem. On-line sources can be used, but students are cautioned to use credible scientific sites. Students also need to be aware that the sources cited will be checked against the student’s solution to make sure that the student’s answers are not plagiarized. Any plagiarism will result in a grade of 0 for that particular problem. The intent of having students complete the problems is to measure the level at which students are capable of understanding the information covered in class, and applying that information to solving toxicological problem. These assignments are in part about right and wrong answers, but also in part about the method at which the student arrives at particular solution.

3. Literature review = 20%
   • Students will be asked to select special topics of interest to write a review article of not more than 2500 words.

The following scale will be used to report grades:
A 90 - 100
B 80 - 89
C 70 - 79
D 60 - 69
F below 60

GRADE APPEALS

A student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is on the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details on the process, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, consult Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01 Student Grade Appeal Procedures (http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html), and the College of Science and Engineering Grade Appeals webpage (http://sci.tamucc.edu/students/GradeAppeal.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the chair or director of the appropriate department or school or the College of Science and Engineering Dean’s Office.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend all lectures. If you know in advance that you will miss an exam due to official University business, you must provide the Professor with official documentation of the absence at least fourteen days prior to missing. It is the student’s responsibility to obtain official documentation in timely fashion. Once the documentation has been verified, the Professor will decide how to handle the absence. In the overwhelming majority of cases, assignments and exams will be turned in or completed prior to the planned, official absence. Exams given outside regularly scheduled times may vary in format and content at the discretion of the faculty member. Absolutely nothing may be turned in late by anyone for any reason.
HONESTY

As stated in the university catalog, "University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty." Therefore, cheating will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade for the course. 

_Unannounced quizzes may be given throughout the course of the semester._

There is no provision for making up late work and/or missed exams or quizzes. A grade of zero will be entered for any late or missed exam or quiz due to an unexcused absence. The only _excused_ absences are personal illness, immediate family medical emergency or immediate family funeral.

DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS

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 believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116.

If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

REQUIRED LABORATORY: None
Mon, June 02: Introduction to Toxicology and Syllabus Discussion
Tue, June 03: Disposition of Toxicants
Wed, June 04: Toxicokinetics
Thu, June 05: Types of Exposure

Mon, June 09: Toxic Responses
Tue, June 10: Toxic Responses
Wed, June 11: Pharmacologic Intoxicants and Exam I
Thu, June 12: Pharmacologic Intoxicants

Mon, June 16: Food Additives and Contaminants
Tue, June 17: Industrial Toxicology
Wed, June 18: Environmental Toxicology
Thu, June 19: Biotoxins

Mon, June 23: Pesticides
Tue, June 24: Toxicity Testing & Risk Assessment
Wed, June 25: Household Products and Exam II
Thurs, June 26: Forensic Toxicology

Mon, June 30: Regulatory Toxicology
Tue, July 01: Class Presentations and Review
Wed, July 02: Review
Thu, July 03: Exam III

General Disclaimer:
The instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule when necessary. These changes will be announced during regularly scheduled lecture periods. In case of absence during this announcement, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain the information as no effort will be made to contact students who were absent when the announcement was made.