**Course:** BIOL 3030 4.0 PHYSIOLOGY OF THE INVERTEBRATES

**Term:** Winter 2013

**Prerequisite / Co-requisite:** BIOL 2030 4.0

**Course Instructor**

Dr. Andrew Donini  
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**Laboratory Teaching Assistant**

Mr. Dennis Kolosov  
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Office Hours: TBA and By Appointment.

**Time and Location**

Lectures: Tuesday & Thursday: 8:30 - 10AM in Life Sciences Building 101  
Laboratory Group 1: Wednesday: 2:30 - 5:30 PM in Lumbers 124  
Laboratory Group 2: Thursday: 2:30 - 5:30 PM in Lumbers 124

**Expanded Course Description**

The invertebrates are a medically, economically and ecologically important group of animals. A number of invertebrates act as pathogens or vectors of disease. Malaria is one of the most important diseases in the world and is caused by a protozoan that is transmitted by anopheline mosquitoes. Economically speaking, invertebrates can be detrimental, serving as pests that destroy crops, but can also benefit us by serving as sources of food (eg. shrimp, lobster). Ecologically, invertebrates are an integral part of the food chain and can be utilized as bioindicators. Therefore it is in our best interest to study and understand the unique physiological processes of each phylum. In addition to lectures, students will write a concise 1 page review of an article published in a peer reviewed journal on a physiologically relevant topic and will present the hi-lights of this paper to the class. The laboratories will consist of hands-on experiments which demonstrate physiological mechanisms in the invertebrates. The majority of lab exercises will utilize insects because they are cheap to obtain and make convenient models for studying these processes.
Course Learning Objectives

Through this course students will gain an appreciation for the importance and impact of invertebrates on our society. Students will understand and be able to describe invertebrate adaptations to important physiological processes.

Specific Learning Objectives

- develop an awareness of specific invertebrates that are important to our society from an economic standpoint, and/or from a health perspective.
  Assessment: written term tests and examinations, written reports and oral presentations
- understand and be able to describe the morphology and associated physiology of invertebrate adaptations to locomotion, feeding, the maintenance of solute balance, extreme temperature tolerance and the processing of sensory information through the nervous system.
  Assessment: written term tests and examinations, written reports and oral presentations, laboratory experiments with associated written reports.
- acquire knowledge of various experimental techniques and how to apply them to solve physiological questions.
  Assessment: laboratory experiments with associated written reports, written examinations and term tests.
- development of scientific writing skills and oral presentation skills.
  Assessment: written review, laboratory reports, oral presentation

Course Text / Readings

There is no text book for the course. Four books are on reserve in the Steacie Library:
2. Invertebrate Zoology, D.T. Anderson (Editor) QL 362 I58 2001
4. Protozoa and other protists, M.A. Sleigh QL 366 S53 1989

Evaluation (in the order of due date)
Test 1 (January 31, 2013, in lecture) 15%
Full Lab Report 1 (Earthworm) (February 5th, 2013) 7%
Results Lab Report 1 (Proteins/Nitrogenous wastes) (Feb 13/14, 2013) 3%
Test 2 (March 7, 2013 in lecture) 15%
Results Lab Report 2 (Malpighian tubules) (March 12, 2013) 3%
Full Lab Report 2 (Daphnia) (March 20/21, 2013) 7%
Group Reviews and Presentations (April 3/4, 2013) 15%
Final Exam (Formal Exam Period) 35%

Grading, Assignment Submissions

Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)
Group Review and Presentation Due Date Rules: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, the literature review for this course must be received on April 3 or 4 (depending on your laboratory day) at the beginning of the laboratory time and All individuals (ALL members of each group) must present their work on April 3 or 4 in lab (depending on your laboratory day). A late penalty of 10% of the final grade, per day will apply. (example: if an individual is given 70% for the report and presentation but, the report was handed in on April 5th (if due on 4th) then their final grade for the report and presentation will be 63%. If a member of a group is absent, then that member will receive a grade of zero on the oral presentation portion of the grade (Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may, but not necessarily, be entertained but will require supporting documentation, example, an Attending Physicians Statement). NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GIVEN.

Lab Reports Due Date Rules: Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, the formal lab reports and results sections must be handed in on the due dates. A late penalty of 10% of the final grade, per day will apply. NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GIVEN.

Missed Tests: Students with a documented reason for missing a test, such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., which is confirmed by supporting documentation (e.g., Attending Physicians statement) may be permitted to either take an oral make-up test no later than 1 week after the scheduled test date or transfer the weight of the missed test to another test at the course director’s discretion. Further extensions or accommodation will require students to submit a formal petition to the Faculty.

Other Important Considerations:

1. All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information, available on the Senate Committee on Curriculum & Academic Standards webpage (see Reports, Initiatives, Documents) - http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/senate_cte_main_pages/ccas.htm

   - York’s Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures/Academic Integrity Website
   - Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
   - Course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, systemic, learning and psychiatric disabilities
   - Student Conduct Standards
   - Religious Observance Accommodation

2. Students who feel that there are extenuating circumstances that may interfere with their ability to successfully complete the course requirements are encouraged to discuss the matter with Prof. Donini as soon as possible.

3. Students with physical, learning or psychiatric disabilities who require reasonable
accommodations in teaching style or evaluation methods should consult with the Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD) and ensure that requests for appropriate accommodations are arranged with Prof. Donini early in the term.