Honors Human Anatomy and Physiology

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Course Description: This course is considered an Honors level course as it is equivalent to an entry level college Human Anatomy and Physiology course where the student will cultivate his/her understanding of the human body. This course focuses on the biochemistry, anatomy, and physiology of the human body. Cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems will be examined in detail, with an emphasis on the medical field. Dissection is expected.

Prerequisites: B or better in Biology, C or better in Chemistry, and C or better in Algebra II.

College Prep Credit and Work Load Expectations: This course meets the 4-year California University College Prep “D (lab science)” and “G (elective course)” requirements. As an honors course, a student earning a grade of C or above may earn the extra grade point on his/her transcript (identical to an Advanced Placement course). The College Board does not offer an exam for Anatomy/Physiology. Part of being an exceptional student is knowing how to prioritize your life and manage your time so you can meet all of your obligations. It is expected that each Advanced, AP or Honors level course will have one-two hours of outside of class work (homework, lab reports, studying...) per night. Aside from this commitment, regular student attendance and participation in class is required to earn the weighted GPA credit. See the “Earning Lab Science Credit” section for more details.

Class Policies (in addition to the District and Ponderosa’s student discipline policy):
1. Be on time and prepared to work every day. Assignments are due at the start of class.
2. No late work is accepted.
3. Treat other people, their property and lab specimens with respect and dignity.
4. Clean up after yourself and follow directions.
5. If you are not sure or you find yourself falling behind, ask the teacher for help.
6. Never put yourself or others in danger by being careless or unprepared.
7. Due to the use of chemicals in class (and cat fur –yuck!), no food or open drinks in class

Electronic Devices: Unless otherwise instructed by the teacher, students shall turn off, not use, and keep out of sight cell phones and other signaling devices during the class period. Furthermore, any recording, or videotaping of peers, teachers, or visitors to the classroom without prior consent is prohibited. No listening using ear buds allowed. Electronic devices will be confiscated and given to the office and will be available at the end of the day.
Consequences:
1. After a third tardy in a quarter, expect to spend time in detention (see school policy).
2. If you endanger yourself or others, expect to be removed from class with a drop F grade.

Class Supplies (If you cannot provide these, please get them from the instructor):
1. A notebook, composition book, or other media for note taking.
2. A 3 ring binder for handouts given in class.
3. Colored pencils at home (a supply is available in class).
4. Gloves for dissection

Quiz Policy:
At least one quiz will be given each week. Quizzes may not be retaken. Study your quizzes, you may see these questions again on exams!

Exam Policy:
A unit exam will conclude each topic covered in class, labs, homework and in the reading. Exams may not be retaken in Honors Anatomy and Physiology. Per UC regulations for an Honors course, the semester final exam will constitute at least 20% of the overall grade. Make up exam will be a different version.

Classwork:
In class, a daily and weekly agenda will be posted along with all assignment due dates. At the beginning of a unit a study guide will be given. Typically, a few sections are due each day. It is vital that the work completed in the study guides is your work and not copied. Read your text and do your own work to be successful. Grades are posted on the ABI website. Most work, especially lab reports, are required to be typed.
Remember: Assignments are due at the beginning of the period and late work is not accepted. Take advantage of the time given to you so that technology issues do not impact your grade.

Dissections:
While class discussions, reading, watching videos, guest speakers and other forms of topic delivery are important; there is no substitute for “getting your hands dirty.” In class, a number of dissections will take place to help show the amazing detail of mammalian anatomy and physiology. Primarily, you will work in a group of students to dissect a cat and many other mammalian organs. For each dissection, your instructor will provide you with proper instruction and your group will document their examination with digital pictures that will later be used to develop a lab report. If you have any concerns, please talk to Mr. Burghardt.
Earning Lab Science Credit
This course is considered an entry level college lab science course by the University of California: “Courses include teacher-supervised, hands-on laboratory activities that are directly related to, and support, the other class work, and that involve inquiry, observation, analysis and write-up. These hands-on inquiry-based activities will constitute a significant portion of the instruction and account for at least 20 percent of class time”.

Labs normally consist of working in a group to analyze a problem then develop and conduct an experiment. This experience cannot be simply made up with a worksheet. It is expected that the student attends, actively participates and completes the entire lab process. Failure to complete this process may impact the academic letter grade, UC lab science credit and/or the weighted honors designation on a transcript regardless of performance on other class assignments (homework, classwork, exams, quizzes, etc). The teacher will notify both the student and parent in writing if the student is in danger of not meeting the mastery of basic course lab objectives required for UC lab credit and Honors distinction.

Your instructor’s evaluation of your science lab participation and standards mastery is based on the following scale (per District Administrative Regulations):

"A" Outstanding Achievement: Denotes mastery of the objectives of the course.
"B" Above Average Achievement: Denotes mastery of most objectives of the course.
"C" Average Achievement: Denotes the mastery of basic course objectives. Teacher would certify that the student has the skills and understanding necessary to basic goals and objectives of the course.
"D" Below Average Achievement: Denotes the mastery of the minimum objectives of the course. Weak performance. Teacher would give this grade to a student who would require remedial or additional work to achieve a satisfactory standard of performance for the course. Student reached a minimal number of the objectives of the course.
"F" Little or No Achievement: Denotes the student did not meet the minimum standard as defined by the course objectives.

Make Up Policy Specially for Labs (Lab Science)
If you are absent for a lab experience, the teacher determines what the make-up assignment consists of and will issue one reasonable make up opportunity. Failure to attend the scheduled make up session will result in the student not earning credit for that lab. Efforts will be made to provide students the opportunity to make up labs, but not all such requests are reasonable given the scale and scope of particular labs. For some labs (including but not limited to dissections), it may not be reasonable to reconstruct the entire lab. Failure to attend and complete lab assignments may result in the student being unable to demonstrate mastery of the required UC lab science and Honors designation requirements. Per EDUHSD policy, if a student shows a pattern of chronic absenteeism due to illness (more than 14 per academic year), district staff may require physician verification of any further student absences.
Make Up Work Policy (other than labs):
If you are absent, it is your responsibility to look up your missing work from the “Make Up” binder and to look at the agenda on the white board in the classroom. Communicate with your instructor and don’t wait for the last minute. In many cases alternative assignments may be given.

- Absent on The Day an Assignment Is Issued: You are allowed two days per day absent to make up your work. Schedule on the day of your return with your teacher an arrangement for making up exams/quizzes.

- Absent on The Due Date: If you were here when the assignment/quiz/exam was given it is due the DAY OF YOUR RETURN (unless it is a long-term assignment with an absolute deadline). Make any necessary arrangements to take exams before or after school on the day of your return.

- Absent Due to a School Activity (sports, field trip, on campus activity, AP Exams ...): It is your responsibility to arrange your work before your absence (in other words, work is due before you leave).

If you are absent for an extended period of time (a week or more), contact the school and have work sent to the office for pick up. Honors courses are not eligible for home/hospital credit.

Grade Policy:
Assuming your participation and mastery of the lab skill as described previously is average or above, your grade will be determined by dividing the points you earn by the points possible each semester. The letter grade will be determined according to the scale below. Generally, your grade is not rounded up.

A 100-90%
B 89-80%
C 79-70%
D 69-60% } no longer a college prep class/no longer earning the extra grade point
F 59-0%
Last Words from your Instructor:

I look forward to a wonderful journey with you! I have taught science for almost 30 years (all but one year at Pondo), and by far Anatomy and Physiology is my favorite subject. A general understanding of Biology and Chemistry is expected and most students in this class have experienced great success in other high school science courses. Congratulations, you have obviously figured it out! Continue with your successful ways by studying, asking questions and above all asking for help if you start to fall behind. There are many students taking this course and getting together to quiz each other is always a best practice.

I am often asked what the trick is to doing well in this course. The trick is that there are no tricks. It takes time and effort.

Anatomy and Physiology requires excellent memorization skills. Check my website (http://phsmrb.weebly.com) for review links and don’t forget about making and using flashcards. Review every night and never put off your studying or assignments until the last minute. I will always review an assignment early but will not accept an assignment late.

I often hear from students that this is the most demanding of all the science courses because the topics continuously reappear throughout the year (the human body is very integrated and body systems overlap). These students admit that attending every class, actually reading the text and completing the study guides and online mastery lessons without copying are the biggest assets to being successful.

I hear from many of my former students that are in nursing programs, pre-med programs, EMTs/Paramedics, Veterinarian School and even a couple army medics that all credit this as the class that prepared them the most for college level work and for introducing the science of the human body. If your goal is to learn about the human body then you are home!
HONORS HUMAN ANATOMY/PHYSIOLOGY POLICIES

________________________________________
Student Name (please print)

________________________________________
Student signature

________________________________________
Parent/Guardian signature (if student is under 18)

I have read and understand the class polices described in this course syllabus.

________________________________________
Date

________________________________________
Date

Please sign and return to Mr. Burghardt on or before the due date.