

Physiology and Pharmacology
Physiology 1020- Human Physiology

Course Syllabus for Fall 2024/Winter 2025



Western University is committed to a **thriving campus**; therefore, your health and wellness matter to us! The following link provides information about the resources available on and off campus to support students: <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> Your course coordinator can also **guide you** to resources and/or services should you need them.

1. Technical Requirements:



Stable internet connection



Laptop or computer

2. Important Dates:



Classes Begin	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 5	October 12–20	December 6	December 7–8	December 9–22

September 30, 2024, is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and is a non-instructional day
December 2, 2024: Last day to withdraw from a full course without academic penalty

Classes Resume	Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
January 6	February 15–23	April 4	April 5–6	April 7–30

3. Contact Information

Course Coordinator	Contact Information
Dr. Shelby Oke	soke2@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information
Eisha Baqai	
Jennifer Guo	
Robert Menzies	
Emily White	

4. Course Description and Design

Delivery Mode: blended

A survey course outlining the principles of human/mammalian physiology: general properties of the living cell and internal environment; neural, muscle, cardiovascular, respiratory, gastrointestinal, renal and endocrine system; metabolism, reproduction, and homeostasis.

Antirequisite(s): Physiology 1021, Physiology 2130, Physiology 3120, Physiology and Pharmacology 2000

Timetabled Sessions

Component	Date(s)	Time
Lectures: Online, asynchronous	████	████████████████
Tutorial: In person, synchronous	████████████████	████████████

☒ Asynchronous pre-work must be completed 1 day prior to tutorial sessions

All course material will be posted to OWL: <https://westernu.brightspace.com/d2l/login>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the [OWL Brightspace Help](#). Alternatively, they can contact the [Western Technology Services Helpdesk](#). They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

Current versions of all popular browsers (e.g., Safari, Chrome, Edge, Firefox) are supported with OWL Brightspace; what is most important is that you update your browser frequently to ensure it is current. All JavaScript and cookies should be enabled.

5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Learn basic facts, concepts, and principles regarding the function of the human body.
- Define physiological processes.
- Integrate information from multiple physiological systems.
- Apply their knowledge to clinical and disease situations.

6. Course Content and Schedule

Fall Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic
1	Sept 5–8	Introduction to Physiology
2	Sept 9–15	Nerves, Muscle, & the Nervous System
3	Sept 16–22	Nerves, Muscle, & the Nervous System
4	Sept 23–29	Nerves, Muscle, & the Nervous System
5	Sept 30–Oct 6	Nerves, Muscle, & the Nervous System
6	Oct 7–13	The Sensory System
7	Oct 14–20	Reading Week (starts October 12 th)
8	Oct 21–Oct 27	The Sensory System
9	Oct 28–Nov 3	The Cardiovascular System

10	Nov 4–10	The Cardiovascular System
11	Nov 11–17	The Cardiovascular System
12	Nov 18–24	The Renal System
13	Nov 25–Dec 1	The Renal System
14	Dec 2–6	No new material

Winter Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic
15	Jan 6–12	The Renal System
16	Jan 13–19	The Respiratory System
17	Jan 20–26	The Respiratory System
18	Jan 27–Feb 2	The Respiratory System
19	Feb 3–9	The Endocrine System
20	Feb 10–16	The Endocrine System
21	Feb 17–23	Reading Week (starts February 15 th)
22	Feb 24–Mar 2	The Reproductive System
23	Mar 3–9	The Reproductive System
24	Mar 10–16	The Digestive System and Metabolism
25	Mar 17–23	The Digestive System and Metabolism
26	Mar 24–30	The Digestive System and Metabolism
27	Mar 31–Apr 4	No new material

7. Participation and Engagement

- ☒ Students are expected to participate and engage with content as much as possible
- ☒ Students can also participate by interacting on the discussion boards in OWL Brightspace with their peers and instructor
- ☒ Students can also participate in tutorials to review asynchronously learned content
- ☒ Students can also participate by attending instructor office hours

8. Assessment and Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Assessment	Format	Weighting	Due Date	Flexibility
Quizzes	Online in Brightspace. Multiple choice questions.	2% each for a total of 8%.	Quiz #1: Open October 21 st at 12:01 AM until October 23 rd at 11:59 PM Quiz #2: Open December 2 nd at 12:01 AM until December 4 th at 11:59 PM Quiz #3: Open February 24 th at 12:01 AM until February 26 th at 11:59 PM	72-hour period to complete (no penalty if completed within date range). Students will be allowed two (2) attempts per quiz. The highest grade of the two

			Quiz #4: Open March 31 st at 12:01 AM until April 2 nd at 11:59 PM	attempts will be counted.
Midterm Test #1	In-person. Mixed format.	15%	Friday October 25 th , 7:30–8:30 PM	Not applicable.
Midterm Test #2	In-person. Mixed format.	15%	December exam period	Not applicable.
Midterm Test #3	In-person. Mixed format.	15%	Friday February 28 th , 7:30–8:30 PM	Not applicable.
Active Learning Assignments	In person (during tutorials). Mixed format.	2% each for a total of 10%	Assignment #1: Week of Sept. 16, 2024 Assignment #2: Week of Oct. 28, 2024 Assignment #3: Week of Nov. 25, 2024 Assignment #4: Week of Feb. 3, 2025 Assignment #5: Week of Mar. 10, 2025 Assignment #6: Week of Mar. 31, 2025	Only 5 out of 6 assignments will count towards the final course grade. The assignment with the lowest grade will be dropped.
Weekly Concept Checkpoint	In person (during tutorials). Mixed format.	2.5% per semester for a total of 5%	Weekly	Students are permitted to miss 2 weekly checkpoints per term without penalty.
Final Exam	In-person. Mixed format.	32%	April exam period	Not applicable.

Designated Assessment: Instructors are permitted to designate one assessment per course per term as requiring supporting documentation to receive academic consideration. See below for information on academic consideration policy and missed course work. The following assessments have been designated as requiring supporting documentation:

- Midterm Test #1: Friday October 25th, 7:30–8:30 PM
- Midterm Test #3: Friday February 28th, 7:30–8:30 PM

Information about flexibility in assessment

- ☒ Flexibility in assessments has been applied to this course; therefore, academic consideration requests may be denied on the assessments where flexibility is included.
- ☒ This course has four (4) quizzes that are each worth 2%. Each quiz will be open beginning on the corresponding Monday at 12:01 AM until Wednesday at 11:59 PM. Students will be allowed two (2) attempts for each quiz, and the highest grade of the two attempts will be counted. Academic consideration will not be granted for missed quizzes (see below).

- ✓ This course has six (6) active learning assignments. Assignments will be completed in groups of 3–4 students that will be assigned during the first tutorial. Each assignment is worth 2%, but only the assignments with the top five grades will count toward a student's final grade (for a total of 10%). The lowest-graded assignment will be dropped. Academic consideration will not be granted for missed assignments (see below).
- ✓ This course has weekly concept checkpoints that are to be completed in-person during tutorial hours. Grades will be assigned strictly by completion, and there will be no grade penalty if answered incorrectly. Students are **permitted to miss 2 weekly checkpoints per term** without penalty. Academic consideration will not be granted for missed checkpoints (see below).

General information about assessments

- ✓ All online quizzes are due at 11:59 PM EST unless otherwise specified.
- ✓ Rubrics will be used to evaluate assessments and will be posted with the instructions.
- ✓ A student might not receive the same grade as their group members if it is determined that the distribution of work was not equal.
- ✓ After an assessment is returned, **students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting Dr. Oke**; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days.
- ✓ Any grade appeals on assignments, quizzes, or midterms **must be received within 3 weeks** of the grade being posted.
- ✓ 15% of your course grade will be evaluated and returned 3 days prior to the drop deadline (statement in policies below).

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed assessments:

- ✓ There are no make-up quizzes; therefore, academic consideration will not be granted for missed quizzes. Instead, any missed quizzes will have the weight moved to the midterm or exam that is to be completed next in the course schedule. For example, if quiz #1 is missed, midterm #1 will be worth 17% instead of 15%.
- ✓ There are no make-up active learning assignments. Students will receive a grade of zero for any missed assignments. All active learning assignments will be completed **in person** during tutorial hours.
- ✓ One make-up test will be offered for each exam for students who have received academic accommodations for approved absences, as follows (*dates are tentative and subject to change*):
 - Make-up Midterm Test #1: Thursday October 31, 2024
 - Make-up Midterm Test #2: Scheduled by department in early January 2025
 - Make-up Midterm Test #3: Thursday March 6, 2025
 - Make-up Final Exam: Scheduled by department in early May 2025
- ✓ If a make-up test is missed with an approved accommodation from the Academic Advising Office, the weight will be transferred to the final exam.
- ✓ Missed evaluations without accommodation approval from the Academic Advising Office will be subject to a zero.
- ✓ At least two midterm tests must be written to pass this course.

- ☒ At least three (3) in-tutorial assignments must be completed to pass this course.
- ☒ At least 50% of the weekly concept checkpoints must be completed for the entire year, otherwise a grade of zero will be assigned for this component.

INC (Incomplete Standing): If a student has been approved by the Academic Advising Office (in consultation with the instructor/department) to complete term work at a later date, an INC will be assigned. Students with INC will have their course load in subsequent terms reduced to allow them to complete outstanding course work. Students may request permission from Academic Advising to carry a full course load for the term the incomplete course work is scheduled.

SPC (Special examination): If a student has been approved by the Academic Advising Office to write a Special Examination and the final exam is the only outstanding course component, an SPC will be assigned. If the class has a makeup exam, the student is expected to write the makeup exam. If the class doesn't have a makeup exam or the student misses the makeup exam for reasons approved by the Academic Advising Office, the student will write the exam the next time the course is offered. Outstanding SPCs will reduce the course load for the term the exam is deferred as outlined in [Types of Examinations](#) policy.

9. Communication

- ☒ Students should check the OWL Brightspace site every 24–48 hours.
- ☒ Students should email Dr. Oke (soke2@uwo.ca) using their UWO email with questions about the course structure or assignments, but an attempt to locate information on the syllabus or Brightspace site should be made first.
- ☒ Emails will be monitored daily; students will receive a response in 24–48 business hours.
- ☒ Students should post all course-related queries on the appropriate Brightspace discussion board so that everyone can access the questions and responses. These discussions are monitored Monday-Friday by Dr. Oke and the teaching assistants.

10. Office Hours

- ☒ Dr. Oke's office hours will be held remotely using Zoom.
- ☒ Office hours will be held on Fridays from 1 PM – 2 PM. Students will be able to sign up for an individual appointment with Dr. Oke using the link provided on Brightspace (10-minute appointments).

11. Resources

- ☒ All resources will be posted in OWL Brightspace

12. Professionalism & Privacy

Western students are expected to follow the [Student Code of Conduct](#). Additionally, the following expectations and professional conduct apply to this course:

- ☒ All course materials created by the instructor(s) are copyrighted and cannot be sold/shared (e.g., Must Knows Facebook group, Course Hero, Chegg, etc.)
- ☒ Recordings are not permitted (audio or video) without explicit permission
- ☒ Permitted recordings are not to be distributed
- ☒ Students will be expected to take an academic integrity pledge before some assessments

Western is committed to providing a learning and working environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. All **students**, staff, and faculty have a role in this commitment and have a responsibility to ensure and promote a safe and respectful learning and working environment. Relevant policies include Western's [Non-Discrimination/Harassment Policy](#) (M.A.P.P. 1.35) and [Non-Discrimination/Harassment](#)

Policy – Administrative Procedures (M.A.P.P. 1.35). Any **student**, staff, or faculty member who experiences or witnesses' behaviour that may be harassment or discrimination **must report the behaviour** to the Western's Human Rights Office. Harassment and discrimination can be human rights-based, which is also known as EDI-based, (sexism, racism, transphobia, homophobia, islamophobia, xenophobia, antisemitism, and ableism) or non-human rights-based (personal harassment or workplace harassment).

13. How to Be Successful in this Class

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. **Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses.** Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. **Make it a daily habit to log onto Brightspace** to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. **Come to tutorials regularly** to ask questions and reinforce difficult concepts.
4. **Follow weekly checklists** created on Brightspace or create your own to help you stay on track.
5. **Take notes** as you go through the lesson material. Treat this course as you would a face-to-face course. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively than just reading or watching the videos.
6. **Connect with others.** Try forming an online study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
7. **Do not be afraid to ask questions.** If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
8. **Make connections between lectures.** You should build in study time every week for this course. Try making flowcharts, diagrams, comparisons, and big picture summaries.
9. **Reward yourself for successes.** It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

14. Western Academic Policies and Statements

A. Absence from Course Commitments

Students must familiarize themselves with the Policy on [Academic Consideration – Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs](#)

Students missing course work for medical, compassionate, or extenuating circumstances can request academic consideration by completing a request at the [central academic consideration portal](#). Students are permitted one academic consideration request per course per term **without** supporting documentation. Note that supporting documentation is **always** required for academic consideration requests for examinations scheduled by the office of the registrar (e.g., December and April exams) and for practical laboratory and performance tests (typically scheduled during the last week of the term).

Students should also note that the instructor may **designate** one assessment per course per term that requires supporting documentation. This designated assessment is described elsewhere in this document. Academic consideration requests may be denied when flexibility in assessment has already been included. Examples of flexibility in assessment include when there are assessments not required for calculation of the final grade (e.g. 8 out of 10 quizzes) or there is flexibility in the submission timeframe (e.g. 72 hour no late penalty period).

Please note that any academic considerations granted in this course will be determined by the instructor of this course, in consultation with the academic advisors in your Faculty of Registration, in accordance with information presented in this course syllabus. Supporting documentation for academic considerations

for absences due to illness should use the [Student Medical Certificate](#) or, where that is not possible, equivalent documentation by a health care practitioner.

Accommodation for Religious Holidays

Students should review the policy for [Accommodation for Religious Holidays](#). Where a student will be unable to write examinations and term tests due to a conflicting religious holiday, they should inform their instructors as soon as possible but not later than two weeks prior to writing the examination/term test. In the case of conflict with a midterm test, students should inform their instructor as soon as possible but not later than one week prior to the midterm.

Special Examinations

A Special Examination is any examination other than the regular examination, and it may be offered only with the permission of the Dean of the Faculty in which the student is registered, in consultation with the instructor and Department Chair. Permission to write a Special Examination may be given on the basis of compassionate or medical grounds with appropriate supporting documents. To provide an opportunity for students to recover from the circumstances resulting in a Special Examination, the University has implemented Special Examinations dates. These dates as well as other important information about examinations and academic standing can be found [here](#).

B. Academic Offenses

Scholastic offences are taken seriously, and students are directed [here](#) to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

C. Accessibility Statement

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Accessible Education (AE) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation or review [The policy on Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#)

D. Correspondence Statement

The centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual's official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).

E. Discovery Credit Statement

Students are permitted to designate up to 1.0 Discovery Credit course (or equivalent) for pass/fail grading that can be counted toward the overall course credits required for their degree program. The details of this policy and the deadlines can be found [here](#). *Note: this does not apply to first-year students*

F. 15% Rule

According to the [Evaluation of Academic Performance](#) policy, at least three days prior to the deadline for withdrawal from a 1000- or 2000-level course without academic penalty, students will receive assessment of work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade. Generally, students can expect some form of feedback on their performance in a course before the drop date. In rare instances, at the Dean's

discretion, an exemption can be issued, which also must be noted in the course syllabus. Deans should review exemptions on a course-by-course basis each time an exempted course is offered.

15. BMSUE Academic Policies and Statements

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Policy (for in-person tests and exams)

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is committed to ensuring that testing and evaluation are undertaken fairly across all our departments and programs. For all tests and exams, it is the policy of the School that any electronic devices, e.g., cell phones, tablets, cameras, smart glasses, smart watch or iPod are strictly prohibited. These devices **MUST** be left either at home or with the student's bag/jacket at the front of the room and **MUST NOT** be at the test/exam desk or in the individual's pocket. Any student found with one of these prohibited devices will receive a grade of zero on the test or exam. Non-programmable calculators are only allowed when indicated by the instructor. The program is not responsible for stolen/lost or broken devices.

Copyright and Audio/Video Recording Statement

Course material produced by faculty is copyrighted and to reproduce this material for any purposes other than your own educational use contravenes Canadian Copyright Laws. You must always ask permission to record another individual and you should never share or distribute recordings.

Rounding of Marks Statement

Across the Basic Medical Sciences Undergraduate Education programs, we strive to maintain high standards that reflect the effort that both students and faculty put into the teaching and learning experience during this course. All students will be treated equally and evaluated based only on their actual achievement. **Final grades** on this course, irrespective of the number of decimal places used in marking individual assignments and tests, will be calculated to one decimal place and rounded to the nearest integer, e.g., 74.45 becomes 74, and 74.50 becomes 75. Marks **WILL NOT** be bumped to the next grade or GPA, e.g., a 79 will **NOT** be bumped up to an 80, an 84 **WILL NOT** be bumped up to an 85, etc. The mark attained is the mark you achieved, and the mark assigned; requests for mark "bumping" will be denied.

Statement on the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Platforms

Within this course, students are permitted to use AI tools exclusively for information gathering and preliminary research purposes. These tools are intended to enhance the learning experience by providing access to diverse information sources. However, it is essential that students critically evaluate the obtained information, exercise independent thinking, and engage in original research to synthesize and develop their own ideas, arguments, and perspectives. The use of AI tools can serve as a starting point for exploration, with students expected to uphold academic integrity by appropriately attributing all sources and avoiding plagiarism. Assignments should reflect the students' own thoughts and independent written work. By adhering to these guidelines, students contribute to a responsible and ethical learning environment that promotes critical thinking, independent inquiry and allows them to produce original written contributions.

16. Support Services

- Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health @Western Health <https://www.uwo.ca/health/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.
- To connect with a case manager or set up an appointment, please contact support@uwo.ca.
- Other important links:
 - [Academic Advising: Nursing](#)
 - [Appeal Procedures](#)

- [Registrarial Services](#)
- [Student Development Services](#)
- [Student Health Services](#)

Statement on Gender-Based and Sexual Violence

Western is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at:

https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html.