

Human Physiology and Performance (BIO 3033)

Syllabus

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will study human performance in extreme environments. It will follow a group format. For each module, one group will be designated the Lead Group, and that group will design the material. All other groups will respond to the posted material. Each group will serve as Lead Group at least once. The material will include a reading assignment, and a set of discussion questions to be answered. To ensure fairness in participation, a Peer Review will be completed at mid-semester, and after the final module, and the response on the Peer Review will be used to determine the grade for each member of the group.

PREREQUISITES: BIO 3413 or AHS 2103.

GENERAL: Material for class will come from the posted readings and activities on WebCT. Posting of information for the class can also be found on WebCT.

COURSE FORMAT: This course will be conducted online, and will include group discussion questions and a journal article critique. Each module will present the student with readings and activities. Students are responsible for all information presented and activities, including all announcements.

ADA STATEMENT: Every effort has been made to insure that this course meets ADA guidelines. Any student, who because of a disabling condition, may require special arrangements in order to meet the course requirements should contact the instructor immediately so that necessary accommodations can be made. The 75% point for this course is the submission of the fourth module activities. Anyone who does not actively participate in their group will not be eligible for an incomplete, or a passing grade.

ATTENDANCE: It is the students' responsibility to keep up with this course. If a student stops participating, or wishes to drop the course, it is the students' responsibility to do so. The instructor is not allowed to drop a student for non-participation. If a student chooses to not drop the course, the student will receive the grade reflected in the grade book. Do not come to the instructor at the end of the semester, and ask for an incomplete. University policy (see Bulletin) states that a student must have completed (attended) 75% of the course, and have a passing grade, in order to request an incomplete. Any student requesting an incomplete should do so as soon as possible, to determine eligibility. The student will also be required to email the instructor during final exam week to verify he/she wants the Incomplete. Completion of incompletes will require the student to complete all missing work as an individual, not group, including all exams, critiques, and discussions.

Instructor Contact Information

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Harry Tracy

PHONE: 458-2570 (UTSA COS-DTC Office)

OFFICE HOURS: TBA

E-MAIL: Via WebCT email (Preferred)

COMMUNICATIONS: All communications will be handled through WebCT. Students may access WebCT through the WebCT@UTSA home page, or, they may click on **Quick Links** on the UTSA Homepage. Instructions for logging onto WebCT are found at the link on the WebCT Homepage.

It is the student's responsibility to check any discussion or calendar postings made by the instructor. This will be the method of informing students of changes to the class schedule.

The instructor should be contacted through the WebCT email function. WebCT email will be your primary means of contacting the instructor if there is a problem. If you are using the UTSA email address, include the course number in the subject line of your email, as well as your full name. **DO NOT INCLUDE ANY GRAMMATICAL MARKS IN THE SUBJECT LINE!** Emails without a course number may not be opened, read, or given responses. Emails with too long a subject line, or with grammatical marks in the subject line, will be filtered out by the server and I will not be able to open them.

Use of the WebCT Discussion boards for communicating with the Instructor is not advised. This is not a private means of communication. Everyone in the class can read every posting. If you have a question that does not pertain to the rest of the class, use email. If the question may be of concern to everyone, then use the Discussion board, so that everyone will have the benefit of the answer.

Emails and Discussion postings will be answered within 48 hours of receipt, though they may be answered sooner. Questions about problems, exercises, cases, etc. will be addressed on the same schedule as other emails. So, plan ahead to ensure that if you have questions, there will be adequate time for your instructor to answer them.

You are required to read and follow the WebCT User Communication Policy. (Next link in the WebCT Index will open the Printable PDF version.)

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Study the human physiological adaptation to extreme environments.
2. Learn to critique a journal article.
3. Learn to work as a group to prepare a final report.
4. Learn to rate the performance of others.

NATURE OF THE COURSE MATERIAL: The required readings will be used as a source of information. Students should read the material posted that relates to the topic. Projects and activities online will be followed by online discussion questions regarding various aspects of the environment just studied. Outside readings for discussion will be assigned.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK: None.

GRADING:

Lead Group Article Choice: The Lead Group will be graded for how well the group selected the journal article for the rest of the class to critique. The article should be a research article, not a review article, and it should address the topic.

Lead Group Discussion Questions and Answers: The Lead Group will be graded on the questions they develop for discussion, as well as the group's answers to the questions. Discussion questions should require some writing to answer, more than a single word or sentence answer. They must be based on the assigned readings, not on the journal article. The Lead Group will develop ten questions and answers. Example questions and answers are provided.

Critique: Each student's grade will be based on the quality of their group's report on each module, and on their participation in producing the final report. Journal Critiques will follow the example given, and all sections will be evaluated. Each section counts equally toward the final grade. If a section is disregarded, the group will lose 14 points. The critique must be just that, a critique of another's work, not a summary of what was published. Any section that is just a summary will lose 10 points. The critique will be graded for the quality of the writing. Misspellings will lose 1 point per word, and grammatical errors will also lose one point per error. Since this is a group submission, it is the responsibility of everyone in the group to read over all the sections to ensure it is written correctly. Help with writing can be received from the UTSA Writing Program. References must be cited, and APA format is required. Wrong format will lose 5 points.

Discussions: Each student's grade will be based on the quality of their group's report on each module, and on their participation in producing the Discussion Answers. The answers will be graded for the quality and accuracy of the writing. Misspellings will lose 1 point per word, and grammatical errors will also lose one point per error. Since this is a group submission, it is the responsibility of everyone in the group to read over all the sections to ensure it is written correctly. Each group will answer four of the ten questions, group's choice. Each of the four discussion questions answered will count 25%. If a group only answers three, they will lose 25%. If a group submits more than four answers, only the first four will be graded.

Submissions: Each group will submit their work via WebCT email, not the Assignment Tool. All work is due by 5pm on the due date listed in the schedule. In addition, each individual will critique one of the articles in the Introductory Module, and submit their individual critique via email by the due date.

FINAL GRADE CALCULATIONS:

Module Article Critique	30%
Module Discussion Questions	30%
Lead Group Article Choice	10%
Lead Group Discussion Questions/Answers	10%

Mid-semester Peer Review	10%
Final Peer Review	10%
Total points	100%

LETTER GRADE EQUIVALENTS:

A	90-100%
B	80-99%
C	70-79%
D	60-69%
F	Below 60%

Scholastic Dishonesty

Students are expected to be above reproach in scholastic activities. Students who violate University rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and dismissal from the University. "Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion; the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person; taking an exam for another person; any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student; or the attempt to commit such acts" (Regent's Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VI, Section 3, subsection 3.2, subdivision 3.22). Since scholastic dishonesty harms the individual, all students and the integrity of the University, policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced. See Student Code of Conduct.

Plagiarism

If you are not sure what constitutes plagiarism, please visit <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>

Collaboration

Unless specifically authorized, no work submitted for a grade in this class is to be done in collaboration with another student or individual.