

HUBS2203: Introductory Pharmacology

On-Line

Semester 2 - 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

OVERVIEW

Course Description

This course provides students with knowledge of the basic mechanisms underlying the action of drugs on the body systems and with specialist knowledge of applied pharmacology and the rational use of medicines.

Assumed Knowledge

N/A, however background knowledge in physiology is assumed, and taking prior courses such as HUBS1406, HUBS1416, HUBS1401, HUBS1403, HUBS1404 is extremely beneficial.

Contact Hours

On-Line
Self-Directed Learning
Self-Directed
10 hour(s) per Week for Full Term

Unit Weighting Workload

10
Students are required to spend on average 120-140 hours of effort (contact and non-contact) including assessments per 10-unit course.

CONTACTS

Course Coordinator

On-Line
Dr Lizzie Manning
Lizzie.Manning@newcastle.edu.au
Consultation: by email
Fortnightly zoom for live questions/discussions TBA

School Office

School of Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacy
MS607, Medical Sciences Building, Callaghan
Biomedsci-Admin@newcastle.edu.au
02 49218679 or 49212058
8:30am-5pm (Mon-Fri)

COURSE OUTLINE

www.newcastle.edu.au

CRICOS Provider 00109J

SYLLABUS

Course Content

The course will cover three major areas:

1. Introduction to the basic concepts of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics.
2. The pharmacology of drugs that act on the body systems (e.g. cardiovascular, respiratory, renal, gastrointestinal, autonomic and central nervous systems).
3. The pharmacology of chemotherapeutic and antimicrobial agents.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understand the basic concepts of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics
2. Demonstrate knowledge and understand the pharmacology and therapeutic use of drugs that act on the body systems
3. Demonstrate knowledge and understand the pharmacology and therapeutic use of chemotherapeutic and antimicrobial agents

Course Materials

There are no required texts for this course. Since it is an online course, you are encouraged to use the many online resources available to you through the University of Newcastle library site. Links to some of these are provided on the CANVAS site for the course.

ASSESSMENTS

This course has 3 assessments. Each assessment is described in more detail in the sections below.

	Assessment Name	Due Date	Involvement	Weighting	Learning Outcomes
1	Online Test (x 4). Top 3 tests only used for assessment item (6.67% each)	See course CANVAS site and timeline below for dates and times	Individual	20%	1, 2, 3
2	Mid-Semester Exam (50 marks MCQ)	Week 8: Saturday September 9 th at 9pm	Individual	30%	1, 2, 3
3	End of Semester Exam (100 marks MCQ)	In formal exam period	Individual	50%	1, 2, 3

Late Submissions

The mark for an assessment item submitted after the designated time on the due date, without an approved extension of time, will be reduced by 10% of the possible maximum mark for that assessment item for each day or part day that the assessment item is late. Note: this applies equally to week and weekend days.

Assessment 1 - Online Test (x 4)

Assessment Type

Online Tests

Weighting

20% in total

Submission Method

Online

Assessment Criteria

The online multiple-choice tests will assess the online lecture, case and tutorial material presented throughout the course. Each test will assess the material covered for the previous two weeks of the course. These tests will be taken online via CANVAS – full details and procedures to be announced via CANVAS. Four tests will be offered, and the total of the top 3 test scores (6.67% each) will provide 20% of the final grade for the course.

Feedback

Returned mark and feedback on topics related to questions answered correctly and incorrectly for revision.

Opportunity to Reattempt

Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 2 – Mid-Semester Exam

Assessment Type	Online Test
Weighting	30%
Submission Method	Online via CANVAS
Assessment Criteria	This is an OPEN BOOK examination and notes are permitted. A 1-hour (60 minutes) online exam to be held in week 8, which is open for 36 hours (from 9am Friday September 8 th to 9pm Saturday September 9 th). The exam will comprise 50 marks for multiple-choice questions. Precise details and instructions for the exam will be announced on CANVAS in the week prior to the exam.
Return Method	Returned mark and feedback on topics related to questions answered correctly and incorrectly for revision
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students WILL NOT be given the opportunity to reattempt this assessment.

Assessment 3 - End of Semester Exam

Assessment Type	Online Open Book Formal Examination
Weighting	50%
Submission Method	Online via CANVAS
Assessment Criteria	This is an OPEN BOOK examination and notes are permitted. A 2-hour (120 minutes) online exam to be held in the formal exam period. The exam will comprise multiple-choice questions totalling 100 marks. Precise details and instructions for the exam will be announced on CANVAS in the week prior to the exam.
Return Method	Not Returned
Opportunity to Reattempt	Students who do not achieve a passing grade overall, but who have achieved a satisfactory performance in their in-term assessments, will be offered the opportunity to sit a supplementary formal examination. This exam will be held in the university rescheduled examination period. Students who are required to complete a supplementary assessment and successfully obtain enough marks in their ongoing assessments and supplementary assessment combined to pass the course overall will receive a maximum mark of 50. Students who fail the supplementary assessment and fail the course overall will be awarded an FF grade.

Please note that all students are expected to be available during BOTH formal and rescheduled exam periods. In the event that you have an approved rescheduled exam, this will be held in the rescheduled exam period. If you have made plans to travel or work during that period, you will not be offered another opportunity to sit the examination.

Topic Schedule See next page

HUBS2203 semester timeline

This course is self-paced (except for the assessments), and students are advised to create their own semester timeline that takes into account their commitments like placement periods as appropriate

Week	Date	Topic	Assessments
0	10/7/23	CANVAS site opens. Topics available for students who need to get ahead to account for placements latter in semester	
1	17/7/23	Introduction to Pharmacology	
2	24/7/23	Pharmacokinetics	
3	31/7/23	Drugs acting on the Autonomic Nervous System	Online Test 1 (open for 1 week 9am 31/7 - 11:59pm 6/8) Testing Weeks 1 & 2
4	7/8/23	Cardiovascular Drugs Part 1	
5	14/8/23	Cardiovascular Drugs Part 2	Online Test 2 (open for 1 week 14/8 9am-20/8 11:59pm) Testing Weeks 3 & 4
6	21/8/23	Drugs acting on the Endocrine System	
7	28/8/23	Drugs for Inflammation and Pain	
8	4/9/23	Respiratory Drugs	Mid-Semester Exam (Online, open for 36 hours 9am 8/9 – 9pm 9/9). 50 marks MCQ - testing weeks 1-6 inclusive
9	11/9/23	Drugs acting on the Gut and Metabolism	Online Test 3 (open for 2 weeks 9am 11/9– 11:59pm 24/9) Testing Weeks 7 & 8
10	18/9/23	Anti-Microbial Drugs and Chemotherapy	
Recess	25/9/23		
Recess	2/10/23		
11	9/10/23	Drugs for Affective Disorders	Online Test 4 (open for 1 week 9am 9/10 – 11:59pm 15/10) Testing Weeks 9 & 10
12	16/10/23	Drugs for other Central Nervous System Disorders	
Study	23/10/23		
Exam period	30/10/23-10/11/23		Final Exam (Online), date TBA. 100 mark MCQ - testing Weeks 1-12
Rescheduled Exam period 11/12/23-15/12/23			

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Grading Scheme

This course is graded as follows:

Range of Marks	Grade	Description
85-100	High Distinction (HD)	Outstanding standard indicating comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an outstanding level of academic ability; mastery of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
75-84	Distinction (D)	Excellent standard indicating a very high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a very high level of academic ability; sound development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
65-74	Credit (C)	Very Good standard indicating a high level of knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of a high level of academic ability; reasonable development of skills*; and achievement of all assessment objectives.
50-64	Pass (P)	Satisfactory standard indicating an adequate knowledge and understanding of the relevant materials; demonstration of an adequate level of academic ability; satisfactory development of skills*; and achievement of most assessment objectives.
0-49	Fail (FF)	Failure to satisfactorily achieve assessment objectives or compulsory course requirements. A fail grade may also be awarded following disciplinary action.

*Skills are those identified for the purposes of assessment task(s).

Communication Methods

Communication methods used in this course include:

CANVAS Course Site: Students will receive communications via the posting of content or announcements on the CANVAS course site. Please check announcement emails and announcement page regularly as lots of important reminders are shared in CANVAS announcements including assessment closing times.

Email: Students will receive communications via their student email account.

Oral Interviews

As part of the evaluation process of any assessment item in this course an oral examination may be conducted. The purpose of the oral examination is to verify the authorship of the material submitted in response to the assessment task. The oral examination will be conducted in accordance with the principles set out in the [Oral Examination Guidelines](#). In cases where the oral examination reveals the assessment item may not be the student's own work the case will be dealt with under the [Student Conduct Rule](#).

Academic Misconduct

All students are required to meet the academic integrity standards of the University. These standards reinforce the importance of integrity and honesty in an academic environment. Academic Integrity policies apply to all students of the University in all modes of study and in all locations. For the Student Academic Integrity Policy, refer to <https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=35>.

Adverse Circumstances

The University acknowledges the right of students to seek consideration for the impact of allowable adverse circumstances that may affect their performance in assessment item(s).

Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances are to be made using the online Adverse Circumstances system for Mid-Semester Examination and the Formal Examination.

Applications for special consideration due to adverse circumstances are to be made using email to course coordinator (Dr Lizzie Manning) [for online tests](#).

Before applying you must refer to the Adverse Circumstance Affecting Assessment Items Procedure available at:

<https://policies.newcastle.edu.au/document/view-current.php?id=236>

All adverse circumstances requests require supporting documentation.

Important Policy Information

The 'HELP for Students' tab in UoNline contains important information that all students should be familiar with, including various systems, policies and procedures.

This course outline was approved by the Head of School. No alteration of this course outline is permitted without Head of School approval. If a change is approved, students will be notified and an amended course outline will be provided in the same manner as the original.

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