# Department of Biology Course Outline

## BIOL5151 CURRENT TOPICS IN ENDOCRINOLOGY

### FALL 2019

### Course Description

In-depth studies of current topics in Endocrinology; including regulation of functions of hormones and molecular mechanisms of hormone actions; cutting edge research technologies; and emerging concepts. Three lecture hours. Six weeks. One and half credits.

### Prerequisites (strictly enforced)

NONE

### Course Instructor(s) and Contact Information

Dr. Chun Peng  
329B LSB  
Telephone: 416-736-2100 ext. 40558  
e-mail: cpeng@yorku.ca

### Schedule

Date and Time: Mondays: 2-5 pm  
Location: LSB 321  
Course Session: FALL 2019 - Start date: Oct 21, 2019  
Course ID: M39X01

### Evaluation

Research proposal: 40%  
Presentation: 40%  
Class participation: 20%

### Important Dates

- First class: Oct 21, 2019  
- Last class: Nov 25, 2019  
- In class presentations: Nov 4, 11, 18, 25, 2019  
- Research Proposal due date: Dec 9, 2019  
- **Drop Deadline:** Fri. Nov. 8, 2019 (last day to drop without course on transcript)  
- **Course Withdrawal:** Sat. Nov. 19 to Dec. 3, 2019 (course still appears on transcript with 'W')
Resources
Scientific journals, such as:

- Endocrinology
- Molecular Endocrinology
- Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism
- Nature
- Science
- Cell
- Proceedings of National Academy of Science
- Journal of Molecular Endocrinology
- Endocrine Reviews
- Journal of Cell Science
- Comparative Endocrinology
- Frontier in Endocrinology

Learning Outcomes
Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:
1. Understand the principles and concepts of Endocrinology
2. Understand scientific approaches and methodologies used for endocrine research
3. Familiarize with recent advances in the field of Endocrinology
4. Develop the ability to critically analyze research papers
5. Improve critical thinking, writing and presentation skills

Professional Skills
The following skills will be developed in this course:
1. Critical thinking skills
2. Research skills, with special focus on proper experimental designs
3. Effective communication skills
4. Proposal writing skills

Course Content
The course will provide students with basic knowledge on Endocrinology, including chemical natures, synthesis and secretion, regulation, signaling transduction pathways and endocrine/paracrine/autocrine regulation of physiological processes. It will also introduce students to experimental approaches and recent advances in the field of Endocrinology. In addition, students will learn how to analyze and critique research papers, summarize key findings and communicate the information to others. Finally, we will discuss how to prepare a research proposal.
## Experiential Education and E-Learning

Moodle website

## Other Information

Presentation: choose a primary research article related to Endocrinology and published between 2018-2019. Email your article to the class one week before your presentation.

Research Proposal: The topic should be related to hormones/chemical messengers.

## Course Policies

Attendance and participation in class discussion are mandatory

Research Proposal should be submitted by email on or before the due date. The penalty for late submission is 10% deduction per day.

## University Policies

### Academic Honesty and Integrity

York students are required to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and they are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty ([http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/](http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/academic-honesty-senate-policy-on/)). The Policy affirms the responsibility of faculty members to foster acceptable standards of academic conduct and of the student to abide by such standards.

There is also an academic integrity website with comprehensive information about academic honesty and how to find resources at York to help improve students’ research and writing skills, and cope with University life. Students are expected to review the materials on the Academic Integrity website at - [http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/](http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity/)

**Important** A note from the Faculty of Science Committee on Examinations and Academic Standards: Numerous students in Faculty of Science courses have been charged with academic misconduct when materials they uploaded to third party repository sites (e.g. Course Hero, One Class, etc.) were taken and used by unknown students in later offerings of the course. The Faculty’s Committee on Examinations and Academic Standards (CEAS) found in these cases that the burden of proof in a charge of aiding and abetting had been met, since the uploading students had been found in all cases to be wilfully blind to the reasonable likelihood of supporting plagiarism in this manner. Accordingly, to avoid this risk, students are urged not to upload their work to these sites. Whenever a student submits work obtained through Course Hero or One Class, the submitting student will be charged with plagiarism and the uploading student will be charged with aiding and abetting.

Note also that exams, tests, and other assignments are the copyrighted works of the professor assigning them, whether copyright is overtly claimed or not (i.e. whether the © is used or not). Scanning these documents constitutes copying, which is a breach of Canadian copyright law, and the breach is aggravated when scans are shared or uploaded to third party repository sites.

### Access/Disability

York University is committed to principles of respect, inclusion and equality of all persons with disabilities across campus. The University provides services for students with disabilities (including
physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities) needing accommodation related to teaching and evaluation methods/materials. These services are made available to students in all Faculties and programs at York University. Student's in need of these services are asked to register with disability services as early as possible to ensure that appropriate academic accommodation can be provided with advance notice. You are encouraged to schedule a time early in the term to meet with each professor to discuss your accommodation needs. Please note that registering with disabilities services and discussing your needs with your professors is necessary to avoid any impediment to receiving the necessary academic accommodations to meet your needs. Additional information is available at the following websites:
Counselling & Disability Services - http://cds.info.yorku.ca/
Counselling & Disability Services at Glendon - https://www.glendon.yorku.ca/counselling/
York Accessibility Hub - http://accessibilityhub.info.yorku.ca/

Religious Observance Accommodation
York University is committed to respecting the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the community, and making accommodations for observances of special significance to adherents. Should any of the dates specified in this syllabus for an in-class test or examination pose such a conflict for you, contact the Course Director within the first three weeks of class. Similarly, should an assignment to be completed in a lab, practicum placement, workshop, etc., scheduled later in the term pose such a conflict, contact the Course director immediately. Please note that to arrange an alternative date or time for an examination scheduled in the formal examination periods (December and April/May), students must complete and submit an Examination Accommodation Form at least 3 weeks before the exam period begins. The form can be obtained from Student Client Services, Student Services Centre or online at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/pdf/exam_accommodation.pdf

Student Conduct in Academic Situations
Students and instructors are expected to maintain a professional relationship characterized by courtesy and mutual respect. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the instructor to maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere in the classroom and other academic settings, and the responsibility of the student to cooperate in that endeavour. Further, the instructor is the best person to decide, in the first instance, whether such an atmosphere is present in the class. The policy and procedures governing disruptive and/or harassing behaviour by students in academic situations is available at - http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/disruptive-andor-harassing-behaviour-in-academic-situations-senate-policy/