Prerequisites: BIOL 2200, 2416 & CHEM 3412  Semester hour credit: 3
Professor: Rebekah J. Thomas, Ph.D.  Office: HRI 118
Office hours: T 3 – 5:00 pm; other times by appointment
Office phone: 361-825-3489  Email: rebekah.thomas@tamucc.edu
Website: There is a WebCT site for this course. Please logon to WebCT for access.
Course description: This is an overview of basic endocrine function that includes the organization of the endocrine system, genetic control of hormone synthesis, mechanisms of hormone action, immune-endocrine interactions and clinical examples of altered endocrine physiology. Specific topics will also include reproductive physiology, energy metabolism, obesity, fluid and electrolyte balance, growth and development, and feeding behavior.
Student learning outcomes: Students will learn and use the vocabulary of endocrine physiology; students will learn the function of gene expression in endocrine function; students will demonstrate knowledge of the integrative nature of endocrinology by answering questions regarding the interaction of the endocrine system with water and calcium homeostasis, sexual differentiation, male and female reproductive function, pregnancy, the immune system, metabolism, and growth regulation; students will apply specific knowledge of the endocrine system to endocrine physiology-based problems.
Evaluation: Final course grades will be determined by the following

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Examination average (3 take-home exams)</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Problem portfolio</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final examination</td>
<td>20%</td>
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The following grading scale will be used to determine final letter grades: 90-100% = A, 80-89.9% = B, 70-79.9% = C, 60-69.9% = D, and <60% = F. All exams will be take-home, group exams. The three lecture exams will be made available to the students 7 days before it is due. The take-home portion of the final exam will be made available 9 days before it is due. Students will be assigned to groups and each group will complete and hand in one set of answers for each exam. The final exam will have an additional in-class component, to assess each individual student’s overall knowledge of the endocrine system, its major glands, the hormones they produce, the targets of those hormones, and the effects they produce. Exam 1 will be available 2/17 and will be due 2/24 at 5:30 pm. Exam 2 will be available 3/24 and will be due 3/31 at 5:30 pm. Exam 3 will be available 4/21 and will be due 4/28 at 5:30 pm. The Final Exam will be available 5/3 and will be due 5/12 at 4:30 pm. All take-home exams must be typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. font. The problem portfolio will be made up of the individual student’s solutions to six (6) endocrine-related clinical problems that will be partially completed in class. All students are allowed to use information from in-class discussions. However, the portions of the problems not discussed in class are to be answered by each student individually.
without any help from anyone or anything other than cited sources. Each solution in the portfolio is to include a references cited page that includes all sources consulted in answering the problem. Online sources can be used, but students are cautioned to use credible medical and scientific sites. Students also need to be aware that the sources cited will be checked against the student’s solution to make sure that the student’s answers are not plagiarized. Any plagiarism will result in a grade of 0 for that particular problem. The intent of having students complete the problems is to measure the level at which students are capable of understanding the information covered in class, and applying that information to a clinical problem. These assignments are in part about right and wrong answers, but also in part about the method at which the student arrives at a particular solution. Students will hand in their portfolios twice, the first time on 3/8 at 5:30 pm (problems 1, 2, 4), the second time on 4/26 at 5:30 pm (problems 3, 5, 6).

ABSOLUTELY NOTHING MAY BE TURNED IN LATE FOR ANY REASON!!!

Disability and Veterans’ Services: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is committed to providing persons with disabilities an equal opportunity to access campus facilities, resources and programs. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. Support and accommodations are also available for returning veterans who experience cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus. Our Office of Disability Services arranges such support and academic accommodations. To make a request, or for more information, call (361) 825-5816 or visit Driftwood 101. It is important to contact the Office of Disability Services in a timely fashion as it will take time for them to review requests and prepare accommodations and accommodation letters.

Grade Appeals: As stated in the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi University Rules and Procedures (Section B [Academic Program], Part 13 [Students]: 13.02.99.C2 [Student Grade Appeals] and 13.02.99C2.01 [Student Grade Appeal Procedures]), a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is on the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, consult the University Rules and Procedures specified above (accessible through the University Rules and Procedures website at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Academic Advising: The College of Science and Technology requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Faculty Center 178, and can be reached at 825-6094.
Tentative Lecture Schedule and Content:

1/13, 1/20, 1/25: Organization of the Endocrine System, Chapter 1; Problem 1

1/27: Genes and Hormones, Chapter 2

2/1, 2/3: Mechanisms of Hormone Action, Chapter 3

2/8: Assessment of Endocrine Function, Chapter 5

2/10, 2/15, 2/17: The Anterior Pituitary and Hypothalamus, Chapter 6; Problem 2

2/17: Exam 1 given out

2/22: Immune-Endocrine Interactions, Chapter 4

2/24: Growth Regulation, Chapter 12; EXAM 1 DUE

3/1, 3/3: The Thyroid, Chapter 13; Problem 4

3/8: The Posterior Pituitary and Water Metabolism, Chapter 7; hand in problem portfolio

3/10, 3/22, 3/24: Glucose, Lipid, and Protein Metabolism, Chapter 16; Problem 3

3/24: Exam 2 given out

3/29, 3/31: Female Reproductive Function, Chapter 9

3/31: EXAM 2 DUE

4/5, 4/7: Male Reproductive Function, Chapter 10

4/12, 4/14, 4/19: The Adrenal Glands, Chapter 14; Problems 5 and 6

4/21: Calcium Homeostasis, Chapter 15; Exam 3 given out

4/26: Hand in problem portfolio

4/26, 4/28: Fertilization, Implantation, and Endocrinology of Pregnancy, Chapter 11

4/28: EXAM 3 DUE

5/3: Sexual Differentiation, Chapter 8; Final Exam given out

5/12: FINAL EXAMINATION, 4:30 to 7:00 pm