

COURSE WALKTHROUGH

*(The Instructional Rhythm of an Asynchronous
online presentation of Anatomy & Physiology I)*

Introduction - This course has been developed around a logical sequence of instructional topics to enable students to think anatomically and physiologically. The student will quickly realize that each module will be foundational for subsequent modules, although important on its own merits. The instructional modules are easily identified in the "Course Content" folder on Blackboard.

This course is presented asynchronously, where the student works independently, mastering the material. Given this, two blocks of time must be set aside for each module. First, time is required to view the content. Ideally, this should be during the first day or two at the start of each module. Second, time is set aside to master the material. This is where most of your time will be invested.

In support of the instructional unit, you will find several tools available under the *Course Content* tab on Blackboard. When you click on a unit, you will find:

Learning Guide - For each instructional unit, a Learning Guide will help you navigate the course content for each module. In addition, the learning guide provides the following:

- Tips on approaching the content.
- Study pointers.
- Exam issues worth noting.
- Other pertinent guidance.

Lecture Home Page - There is a *Lecture Home Page*. This page is a resource hub for the instructional unit. You will find a lecture outline, supportive handouts, laboratory considerations, and other resources here. You will note that this is a link to an academic website that I maintain for teaching purposes (A direct link to this website is: www.noelways.com)

Learning Outline - A Lecture Outline is at the core of the learning modules. This outline sequentially organizes each module's anatomical and physiological considerations and will guide you using the text, videos, and other supplemental materials provided. You will find that the outlines will

help you focus on what is considered essential for each module. Any topics not mentioned in the outlines are not required. The outline is also designed to be the primary document for note-taking purposes.

Handouts - The outline may direct you to a *Handout* at specific points in the lecture sequence. This usually occurs when there are illustrations or broad physiological processes where the outline may be inadequate. Here, the handout will contain the text and images necessary to master a more complex topic under discussion. Topics covered this way are very important and require careful consideration.

Image Bank - A link to an Image Bank will support a visual approach to the lecture content. Students who make their study visual tend to excel beyond students who lean solely on notes and written text. In the image bank, you will see internet searches for particular images. You will also find images relevant to your understanding of the material. PowerPoint documents for the lecture are also located there. It is important to note that some of these images may be copyright-protected and only be used for your educational benefit. They are not to be shared with others outside of this course.

Video Support - A Video Support link that leads to videos providing detailed coverage of the material presented in the lecture sequence. These have unquestionably been former students' favorite "go-to" when learning the material. These videos may have two forms: 1. An actual in-class lecture from a previous semester. 2. A "desktop" lecture, where I present material from my office using video tools.

There is an important caveat here, however. If something is on the outline, you need to know it. If it is not presented in the lecture (rarely does this happen), use your text or other resources to master the topic or point. Also, in some videos, images used may be copyright protected.

Use these videos only for your own personal, educational benefit.

They may not be shared outside of class.

Laboratory Support - *Laboratory Support* tools provide guidance in microscope work, dissections, and models. You will also find documents that will guide you in mastering the laboratory material.

About Assessments – Assessments are essential for evaluating student progress in a course foundational to subsequent coursework. College program administrators need to know that you are progressing in your quest to become a competent medical professional. Therefore, frequent exams are employed as assessment tools. The exams provide evidence of successful mastery of the curricula and serve as waypoints for students as they progress through a semester.

If a student studies hard and masters the material, the exam can be “fun.”

However, if you do not do well on an exam, “fun” may not be your experience.

Nevertheless, **STUDY HARD** and master the material.

Assessment is frequent. With few exceptions, each unit will have its own assessment exam. Some units may be divided into two parts, reducing the content load on any exam. When you finish one exam, you will begin mastering the next unit, and that exam will be forthcoming. By having many exams, we can break up the material into smaller sections for mastery, so student retention tends to be higher. Exam dates are on the syllabus. You will be informed as soon as possible should unforeseen circumstances necessitate a change in these dates (doubtful).