

Undergraduate Syllabus, Spring 2024 PHRM 3720, Toxicology, 3 credits

Meeting Time and Location

Monday's/Wednesday's/Friday's 9:40 – 10:30 AM, Williams Hall 301

Course Directors

- Dr. Karen C. Glass, Associate Professor of Pharmacology, Firestone 362, karen.glass@med.uvm.edu
- Dr. Wolfgang Dostmann, Professor of Pharmacology, Given B333B, wdostman@uvm.edu

Course Faculty

Faculty Members of the Department of Pharmacology

Office Hours

By appointment

Prerequisites

Biology, or Organic Chemistry, or Permission

Course Description

This 3-credit course is intended to provide an understanding of the chemical, biochemical, and physiological factors that determine the pathological effects of chemicals in living systems.

Format

All lectures will be in-person. Lecture materials (PowerPoint files, handouts, etc.) will be made available through Brightspace.

Recommended Textbook

Casarett and Doull's Toxicology: The Basic Science of Poisons – (9th Edition; 2019). This text is the world's leading and most authoritative textbook on poisons and has been hailed as the most trusted all-in-one overview of the biomedical and environmental aspects of toxicology. However, the book is **not required** for the course.

Readings

From to time readings may be distributed to students.

Required Platforms and Software

Brightspace, www.brightspace.uvm.edu

iClickers, <https://www.uvm.edu/it/kb/article/iclicker-cloud/>

- Starting Fall 2023 Brightspace has replaced Blackboard as the UVM LIMS. For Brightspace information students can access the following UVM Knowledge Base article:
<https://www.uvm.edu/it/kb/article/brightspace-for-students/>

Discussion board

Students are encouraged to post and respond to 'muddiest point' questions on **concepts** that were unclear from the lecture sessions to the Brightspace discussion boards for each exam. Students have the ability to make anonymous posts.

Exam Format (100% of grade)

A total of **4 exams** are scheduled in roughly equal intervals throughout the course. The exams will be held in person in Williams Hall 301 using paper copies. Each exam is worth **25%** of the total score. Most questions will be multiple choice. Some questions may require short essay responses. **The exams are not cumulative.**

Religious Holidays

Students have the right to practice the religion of their choice. Each semester, students should submit in writing to the instructor(s), as early as possible and at least one week before their documented religious holiday, the date(s) of the conflict or absence. The faculty will work with any students who miss work or exams for religious observance to make up this work.

Extra credit

Extra Credit Paper

Students who wish to obtain extra credit can also do so by submitting a **paper** on a subject **approved by the course director**. Each paper is approximately worth an **additional 5-7%** of the total score (equivalent to a full letter grade bump up for one exam).

Format

- Undergraduate students who wish to obtain extra credit can do so by submitting a paper on a toxin approved by me.
- Students will be graded 1-10 points on the thoroughness and quality of their paper.
- Points will be added to the lowest scored exam (a paper scoring 10 points would be worth the equivalent of a full letter grade bump up).
- If possible, the paper(s) should include the toxin's discovery, structure, chemical properties, mechanisms of action, biological effects, and historical significance.
- Here are the specifics: 6-8 pages, 1-inch margins, 1.5 space, 11 font.
- Figures do not count towards the page limit.
- References should be properly cited and included at the end; they are not counted towards the page limitation.
- Figures are welcome.
- Papers are due at midnight on the last day of regular classes (before finals start).
- For every day past the due date, a point will be subtracted.
- Submit your paper in .pdf format on Brightspace