

# Course Policies for Biology 373

## Comparative Vertebrate Histology

Instructor: [Robert J. Schmitz](#)

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Histology is a survey of vertebrate (mostly human) cellular anatomy. The course meets for two hours of lecture and two 2 hour labs each week. The class is a combination of lecture, demonstration, and light microscope study of slides of vertebrate tissues. The [schedule of topics](#) covered in this survey can be found at the link above.

## Rental Texts

The texts used in this course are:

- **Histology, A text and Atlas,**
  - by M.H. Ross and W. Pawlina
- **Wheater's Functional Histology, a Text and Color Atlas**
  - by H.G Burkitt, B. Young, and J. W. Heath
- **Cell and Tissue Ultrastructure, a Functional Perspective**
  - By P.C. Cross and K.L. Mercer
  -

## The Microscope Slide Box

Each student will be issue a box of 100 microscope slides for study with the light microscope. I only have 12 slide boxes. If the enrollment of the course exceeds 12, students will have to share slide boxes. Depending on the topic there may be additional slides to supplement the main slide box.

## Histology Web Sites

The creation of virtual histology slide boxes has been very popular in medical schools. These sites can be very useful as you study histology. Some argue that they can replace the benchwork at the microscope, but I do not believe that that is so. The sites will function like additional atlases of histology. Since our classroom is set up for wireless connection to the internet, you may access these sites from your personal laptop computer (if you choose to bring it to class). You may also use the computers on the side benches in the lab. I will discuss how to connect to these computers in class. A list of and links to some of the better sites will be listed on a separate page on the course website.

## **Exams and Grades**

Grades in this course will be determined by two 100 point exams, six 15 to 20 point quizzes (300 points total).

The midterm and final exam will each consist of 50 points written, and 50 points lab identification. Since the second half of the course builds on the foundation of the first half, the final exam will be cumulative. Each exam will consist of 50 identifications from microscope slides and written questions of multiple choice, T/F, matching, or short essay format.

You can not cram for this course. To encourage you to study this material at a steady pace, quizzes will be given at two week intervals (on Tuesday, unless changed in class). At the discretion of the instructor, excellent performance on the quizzes may partly offset poor performance on one exam. Since these quizzes will function as both an evaluative tool and as a teaching tool in this course they will typically have extra credit points as I expect that you will get some questions wrong on every quiz.

Each quiz may have a short essay take home question assigned to it. If a short short answer question is assigned, the question will be distributed on the Friday prior to the identification part of the quiz and the answer due before the ID quiz starts on Tuesday.

Grades will be assigned on the following scale:

- 90-99: A
- 80-89: B
- 70-79: C
- 65-69: D
- 00-65: F
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Depending on the difficulty of the exams and the performance of the class this scale may be adjusted downward during the semester. Plus or minus grades will be assigned for scores within 2 points of the transition.

## **Attendance**

This is an upper division course and I assume you want to be in class and learn the material.

## **Open Lab**

Because we are studying the microscopic anatomy, you must study the glass slides in your slide box using the compound microscope in the lab, Room 258 TNR. You will be sharing this room with Biol. 387 human Anatomy students. You can view the current schedule for this room on the [TNR258 schedule](#) page. Any time class is not in session, the room should be unlocked and available for study. See Dr. Schmitz or another Biology faculty member if it is locked.

[Dr. Robert J. Schmitz](#)

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Schedule of Topics for Biol. 373

Comparative Vertebrate Histology

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This list of topics is meant to be a guide to the subjects that will be studied in the course.  
As the course progresses this list will vary slightly depending on the needs of the students enrolled.

week of semester	Topics	Rental Text reading R= Ross & Pawlina W=Wheater CM=Cross & Mercer
WK 1	What is Histology? / Survey of the systems of the body The Cell: Ultrastructure of the nucleus and cytoplasm Lec: Tissues / Classification Epithelia	R Chapters 1, 2, 3 W Chapters 1, 2 CM Chapter 1
WK 2	Simple Epithelia Stratified Epithelia and Glands Lec: Connective Tissue Proper	R Chapter 5 W Chapter 5 CM Chapter 2
WK 3	<b>Quiz 1</b> / Connective Tissue Proper Adipose Tissue Lec: Specialized Connective Tissue	R Chapters 6, 9 W Chapters 4 CM Chapters 3
WK 4	Cartilage Bone Lec: Muscle	R Chapters 7, 8 W Chapters 10 CM Chapters 3
WK 5	<b>Quiz 2</b> / Muscle: Skeletal Muscle: Cardiac and Smooth Lec: Nervous Tissue	R Chapters 11 W Chapters 6 CM Chapters 4
WK 6	Nervous Tissue, Peripheral Brain and Spinal Cord Lec: Circulatory System	R Chapters 12 W Chapters 7, 20 CM Chapters 5

WK 7	<b>Quiz 3</b> / Blood Vessels : Arteries and Veins Heart Review for Midterm Exam	R Chapters 13 W Chapters 8 CM Chapters 6
WK 8	Review for Midterm Exam <b>Midterm Lab Exam</b> <b>Midterm Written Exam</b>	
WK 9	Skin Oral Tissues	R Chapters 15, 16 W Chapters 9, 13 CM Chapters 10,
WK 10	<b>Quiz 4</b> / Digestive Tract Glands of the Digestive Tract	R Chapters 17,18 W Chapters 14,15 CM Chapters 11, 12
WK 11	Respiratory System Urinary System Tuesday Quiz 4	R Chapters 19, 20 W Chapters 12,16 CM Chapters 13, 14
WK 12	<b>Quiz 5</b> / Male Reproductive System Female Reproductive System	R Chapters 22, 23 W Chapters 18, 19 CM Chapters 16
WK 13	Blood, Hematopoiesis Lymphoid Organs Tuesday Quiz 5	R Chapters 10,14 W Chapters 3, 11 CM Chapters 7, 8
WK 14	<b>Quiz 6</b> / Endocrine Glands Special Senses: Eye and Ear	R Chapters 21, 24, 25 W Chapters 17, 21 CM Chapters 9, 17
WK 15	Review for Final <b>Comprehensive Lab Final</b>	
Finals WK	<b>Written Final</b>	

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