Course Objectives

Clinical Toxicology 1 is a 3-credit course that provides students with knowledge about the toxic effects of a number of important therapeutic drug classes. Specifically, the course will cover the cardiovascular principles and which important drug classes are commonly involved with toxic side effects that might present to healthcare professionals. A number of medications used for the treatment of neurological and psychiatric disorders is also commonly associated with a wide range of toxic effects that require immediate attention in a clinical setting. Also, inherently linked to toxicity is the use of antibiotics and chemotherapeutics which display a number of specific toxic effects. We aim to supplement this information with frequent case studies, detailed module objectives and critical thinking exercises using online journal articles and assignment for each module.

The objective of this course is to familiarize students with the procedures for using WWW resources for communication and educational purposes and to introduce students to the principles, concepts and terminology utilized in the field of clinical toxicology. At the completion of this course students should:

- understand the basic principles fluid, electrolyte and acid-base balance
- be able to describe the different approaches to antidotal therapy and treatment of the poisoned patient,
- understand cardiovascular principles and how each of the drug classes influences the cardiovascular system,
- be able to identify the class of cardiovascular drug based on the symptoms and which actions have to be taken to treat the patient,
- understand neurological and psychiatric principles and which drug classes are associated with which effects on the patient,
- be able to identify the class of CNS drug based on the symptoms and which actions have to be taken to treat the patient,
- understand ophthalmic and otolaryngologic principles and which drug classes may be associated with toxicities to the ear, nose, and throat as well as the eyes, and
• be able to differentiate among the various antibiotic and chemotherapeutic drug classes.
• understand the various approaches of treating a patient after overdoses or poisoned by an antibiotic or chemotherapeutic.

Module Topics

Module 1: Fluid, Electrolyte, and Acid-Base Principles
Module 2: Antidotal Therapy
Module 3: Cardiovascular Principles
Module 4: Calcium Channel Blockers and Beta-Adrenergic Antagonists
Module 5: Neurologic and Psychiatric Principles
Module 6: Antipsychotics, Lithium, Cyclic Antidepressants
Module 7: Monoamine Oxidase Inhibitors, Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors and Atypical Antidepressants
Module 8: Sedative-Hypnotics
Module 9: Narcotic Analgesics and NSAIDs
Module 10: Otolaryngologic and Ophthalmic Principles
Module 11: Anesthetics
Module 12: Antibiotics and Chemotherapeutics

Getting Started

To get started, briefly introduce yourself via the bulletin board then go to the first module. Read through the course content and any required reading listed in the module introduction. Once you are familiar with the material, complete the assignment and quiz (where applicable). Do not hesitate to contact your teaching assistant (TA) or instructor at any time if you need guidance; if you are unsure about the focus of the assignment; if you have assignment questions or questions relating to the course content or quiz (where applicable). If you do not tell us you need help, we cannot help you.

Required Textbooks

Casarett & Doull's Toxicology: The Basic Science of Poisons
Author: Curtis D. Klaassen
ISBN-10: 0071470514

Goodman & Gilman's The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics
Author: Laurence L. Brunton, Bruce A. Chabner, Bjorn Christian Knollmann
## Revision and Notes

As you go through the semester, keep copies of important emails, bulletins and assignments you may use for revision as these will be purged from the course at the end of the semester. We recommend you make a copy of the course modules since this will be the only access you will get to these materials. We will not be able to provide you with copies of course content once the course is removed from your account.

## Communication: Email and Bulletin/Discussion Board

Communication is a central part of all of our courses. Please take advantage of email and bulletin board whenever you have a question about the course content, assignments, quizzes (where applicable), or anything else related to the course. We want to provide all of our students with the best opportunity to learn and are always available to answer your questions. Please never hesitate to contact your course instructor and TA if you have questions.

**EMAIL**

Course Email, not the discussion board, should always be used to contact the faculty or staff if you have a problem of a personal nature.

**For technical assistance do not contact the UF HELP Desk. Please contact** (dess@ahc.ufl.edu), **for IT support for this course in addition to your course instructor.**

If you are having technical problems with the course content (downloads, etc.) or you are unable to access your course interface, please contact us directly, and please do not spend hours trying to get something to work as this will only lead to frustration. We do not want any of you to be offline for any length of time. Contact us as soon as you can so we can check it out and help you. If you are experiencing difficulty with your access to course email then please email your course instructor directly via regular email. In that email, make sure you give your name and the name of your course. External instructor email addresses are listed for each course separately.

Please respond to all emails from your instructor or TA. When we email you we are usually contacting you because we want to help you.
If you have a question about your grade, a quiz (where applicable), or assignment question, please email us and we’ll be happy to help you.

DISCUSSION FORUM

The course bulletin board can be used to post content related questions and assignment materials when necessary. Please ask us questions any time; we are here to help you. Please do not use the discussion forum to ask specific questions about your current course content, assignments etc.

It is VERY important that you read all the discussion bulletins that have been posted. We will use this site to post important information relating to content or quiz (where applicable) changes, deadlines etc. Since postings can accumulate quickly, please login each day to stay on top of these postings or you may miss important information.

Please make sure you do not post assignments that are supposed to be submitted to the assignment drop box. If you accidentally do, email us as soon as you can and we will delete it for you.

Course Assignments

The assignments are listed on the first page of each module. You should consider the assignment questions as you read through the module content.

**Required Materials:** Students must comply with the UF Computer and Software Requirement. Please see the website for your respective program for further information.

Assignment Deadlines and Important Course Dates

The courses do not have a midterm or final exam. Students are evaluated continuously throughout the semester and graded according to their performance in the course module assignments and quizzes (where applicable). All modules have a written assignment and some have additionally timed quizzes that must be completed by the assignment deadline for the corresponding module.

All written assignments must be completed in your own words. Cutting and pasting from the internet is not acceptable and may be considered to be plagiarism. Failure to complete an assignment in your own words may result in you receiving a score of zero for the written assignment.

When it comes to grading, both written assignments and quizzes (where applicable) are weighted equally.
For courses that have timed quizzes: if you lose your internet connection during your quiz and scores are not recorded simply email us and we can help you.

When sending course assignments, include your name and please make sure your assignments are labeled clearly. Assignments should be submitted using the assignment drop box. If you have difficulty with the drop box email your instructor and teaching assistant - we will work with you to troubleshoot the problem. Assignment feedback will also be provided via the assignment drop box, so students should check back to the drop box feature in the appropriate module to receive feedback and the assignment grade.

Always keep a copy of your course assignments in case you need to resend it. Also, you may want it for revision purposes later.

For Assignment deadlines - see the course calendar

For other important dates, consult the UF Calendar of Critical Dates (Links to an external site.) and http://www.registrar.ufl.edu (Links to an external site.)

### Grading

Students will be graded on written assignments and module quizzes (where applicable). The final grade will be based on the student’s cumulative score divided by the total number of available points. The resulting percentage will be converted to a letter grade based on the scale below.

Students will receive individual feedback on points lost on the assignments. The comments of the TA or professor can be viewed on the assignment submission page for the corresponding module.

Students can check their progress in the course by viewing their grade records via the course interface.

Canberra and Edinburgh grades will be assigned as per the policies and procedures within your university.

Grades will be assigned as follows:

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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90% or Above</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>88 - 89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>85 - 87%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80 - 84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>78 - 79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>75 - 77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70 - 74%</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>68 - 69%</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>65 - 67%</td>
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<td>D</td>
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**Makeup Policy:** Make up assignments are not usually given, but may be at the discretion of the course instructor after evaluation of the circumstances leading to the request.

**Grade Changes:** Grades will be changed only when a grading error has been made. If you think an error has been made, you should email the instructor or TA as soon as possible. Your entire assignment will then be re-graded.

**Instructional Policies**

This course is part of the distance education program at the University of Florida. Instead of traditional lecture format, the medium for communication between course instructors, teaching assistants and students will be via Canvas, a user-friendly web-based classroom management tool, and the World Wide Web.

**Attendance:** Students must participate in the bulletin board discussions, and are required to visit the course website daily for important updates and bulletins.

**Class Participation:** Students are expected to constructively join in bulletin board discussions, with appropriate preparation; to post interesting and relevant information on the class bulletin board, and to interact professionally with their classmates.

**Performance Expectations:** Students are expected to produce quality work of a standard comparable to any graduate level didactic course. Bulletin postings and discussions must be legible, constructive and appropriate. Students are required to think for themselves and will be expected to complete assignments that require the application of logic and reasoning skills when the answer may not be found in a book or the course notes.

**Academic Honesty:** All students are expected to abide by the student honor code. To review the student honor code read the information on standards of ethical Conduct at: [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcodes/honorcode.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcodes/honorcode.php) (Links to an external site.)

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism includes any attempt to take credit for another person’s work. This includes quoting directly from a book or web site, without crediting the source. Sources should always be referenced or a link to the website added and, where direct quotes have
been used, quotation marks must be placed around the quoted material. However, we expect
more than simply cutting and pasting in a graduate level course. Students are expected to
review, evaluate and comment on material they research, rather than simply copying relevant
material. Your work will be graded accordingly.

**Assignments:** Each module includes an assignment that has a due date posted on the
Course Calendar. While we understand that our students have other work and personal
commitments, we expect every effort to be made to meet these deadlines. If for some reason,
because of circumstances beyond your control, you are unable to meet an assignment
deadline, students should e-mail the professor and explain the situation in advance. If no
prior communication occurred, the instructor may deduct points for late submission at their
discretion or as stated in the course overview and/or communicated via the discussion board.
Being consistently late in submitting assignments disrupts the discussion of topics on the
bulletin board and will therefore result in loss of marks for that assignment up to a full letter
grade. If you email us we will work with you around the deadline.

If you have outstanding assignments at the end of the semester we will send you a follow up
email as a reminder and as a means to determine your plans for completion. If you do not
respond to us before the final day of classes you will be assigned a grade based on the
completed assignments.

**Incomplete grades:** Under special circumstances, if a student is unable to finish a course
before the end of the semester we may be able to assign an incomplete grade. An incomplete
grade is a non-punitive grade assigned at the discretion of the course instructor. In this
course an incomplete grade may be assigned if 1/3rd or more of the course assignments have
been completed and if the student has remained in communication with TA’s and instructors
throughout the course, or has made an effort to request an incomplete grade. If an incomplete
grade is assigned, outstanding assignments and quizzes must be completed by the end of the
next semester. If the assignments are not completed in this time you will be assigned a grade
based on the completed assignments.

**Drop Dates:** Consult the UF Calendar of Critical Dates at [UF Calendar of Critical
Dates (Links to an external site.)](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/). Students must inform us that they are withdrawing from a
course to ensure appropriate tuition reimbursement. Deleting yourself from the course roster
does not officially withdraw you from a course.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** Students requesting course
accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students
Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation
to the instructor when requesting accommodation. For more information please go to the
Dean of Students Office website, [http://www.dso.ufl.edu/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/).