

Mayville State University

BIOL 221 – Anatomy and Physiology II Lecture

Fall 2025
3 Credit Hours

Course and Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Joseph Mehus

Contact Information:

Office: SB 134

Email: joseph.mehus@mayvillestate.edu

Work phone: 701.788.4802

Hours of Availability:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 11 am

Tuesday: 10am-2pm by appointment

Instructional Mode: Online asynchronous

Course Dates: August 25 – December 19, 2025

Time Zone: All times indicated throughout this syllabus reflect Central Time (CT).

Course Materials and Technologies

Required

[MSU Technology Requirements](#)

Computer that meets the Technology requirements above

Textbook: Visual Anatomy and Physiology 3rd Edition, Martini, 2018

24/7 internet access

MS Office

Webcam with microphone

Printer (students will be required to print/complete some items)

Camera/cell phone to take clear images

Recommended

Notebook and pencil are the best ways to take notes while watching the lecture videos. Students need to have course materials by the start of the semester. Not having course materials is not an acceptable reason for not completing assignments and no credit will be awarded for missed assignments.

Use of Artificial Intelligence in this Course

AI will not be used during this course and is not a suitable way for students to answer questions. Use of AI will result in a score of zero for the assignment, and possibly for the course.

Mayville State University

Course Description

Three lecture hours per week. The study of anatomy and physiology of the human body will be studied as an integrated topic. This is the second course of a two course sequence. Topics which will be covered include the nervous, endocrine, digestive/metabolism, urinary, and reproductive systems. Elements of development and growth, and of human genetics will also be considered.

Pre-/Co-requisites: Pre-requisite: BIOL BIOL 111 or BIOL 150, CHEM 121 are all highly recommended. Co-requisite: BIOL 221L – Anatomy and Physiology II Lab.

Course Objectives

To successfully complete this course, the learner will be expected to meet the following objectives, as aligned to Health Education Program Approval Standards through North Dakota's Education Standards and Practices Board ([ND ESPB](#)):

- Learner will understand the organization and functioning of the nervous system
- Learner will be able to explain the processes associated with the special senses
- Learner will be able to identify the organization and functioning of the endocrine organs, including the functions of major hormones
- Learner will be able to explain, identify, and describe the organization and function of the digestive system including the roles of different nutrients, regions of the digestive system, and hormones/enzymes associated with the digestive system
- Learner will be able to explain, identify, and describe the organization and function of the excretory system, especially the function of the kidney in the production of urine
- Learner will be able to explain, identify, and describe the organization and function of both male and female reproductive systems, including the processes of spermatogenesis, oogenesis, ovulation, menstruation, childbirth, and lactation

Standards Alignment (Health Education Program Approval Standards-ND ESPB):

- Component 1.a: Candidates demonstrate knowledge acquisition in multiple health content areas.
- Component 1.b: Candidates describe the theoretical foundations of human development, learning and health behavior.

Course Expectations

Instructor/Student Communication

Students are accountable for all academic communications sent to their Mayville State University email address. Email is the primary and preferred method of contact. My email address is provided at the top of the syllabus. I check my email regularly during the work week and will likely respond within 24-48 hours. Email is not checked after work hours or on weekends, so please plan accordingly and do not think I am ignoring you. Emailing the day something is due and expecting immediate feedback is likely not in the best interest of the student.

If you choose to call my office (number at the top of this document) please leave a detailed message including which class, which item in the content area, and student name, and I will respond via email as

Mayville State University

it is the preferred method of contact and we also have a paper trail of our conversation. Phone messages are not checked during the evenings nor on weekends.

Students are REQUIRED to use their Mayville State University email address for correspondence. If you email from an outside network email address, faculty are not responsible for missed messages as they may be filtered out of the inbox. As an instructor I will only email you from my MSU email address or from other university platforms (ConnectND or Blackboard). You need to check your MSU email account daily as well as check announcements in the course daily as that is our main method of communication.

Assignments and Assessments

As a student of BIOL 221, I expect that you:

- Fully review/read the course syllabus and go to it if you have questions before asking the instructor;
- Fully complete the activities/quizzes/reviews for each chapter...this includes reading the chapters and watching video postings, watching lecture videos, and completing exams all by the due dates.
- Check your university email as well as check for announcements within the course shell every single day.

As the instructor of BIOL 221, you should expect of me that I:

- Clearly provide you a syllabus and disclose course activity due dates for each section of content
- Create a classroom environment that supports your understanding of content;
- Fairly grade assignments and exams

Activity Assignments: Activity assignments are required assignments that are in place to help students retain and absorb content information. Each student needs to complete their own activities by themselves, no group/partner work is accepted. Each activity will vary in terms of what needs to be done to complete the assignment. Some activities focus on vocabulary; others may focus on concept maps or even structure/function identification. Each assignment will have varying numbers of points based upon depth of the activity. For these activities, students may use their books or (when addressed) online resources. Students must complete all these activities before the due dates. After the due dates, the activities may disappear from Blackboard and access will be terminated. NO late work is accepted unless documentation of a university excused absence is provided.

Chapter Reviews: Chapter reviews are required assignments in this course. You may use your book, lecture PowerPoints, and the textbook to complete. The question types vary for each review. These are due at their predetermined due dates and will NOT be accepted late unless a student provides a UNIVERSITY EXCUSED ABSENCE AND DOCUMENTATION BEFORE THE DUE DATE. These will contain helpful information to prepare for exams but are NOT the only thing that should be used to prepare for exams. The bonus study guides provide additional test information, but anything covered in the lecture videos and textbook could appear on exams. These are only tools to help you prepare. Answers for chapter reviews will only be provided AFTER the due date to eliminate potential academic dishonesty.

Bonus Study Guides: Study guides should be completed after you have read the chapter. What I'd like from each of you is to fill out the study guide and submit them for credit. Each study guide will be worth up to 2 bonus points. Explain to me what each section means. When the study guide says "Understand..." or "Explain..." you are expected to describe that concept in full, complete sentences. Unless specifically asked to list something, you should not list anything. I am not looking for a 10-page paper, only the basics from the chapter/lecture video for each idea on the study guide. Tell me what you have read from the textbook (of course in your own words). I have read the textbook, so I want you to let me know you

Mayville State University

comprehend the material. Each student is REQUIRED to produce their own study guides (making sure to use the template provided, any materials used from a previous student or current student will earn zero points). Do not delete or manipulate the format of the study guide except to enter your answers and change the font color of your responses. No study guide should be the exact same as any other student in the course as this would be plagiarism. Plagiarism will result in a zero score. Any content found to be copied from the internet, textbook, or another student is also plagiarism. EVERYTHING IN YOUR OWN WORDS. You will need to put that information into examples that make sense TO YOU. This will make your study guides unique to you and help YOU study for the exams. You paid for the information in the text; you did not pay to take those words as your own. Partial credit for incomplete study guides may be given at the discretion of the instructor. Study guides contain a large amount of test information/ideas/concepts. It is at the students' discretion if they want to take the time to complete them. Study guides need to be submitted by the deadline. Dropbox's for study guides will be removed after the due date. NO late work is accepted. Even if students do not earn bonus points, these study guides are a HUGE benefit when completed. Because they are bonus points, not completing a study guide does not negatively affect your overall grade, doing them can only improve your grade.

Quizzes: Each quiz (one for each chapter) will be posted and available for you in Blackboard when released by the instructor at their discretion (online: these are available as you finish content). You should fill out the 5-question quiz after you have filled out the study guide for each chapter. Quizzes are worth 5 points each. The questions on each of these quizzes are from the content in the chapter specified and lecture videos. You may use your books to fill out these quizzes. They are NOT timed so take your time to look up the answers. Quizzes not completed by the deadline given in the classroom or schedule will not be reopened.

Exams: Exams will be open to each of you as you complete and submit both the activity assignments for each chapter and each of the quizzes from the unit. You should NOT take the exam before submitting each of these components for each chapter. So, you will need to submit study guides and quizzes for chapters 11 & 12 before the exam for unit one will open for you. You can take exams early if you have submitted the previous items. Exams will be administered online. No physical proctor is needed for exams; however, students will be required to use the MSU provided proctoring tool in Blackboard to record exams. At the end of the semester there is one final, cumulative exam for the course that contains questions based on course content. No accommodation is provided to students unless student has worked through the Student Success Office Director.

Evaluation and Grading

Grading Policies

All deadlines for the course are 5pm CST on the due date provided in syllabus schedule by the instructor. If a student does not attend a lecture or does not keep track of the deadlines it will result in missed activities/quizzes/exams. Late materials are not accepted. Students can expect a 2-week turn around period for activities submitted.

There are no bonus points in this course besides the study guides. Students earn their points throughout the semester and cannot "go back" to redo old/missed assignments and/or study guides.

Mayville State University

Attendance/Participation Policies

Students are expected to attend all lecture days, for online students, this means watching all lecture videos. There are no points simply for coming to class.

Grading Scale

Course grades will be calculated out of total course points.

You will earn a letter grade based on your total points earned out of the possible total points (percentage). Total point percentages will be carried out to the tenths place value and rounded to the nearest whole number for the final grade (≥ 0.5 is rounded up). Your percentage will determine your final grade.

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- 0-59% = F

Breakdown of Grades

Chapter Reviews (10)	100 points
Activities/Assignments (20)	198 points
Quizzes (10)	50 points
Exams (6)	850 points (not evenly distributed)
Total Points	1198 points

Enrollment Verification

Online Course Statement

The U.S. Department of Education requires instructors of online courses to provide an activity which will validate student enrollment in this course. The only way to verify that a student has been in this course is if he, she, or they perform an action in the LMS, such as completing an assignment(s) or taking a quiz. Logging into the LMS is **NOT** considered active course participation. Please complete the designated enrollment verification activities by the date indicated. If it is not complete your enrollment in this course will be at risk.

Proctor Notification

This course will use an asynchronous proctoring solution called YuJa.

Mayville State University

Important Student Information

In the Announcements section of the Blackboard Institution Page, you can view and download the Important Student Information document for the current academic year. It includes information about:

- ✓ Land Acknowledgement Statement
- ✓ Academic Grievance Concerns and Instructor English Proficiency
- ✓ NetTutor - Online Tutoring Program
- ✓ Starfish - Student Success System
- ✓ Students with Documented Disabilities
- ✓ Student Learning Outcomes / Essential Learning Outcomes
- ✓ Academic Honesty
- ✓ Emergency Notification
- ✓ Continuity of Academic Instruction for a Pandemic or Emergency
- ✓ Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA)
- ✓ Diversity Statement (Title IX)

Course Timeline/Schedule

This schedule is tentative and may be changed by the instructor at any time during the course. All due dates end at 5pm CST on the dates listed below. Enrollment verifications must be completed before any coursework folders open. Online students are allowed to work ahead of deadlines. Once work for a chapter is completed, the next section will open. If something does not open, please let the instructor know immediately. Quizzes may also be referenced as chapter questions.

Topic	Due Date	Required Item Checklist
Enrollment Verification	9/2/25	Enrollment Verifications
Nervous Tissue	9/16/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Activity 1○ Activity 2○ Review○ Study Guide○ Quiz
Spinal Cord, Spinal Nerves, and Spinal Reflexes	9/23/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Activity 3○ Activity 4○ Review○ Study Guide○ Quiz
Exam 1	9/25/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Exam

Mayville State University

The Brain and Cranial Nerves & Sensory and Motor Pathways	9/30/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 5 ○ Activity 6 ○ Review ○ Study Guide ○ Quiz
The Autonomic Nervous System	10/7/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 7 ○ Activity 8 ○ Review ○ Study Guide ○ Quiz
Exam 2	10/9/25	○ Exam
The Special Senses	10/14/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 9 ○ Activity 10 ○ Review ○ Study Guide ○ Quiz
The Endocrine System	10/21/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 11 ○ Activity 12 ○ Review ○ Study Guide ○ Quiz
Exam 3	10/23/25	○ Exam
The Digestive System	10/28/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 13 ○ Activity 14 ○ Review ○ Study Guide ○ Quiz
The Urinary System	11/4/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 15 ○ Activity 16

Mayville State University

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review ○ Study Guide ○ Quiz
Exam 4	11/6/24	○ Exam
The Reproductive System	11/18/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 17 ○ Activity 18 ○ Review ○ Study Guide ○ Quiz
Development and Inheritance	11/25/25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Activity 19 ○ Activity 20 ○ Review ○ Study Guide ○ Quiz
Exam 5	12/2/25	○ Exam
Comprehensive Final	12/15/25	○ Exam

The best way to work your way through this course is to

follow this setup/line up for each unit:

- 1) **Read the chapter**
- 2) **Watch the lecture video/fill out study guide and submit for bonus points before due date**
- 3) **Complete Activities and Chapter Review using your required textbook**
- 4) **Make sure to take each chapter quiz and use your book**
- 5) **Do the above steps for each chapter in the unit.**
- 6) **Before the exam reread and rewatch lecture videos especially for difficult topics/concepts**
- 7) **Take the exam in a quiet, distraction free space.**