



CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
GRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE

COURSE TITLE:			
Course	MDSC 750.01 Pathologists' Assistant Research Project 1		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Must be registered in the Pathologists' Assistant Master's Graduate program or the Pathologists' Assistant specialization of the Medical Sciences graduate program. Consent of instructor is required for all other students.		
Faculty	Cumming School of Medicine, Graduate Science Education		
Instructor Name(s)	Kyle Kurek Bill Gorday	Email	kyle.kurek@ucalgary.ca Bill.Gorday@albertaprecisionlabs.ca
Office Location	ACH B3.721	Office Hours	Monday-Friday 8-4
Instructor Email Policy			
Telephone No.	403-955-7477 (Kurek)/ 403-944-6696 (Gorday)		
TA Name		Email	
Class Term, Days	2020-09-08 to 2020-12-09		
Class Times	Mondays, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM		
Class Location	Location varies depending on individual projects. Projects are conducted at AHS/APL hospital sites and not on the University of Calgary campus facilities. Projects will require both online/offsite independent learning and research as well as onsite participation, with a maximum of 2 students on a project. Group meetings and presentations will be done online in accordance with University policies.		

COURSE INFORMATION/DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE
Students work on research projects provided by pathologists and/or clinical colleagues over the course of the Fall and Winter terms (MDSC 750.01 and MDSC 750.02). This gives the student practical research experience, encourages independent thought and collaboration with medical professionals. The student is expected to write a research proposal and participate in the research project during MDSC 750.01 and present their findings to colleagues at the Anatomic Pathology continuing medical education rounds at the end of MDSC 750.02.
LEARNING RESOURCES/REQUIRED READING
Dependent on the individual project, but encompassing: (1) understanding necessary scientific and statistical methods needed to complete the research project, (2) becoming proficient in technical



aspects of the project, and (3) acquiring the clinical and scientific understanding necessary for the scope of the project.

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COURSE OBJECTIVES/LEARNING OUTCOMES

During the course the student will:

1. Review and critique background literature on their research topic
2. Collaborate with their research supervisor and other medical professionals
3. Formulate a research proposal
4. Follow through with the objectives outlined in their proposal
5. Manage their project under the guidance of the research supervisor
6. Summarize the project findings and present them to their peers

CUT POINTS FOR GRADES

This course adheres to the grading system outlined in the University of Calgary, Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar. Grades of A+ and A are not distinguished in the calculation of GPAs. Percentage/letter grade conversion used for this course is as follows

Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage Conversion	Graduate Description
A+	4.00	95-100	Outstanding
A	4.00	85-94	Excellent – superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	80-84	Very Good Performance
B+	3.30	75-79	Good Performance
B	3.00	70-74	Satisfactory Performance
B-	2.70	65-69	Minimum Pass for Students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	55-64	All grades below ‘B-’ are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements
C	2.00	50-54	



Assessment Components: The University policy on grading related matters is outlined in the [2019-2020 Calendar](#).

Assessment Methods	Description	Weight %	Due Date and Time
Project Proposal	Formal written proposal for research project	50	2020-12-09 16:00
Project participation	Performance and documentation of research	50	2020-12-09 16:00

ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS:

The course taken concurrently with the second year of the Pathologists' Assistant Master's graduate program, and 20% effort (Mondays) is expected.

The participation mark is assigned by the project supervisor based on the student effort and their ability to manage the objectives of their project on time. The student is expected to keep a project notebook that outlines the work they are doing on the project with corresponding dates that the activities were done. The supervisor will use the notebook, ability to meet project goals on time and perceived effort during the project to assign a grade based on the University of Calgary grade description (above). For example, if a student completes the project proposal and all project goals before the expected dates, keeps a detailed project notebook and exceeds the expectations of the supervisor then this would warrant an "Outstanding (A+)" or "Excellent (A)" grade. If the student completes the project proposal and project goals on time but not ahead of time, keeps a detailed notebook and exceeds or meets the expectations of the supervisor then this would warrant a "Very Good Performance (A-)" or "Good Performance (B+)". If the student completes the project proposal and project goals but is slightly behind schedule, keeps an acceptable project notebook, and meets the expectations of the supervisor then this would warrant a "Satisfactory Performance (B)". The supervisor will communicate their mark and comments to the course director, as well as discuss any unexpected or problematic situations as they arise.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ASSIGNMENTS:

The final written project proposal will be submitted to the research supervisor and course instructors. Additional task-related assignments will be coordinated between students and their project supervisors.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS:

None.

EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITING:

The project proposal is the formal requirement for the course. This should include a review of the background literature, summary of the project questions and hypothesis, proposed research design and methods, and discussion of the expected outcome and clinical relevance.

LATE AND/OR MISSING ASSIGNMENTS:



The submission dates for the project proposal are flexible due to variation that exists between different projects; however, the proposal must be submitted before the end of MDSC 750.01 (end of Fall term).

Is a passing grade on a particular component essential to pass the course as a whole?

COURSE TIMETABLE			
Course Schedule Date	Topic & Reading	Instructor	Assignments/Due Dates & Times
2020-09-08 to 2020-12-09	Variable, depending on project	Individual instructors are assigned based on project chosen	Background reading completed and project proposal submitted before end of Fall term.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICE INFORMATION

Cell phones must be turned off in class unless otherwise arranged with the instructor.

The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Students are to refrain from accessing websites that may be distracting for fellow learners (e.g. personal emails, Facebook, YouTube). Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communicationspolicy.pdf>.

MEDIA AND RECORDING IN LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Media recording for lesson capture

The instructor may use media recordings to capture the delivery of a lecture. These recordings are intended to be used for lecture capture only and will not be used for any other purpose. Although the recording device will be fixed on the Instructor, in the event that incidental student participation is recorded, the instructor will



ensure that any identifiable content (video or audio) is masked, or will seek consent to include the identifiable student content to making the content available on University approved platforms.

Media recording for assessment of student learning

The instructor may use media recordings as part of the assessment of students. This may include but is not limited to classroom discussions, presentations, clinical practice, or skills testing that occur during the course. These recordings will be used for student assessment purposes only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.

Media recording for self-assessment of teaching practices

The instructor may use media recordings as a tool for self-assessment of their teaching practices. Although the recording device will be fixed on the instructor, it is possible that student participation in the course may be inadvertently captured. These recordings will be used for instructor self-assessment only and will not be used for any other purpose.

Student Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures is prohibited except where explicit permission has been received from the instructor.

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY POLICIES AND SUPPORTS

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Any research in which students are invited to participate will be explained in class and approved by the appropriate University Research Ethics Board

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION



All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The Cumming School of Medicine expects intellectual honesty from its students. Course participants should be aware of University policies relating to Principles of Conduct, Plagiarism and Academic Integrity. These are found in the printed Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar, or online under Academic Regulations in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar, available at [Faculty of Graduate Studies Academic Regulations](#)

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

For information on academic misconduct and its consequences, please see the University of Calgary Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

EMERGENCY EVACUATION AND ASSEMBLY POINTS

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. The primary assembly points for South Campus (Health Science Centre (HSC); Health & Research Innovation Centre (HRIC); Heritage Medical Research Building (HMRB) and Teaching, Research and Wellness (TRW)) are:

- HSC and HMRB: HRIC Atrium (alternate assembly point is Parking Lot 6)
- HRIC: HMRB Atrium (alternate assembly point is Parking Lot 6)
- TRW: McCaig Tower (alternate assembly point is HMRB – Atrium)

APPEALS

If there is a concern with the course, academic matter or a grade, first communicate with the instructor. If these concerns cannot be resolved, students can proceed with an academic appeal, as per Section N of the Faculty of Graduate Studies Calendar. Students must follow the official process and should contact the Student Ombuds Office (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>) for assistance with this and with any other academic concerns, including academic and non-academic misconduct

THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP) and students should identify themselves on written assignments (exams and term work.) by their name and ID number on the front page and ID on each subsequent page. Assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your expressed permission to the instructor. Grades will be made available on an individual basis and students will not have access to other students' grades without expressed consent. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission

WELLNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where



individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre), <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services> and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>

SUPPORTS FOR STUDENT LEARNING, SUCCESS, AND SAFETY

Student Ombudsman: The Student Ombuds' Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca

Student Union: The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>

Graduate Student's Association: The GSA Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220- 5997 or gsa.vpa@ucalgary.ca; Information about the GSA can be found here: <https://gsa.ucalgary.ca>

SAFEWALK

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.