COURSE & CONTACT INFORMATION

Credits: 2  
Meeting Day: Thursday  
Meeting Time: 4:00 – 6:00 pm  
Meeting Place: 1155 Mayo

Instructor: Lisa Peterson  
Email: peter431@umn.edu  
Office Phone: 612-626-0164  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Office Location: Rm 2-126 CCRB; 2233 6th St SE

Instructor: Elizabeth Wattenberg  
Email: watte004@umn.edu  
Office Phone: 612-626-0184  
Office Hours: By appointment  
Office Location: Rm 1110 Mayo Building

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on the development and application of Adverse Outcome Pathways as a framework for integrating existing knowledge to construct a biological pathway that links molecular initiating events induced by chemicals and classes of chemicals with specific adverse outcomes, such as cancer, neurotoxicity, and reproductive and developmental toxicity. This course requires students to read and critically analyze and interpret current primary literature in toxicology, and integrate the information to develop and analyze adverse outcome pathways.

COURSE PREREQUISITES

PubH 6159, PubH 6160, one course in biochemistry and one course in molecular biology; or permission of instructors

COURSE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

By the end of the semester, students will be able to:

- Explain the basic principles of the development and application of Adverse Outcome Pathways
- Develop strategies to investigate issues in toxicology by integrating publically available data to develop an Adverse Outcome Pathway
- Conduct a literature search to identify key studies for use in the development of Adverse Outcome Pathways
- Read and analyze primary literature in toxicology
- Critically analyze experimental design and interpret data
- Apply toxicology principles learned in other courses to real world research questions
- Make scientific presentations to an educated audience
METHODS OF INSTRUCTION AND WORK EXPECTATIONS

This course involves a combination of lectures, student presentations, and extensive independent research that takes place outside of the classroom. Students can meet with instructors outside of class to discuss questions on independent research and assignments.

**Project 1. You will be assigned to analyze either AOP 15: Alkylation of DNA in male pre-meiotic germ cells leading to heritable mutations or AOP 38: Protein Alkylation leading to Liver Fibrosis.**

[https://aopwiki.org/aops/15](https://aopwiki.org/aops/15) or [https://aopwiki.org/aops/38](https://aopwiki.org/aops/38)

- September 5: Assignment instructions will be discussed in class and posted on the Moodle site
- September 12: Written part of the assignment is due by the beginning of class (15 points)
- September 19: Receive assignment for presentation part of the assignment
- October 3: Give 20 min presentations in class (15 points)

**Project 2: Develop an AOP for a chemical or class of chemicals of your choice, and present it to the class.**

- September 5: Assignment instructions will be discussed in class and posted on the Moodle site
- September 19: Submit choice of chemical or class of chemicals by the beginning of class
- October 10: Outline of AOP and list of papers that support each step due (10 points)
- October 24: Give a presentation on the background of the chemical or class of chemicals, and analysis of adverse outcomes (15 points)
- November 7: Give a presentation on the analysis of initiating events (15 points)
- November 21: Give a presentation on the analysis of key events (15 points)
- December 5: Give a presentation will be on the overall conclusions and analysis of the AOP (15 points)

**Learning Community**

Many of our courses also ask students to work in teams or discussion groups. We do not come to our courses with identical backgrounds and experiences and building on what we already know about collaborating, listening, and engaging is critical to successful professional, academic, and scientific engagement with topics.

In this course, students are expected to engage with each other in respectful and thoughtful ways.

In group discussion, this can mean:
- Respecting the identities and experiences of your classmates.
- Avoid broad statements and generalizations. Group discussions are another form of academic communication and responses to instructor questions in a group discussion are evaluated. Apply the same rigor to crafting discussion posts as you would for a paper.
- Consider your tone and language, especially when communicating in text format, as the lack of other cues can lead to misinterpretation.

Like other work in the course, all student to student communication is covered by the Student Conduct Code ([https://z.umn.edu/studentconduct](https://z.umn.edu/studentconduct)).
COURSE TEXT & READINGS

OECD Guidance Document on Developing and Assessing Adverse Outcome Pathways
Available at: See Canvas site.

User’s Handbook Supplement to the Guidance Document for Developing and Assessing AOPs
Available at: http://aopkb.org/common/AOP_Handbook.pdf

EPA Adverse Outcome Pathway Factsheet. See Canvas site.

Journal articles available online through the U of M libraries:

Development of an Adverse Outcome Pathway for Acetylcholinesterase Inhibition Leading to Acute Mortality

The Adverse Outcome Pathway Concept: A pragmatic tool in toxicology.

Defining Molecular Initiating Events in the Adverse Outcome Pathway Framework for Risk Assessment.

Adverse Outcome Pathways: A Conceptual Framework to Support Ecotoxicology Research and Risk Assessment

Adverse Outcome Pathway (AOP) Development I: Strategies and Principles

Practical Approaches to Adverse Outcome Pathway Development and Weight-Of-Evidence Evaluation As Illustrated
By Ecotoxicological Case Studies

Quantitative Adverse Outcome Pathways and Their Application to Predictive Toxicology

Additional reviews and readings from the primary literature may be added during the course.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Activities/Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Orientation to class • Overview of Adverse Outcome Pathways • Watch Tox21 video • Receive assignments • Discuss presentation expectations • Explore the AOP list on the AOP WIKI <a href="https://aopwiki.org/aops">https://aopwiki.org/aops</a> • Introduction to effective searching for scientific literature • Shanda Hunt, Public Health Library Liaison &amp; Data Curation Specialist, University of Minnesota</td>
<td>OECD Guidance Document on Developing and Assessing Adverse Outcome Pathways • User’s Handbook Supplement to the Guidance Document for Developing and Assessing AOPs • EPA Adverse Outcome Pathway Factsheet</td>
<td>Receive instructions for Projects 1 and 2 • Explore website for Project 1 <a href="https://aopwiki.org/aops/15">https://aopwiki.org/aops/15</a> • Watch the Risk Bites YouTube video: A New Way to Evaluate Chemical Safety - TOX21 <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKhn1HXgn8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKhn1HXgn8</a></td>
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<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Introduction to AOPs • Dan Villeneuve, EPA Introductions to AOPs • Background • Principles of AOP-development • Introduction to the AOP-wiki</td>
<td><strong>Adverse Outcome Pathways: A Conceptual Framework to Support Ecotoxicology Research and Risk Assessment</strong> Ankley, G.T. et al. Environ. Toxicol. Chem., 29: 730–741, 2010. Available online through the U of M libraries</td>
<td>Written part of Project 1 is due by the beginning of class</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>September 19</td>
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| **Case studies in AOP development**  
Carlie LaLone, EPA | **Sequence Alignment to Predict Across Species Susceptibility (SeqAPASS): A web-based tool for addressing the challenges of cross-species extrapolation of chemical toxicity, Lalone, C.A. et al. Toxicol Sci. Jun 30, 2016. Available online through the U of M libraries** |
| • Review of key aspects of WoE assembly for AOPs  
• Strategies and tools to aid AOP development  
  o E.g., EcoTox  
  o E.g., SeqAPASS  
• A couple recent AOP development examples –  
• Case study in quantitative application of AOPs  
• Introduction to AOP networks. | • Receive assignment for the presentation part of Project 1  
• Submit choice of chemical or class of chemicals for Project 2 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>September 26</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Independent work on Project 1 presentations</td>
<td><strong>OECD Guidance Document on Developing and Assessing Adverse Outcome Pathways</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OECD Guidance Document on Developing and Assessing Adverse Outcome Pathways</strong></td>
<td><strong>Develop Project 1 presentations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>October 3</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
<td>October 10</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>October 17</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>October 24</td>
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<td>Week 9</td>
<td>October 31</td>
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<td>Week 10</td>
<td>November 7</td>
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<td>Week 11</td>
<td>November 14</td>
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<td>Week 12</td>
<td>November 21</td>
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<td>Week 13</td>
<td>November 28</td>
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Week 14
December 5

- Overall conclusions and analysis of Project 2 AOP
- Presentation of Project 2 overall conclusions and analysis AOP

SPH AND UNIVERSITY POLICIES & RESOURCES

The School of Public Health maintains up-to-date information about resources available to students, as well as formal course policies, on our website at www.sph.umn.edu/student-policies/. Students are expected to read and understand all policy information available at this link and are encouraged to make use of the resources available.

The University of Minnesota has official policies, including but not limited to the following:

- Grade definitions
- Scholastic dishonesty
- Makeup work for legitimate absences
- Student conduct code
- Sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking and relationship violence
- Equity, diversity, equal employment opportunity, and affirmative action
- Disability services
- Academic freedom and responsibility

Resources available for students include:

- Confidential mental health services
- Disability accommodations
- Housing and financial instability resources
- Technology help
- Academic support

EVALUATION & GRADING

[Enter a detailed statement of the basis for grading here. Include a breakdown of course components and a point system for achieving a particular grade. Include expected turnaround time for grading/feedback. Please refer to the University's Uniform Grading Policy and Grading Rubric Resource at https://z.umn.edu/gradingpolicy]

Grading Scale
The University uses plus and minus grading on a 4.000 cumulative grade point scale in accordance with the following, and you can expect the grade lines to be drawn as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% In Class</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93 - 100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 - 92%</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87 - 89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83 - 86%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 - 82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.667</td>
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<tr>
<td>77 - 79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73 - 76%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70 - 72%</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67 - 69%</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63 - 66%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.000</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; 62%</td>
<td>F</td>
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- A = achievement that is outstanding relative to the level necessary to meet course requirements.
- B = achievement that is significantly above the level necessary to meet course requirements.
- C = achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect.
- D = achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.
- F = failure because work was either (1) completed but at a level of achievement that is not worthy of credit or (2) was not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and the student that the student would be awarded an I (Incomplete).
- S = achievement that is satisfactory, which is equivalent to a C- or better
- N = achievement that is not satisfactory and signifies that the work was either 1) completed but at a level that is not worthy of credit, or 2) not completed and there was no agreement between the instructor and student that the student would receive an I (Incomplete).
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Evaluation/Grading Policy</th>
<th>Evaluation/Grading Policy Description</th>
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<td>Scholastic Dishonesty, Plagiarism, Cheating, etc.</td>
<td>You are expected to do your own academic work and cite sources as necessary. Failing to do so is scholastic dishonesty. Scholastic dishonesty means plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on academic work; taking, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain dishonestly grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement; altering, forging, or misusing a University academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis (As defined in the Student Conduct Code). For additional information, please see <a href="https://z.umn.edu/dishonesty">https://z.umn.edu/dishonesty</a>. The Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity has compiled a useful list of Frequently Asked Questions pertaining to scholastic dishonesty: <a href="https://z.umn.edu/integrity">https://z.umn.edu/integrity</a>. If you have additional questions, please clarify with your instructor. Your instructor can respond to your specific questions regarding what would constitute scholastic dishonesty in the context of a particular class-e.g., whether collaboration on assignments is permitted, requirements and methods for citing sources, if electronic aids are permitted or prohibited during an exam. Indiana University offers a clear description of plagiarism and an online quiz to check your understanding (<a href="http://z.umn.edu/iuplagiarism">http://z.umn.edu/iuplagiarism</a>).</td>
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