

THIRD SEMESTER

COURSE: MINOR
PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY
PAPER: MIN-ZOO – 3.2

CREDIT POINT: 04(3 Theory + 1 Practical)

Course Objectives

- To impart an understanding of the fundamental physiological and biochemical processes in animals.
- To provide insights into organ systems, their regulation, and their biochemical underpinnings.
- To prepare students for advanced studies in animal physiology, biochemistry, and related fields.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the physiological basis of digestion, respiration, excretion, circulation, nerve conduction, muscle contraction, reproduction, and endocrinology.
- Describe major biochemical pathways and enzyme functions.
- Apply core concepts of physiology and biochemistry in zoological research and real-world contexts

Theory (3 credits)

Unit 1: Digestion and Respiration

- 1. Physiology of digestion in the alimentary canal
- 2. Absorption of carbohydrates, proteins, and lipids
- 3. Pulmonary ventilation; respiratory volumes and capacities
- 4. Transport of oxygen and carbon dioxide in blood

Unit 2: Excretion and Cardiovascular System

- 1. Structure of nephron; mechanism of urine formation
- 2. Counter-current mechanism
- 3. Composition of blood; haemostasis
- 4. Structure of heart; origin and conduction of cardiac impulse
- 5. Cardiac cycle

Unit 3: Reproduction and Endocrine Glands

- 1. Physiology of male reproduction: spermatogenesis
- 2. Physiology of female reproduction: oogenesis, menstrual cycle, hormonal control
- 3. Structure and function of pituitary, thyroid, parathyroid, pancreas, and adrenal glands

Unit 4: Nerve and Muscle

- 1. Resting membrane potential; graded potential; action potential: properties, origin, and conduction (myelinated and non-myelinated fibers)
- 2. Mechanism of synaptic transmission
- 3. Mechanism of skeletal muscle contraction

Unit 5: Enzymes and Metabolism

- 1. Enzyme classification and nomenclature; mechanism of action; enzyme kinetics
- 2. Glycolysis; Krebs cycle; pentose phosphate pathway; electron transport chain
- 3. β-oxidation of fatty acids; transamination; deamination; urea cycle

Practicals (1 Credit)

- Demonstration of enzyme activity (e.g., salivary amylase).
- Determination of haemoglobin content.
- Measurement of blood pressure and pulse rate.
- Study of permanent slides/models of various physiological systems.
- Experiments on muscle and nerve physiology (demonstration based).
- Urine analysis for urea, sugar, and chloride.

Suggested Readings

- **Ganong's Review of Medical Physiology**, Kim E. Barrett et al. (26th Ed., McGraw-Hill Education, 2019)
- **Textbook of Medical Physiology**, Guyton & Hall (12th Ed., Harcourt Asia/W.B. Saunders)
- Biochemistry, J.M. Berg, J.L. Tymoczko & L. Stryer (6th Ed., W.H. Freeman)
- Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Nelson & Cox (4th Ed., W.H. Freeman)
- Harper's Illustrated Biochemistry, R.K. Murray et al. (28th Ed., McGraw-Hill)