Due Date: First Day of the course! No exceptions!!

Honors Anatomy and Physiology Summer Assignment 2017-2018
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“Anatomy is to physiology as geography is to history; it describes the theatre of events.” — Jean Fernel

The purpose of this summer assignment is to prepare you for anatomy class and get you thinking about dissections and the nature of anatomy.

Course Description: Anatomy and Physiology is a course designed for students with a serious interest in human biology and for those considering a career in the medical fields such as dentistry, physical or occupational therapy, nursing or clinical medicine. The course will examine the majority of human body systems in detail and will require that students dissect a sheep heart, kidney, and brain, as well as a chicken leg quarter & fetal pig. Students will be graded on the dissections & will complete a lab practical assessment on each dissection. Dissections are required!

Assignment: Read Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers by Mary Roach & answer the following questions.

Introduction

a. Explain what the author meant when she said she saw “her mother’s cadaver”.
b. Why did the author write this book?

Chapter 1

a. Why is it important that the doctors (and students) learn to objectify the bodies?
b. What is the malar fat pad and why might plastic surgeons focus on this area?
c. Why is the head shaved and covered on cadavers?

Chapter 2

a. How do medical schools encourage respect for the dead? (or do they?)
b. How were cadavers acquired before the modern day “donation” method?
c. What options did early surgeons have to learn anatomy when government does not sanction human dissection?

Chapter 3

a. What is autolysis?
b. Why do bodies bloat? (And do dead people really pass gas?)
c. How are the dead prepared for burial?
d. What is the scientific purpose for understanding how bodies decay?
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Chapter 4
a. Why are cadavers used to test vehicle crashes?
   b. Why are side impacts particularly dangerous?
   c. Why are “pieces” of cadavers sometimes used instead of the whole cadaver?

Chapter 5
a. What kind of information is included in the Aerospace Pathology book?
   b. How is that information useful to investigators?
   c. How do investigators determine if an airplane crash victim over water was inside or outside the plane?
   d. Why do airlines not install features that would make flying safer?

Chapter 6
a. Why are large caliber bullets preferred over smaller ones?
   b. Why do people (and some animals) fall to the ground after being shot?
   c. What scientific value does bullet research on cadavers have?

Chapter 7
a. What experiments were performed to determine the physiological effects of crucifixion?

Chapter 8
   a. What is a beating-heart cadaver?
   b. Why were “waiting mortuaries” necessary?
   c. Where does the term “saved by the bell” originate?
   d. Why is the heart given so much credit for being the seat of life (or the soul)?
   e. What is the modern definition of death?

Chapter 9
a. What experiments were performed to determine if a severed head still retained consciousness?
   b. What scientific value do these experiments have?

Chapter 10
   a. Describe how Arabian “mollified men” were created and what the elixir was used to treat.
   b. How long after death does blood remain sterile? Can the Red Blood Cells still hold oxygen?
   c. What are some reasons that cannibalism exists?

Chapter 11
   a. What is tissue digestion and how is it accomplished?
   b. What are the potential benefits of composting the dead?
   c. Where does the water inside a human (or cadaver) come from? Where does it go?

Chapter 12
   a. How are human skeleton models prepared (from real bodies)?
   b. Describe plastination? What is the prep time to plastinate a body?