



*University Foundation Studies*

**NATS0016**

**SCIENCE FOR HEALTH  
PROFESSIONALS**

2021

**SUBJECT OUTLINE**

Last amended:	October 2021
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<b>Subject name</b>	Science for Health Professionals
<b>Subject number</b>	NATS0016
<b>Coordinator</b>	Virginia Shepherd
<b>Session</b>	2021.3
<b>Handbook summary</b>	The depth of knowledge and practical skills required by health professionals in the 21st century is very different to that which was required in the past. Medical treatment of illness and disease has become increasingly technical and health professionals are expected to work in partnership to determine patient care. In order to achieve this, today's health professional must have a basic understanding of the fundamental scientific principles behind health and disease. Increasingly, modern health science is concerned with maintaining health as a way of preventing disease and this is achieved through a holistic approach to the human condition. This unit is an introduction to the basic concepts in human body systems, health and disease, that are required in order to commence any tertiary health science course.
<b>Credit point value</b>	10
<b>Prerequisite/s</b>	N/A
<b>Subject incompatible with and not to be counted for credit with</b>	N/A
<b>Subject level</b>	Level Z — Non-award unit
<b>Attendance requirements</b>	Students are expected to attend at least 80% of classes. Educational research consistently demonstrates that this attendance level is associated with a high likelihood of achieving a passing grade.  Students will be required to complete a Laboratory Induction.
<b>Enrolment restrictions</b>	N/A
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	On successful completion of this subject, students should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. interpret and apply a wide range of biological and scientific terms describing the structure, function and location of human body systems</li> <li>2. interpret and apply information about the interdependence of human body systems and their components</li> <li>3. interpret and apply and/or implement information related to health and safety</li> <li>4. describe in basic terms the nature of genes and inheritance</li> <li>5. describe factors that contribute to healthy functioning of the body, and</li> </ol>

6. critically evaluate health-related information and evidence.

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<b>Subject content</b>	<p>In this unit students will learn about:</p> <p><b>Topic 1: Basic scientific concepts for health professionals</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Atoms and Molecules</li><li>2. Liquids and Solutions</li><li>3. Acids, Bases, Salts and Buffers</li><li>4. Gases—Pressure, Volume and Temperature</li><li>5. Energy, Reactions and ATP</li></ol> <p><b>Topic 2: Cell structure and function</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells</li><li>2. Eukaryotic cell organelles— structure and function</li></ol> <p><b>Topic 3: Introduction to body systems</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Overview of human body systems</li><li>2. Cardiovascular and respiratory systems</li><li>3. Musculo-skeletal system</li><li>4. Endocrine system</li><li>5. Digestive system</li><li>6. Integumentary system</li><li>7. Lymphatic system</li><li>8. Nervous system, including sensory systems (eye and ear)</li><li>9. Special senses (vision, hearing, smell, taste, equilibrium)</li><li>10. Immune system</li><li>11. Reproductive system</li></ol> <p><b>Topic 4: Reproduction and genetics</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Cell division</li><li>2. Introduction to DNA, genes and proteins</li><li>3. Simple genetics in health and disease</li></ol> <p><b>Topic 5: Homeostasis—interdependence of body systems</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Maintaining body temperature</li><li>2. Maintaining fluid and electrolyte balance</li><li>3. Maintaining blood pressure</li></ol> <p><b>Topic 6: Health and disease</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Nutrition</li><li>2. Physical and mental activity</li><li>3. Infectious disease and protection from infection</li><li>4. Vaccination and immunisation</li></ol> <p><b>Topic 7: Tools of diagnosis</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Diagnostic testing.</li></ol> <p>X-rays, ultrasound, CT scans and MRIs, radio/chemotherapies</p>
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**Mode of delivery**

This unit consists of six hours of classes each week as well as online activities via vUWS. This should be supplemented by student reading, work on assessment tasks and library/internet research. This independent study is expected to make up an additional four hours per week. For a 10-credit point unit, it is expected that students will do a total of 10 hours per week of study for the unit.

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**Online learning requirements**

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**Essential requirements**

**Essential texts**

- Marieb, E. (2012). *Essentials of human anatomy and physiology* (10th ed.). San Francisco: Benjamin Cummings.
- The College (2019). *Science for Health Professionals student workbook*. Sydney: Western Sydney University The College.
- The College (2019). *Science for Health Professionals student laboratory workbook*. Sydney: Western Sydney University The College.

**Essential equipment**

Closed shoes

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## ASSESSMENT ITEMS AND WEIGHTING

Assessment for this subject will be based on the following components:

Task	Weighting	Learning outcomes assessed	Mandatory task
1. Quiz: OH&S (15 minutes, online)	5%	3	Yes
2. Log/workbook (1 hour per week)	20%	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	Yes
3. Short-answer test: interpreting health related data (1 hour)	20%	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	Yes
4. Quiz: body systems (45 minutes, online)	15%	1, 2, 4, 5	Yes
5. End-of-term examination (2 hours)	40%	1–6	Yes
TOTAL	100%		

For details of assessment due dates, please refer to the learning guide for this subject.

All marks will be determined in accordance with The College [Assessment Policy](#).

All assessment tasks are mandatory unless otherwise specified. Should a student fail to attempt/submit the first formal assessment task in a subject, they will be deemed to be at risk and will need to follow an intervention plan in order not to receive a Fail Non-Submission (FNS) grade. However, failure to attempt/submit all other mandatory assessment tasks will result in an immediate FNS grade for the subject.

Students must achieve a final assessment grade greater than or equal to 50% to pass this unit.

Successful completion of this unit will not be counted for academic credit in any future studies at Western Sydney University.

## LABORATORY INDUCTION

Science, Engineering, Construction Management and Health Science students must complete a Laboratory Induction each term.

This unit will require you to complete practical activities in the Science Laboratory in Building U22, Nirimba campus. It is the responsibility of the individual student to complete the Laboratory Induction and pass the quiz before the first practical takes place. Only students who complete their Laboratory Inductions may complete the practical activities. Any student who misses a practical activity will receive a mark of zero for that activity.

Before you can participate in the practical activities you must complete an online Laboratory Induction. The two-hour practical will take place in Week 11.

The Laboratory Induction video is available on vUWS, in The College Laboratory site.

**Students are required to view the video, complete the 13-question quiz and get all of the questions correct by 10.00 pm before census date.**