Course Description: An introduction to research in behavioral endocrinology, focusing on: 1) laboratory techniques (immunoassay) for the measurement of hormone levels (cortisol and C-peptide) in saliva and urine, 2) study design strategies and data analysis methods, and 3) writing a scientific research paper. Students complete original research projects. Classes held Mon, Wed, Fri 1:30pm-2:45pm in MCZ 539. In addition, there will be 6 (or 7) two-hour lab sections (days/times to be arranged); on weeks when assays are run, students will need to return briefly on the day **after** their lab day in order to complete the assay procedure. Recommended prep: HEB 1310 or LS 2 or with permission. Enrollment limited.

Course requirements (schedule/due dates TBA):

- Preparation for and participation in all class discussions and labs
- Completion of EHS on-line safety training requirements
- Completion of five practice labs (including collection of practice assay samples)
- Seven written assignments
- Development of individual research project topic
- Recruitment of research subjects (number TBD)
- Collection of samples/questionnaire data from subjects between Oct 7 & Oct 28
- Completion of 1(or 2) project assays
- Submission of all research project data by date TBA (~ Nov 11)
- At least one individual consultation with instructor about project data analysis
- Oral presentation of project results to the class
- Written project report

Grading: There are no exams. Approximately 60% of the final grade will be based on the grade for the written project report, and about 40% will be based on the total score for the seven written assignments.

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