Welcome to Biology 131L!

In this class you will be carrying out experiments that examine the function of several organ systems including the nervous, cardiovascular, respiratory and muscular systems. In most cases you will be using equipment similar to that in research labs and working with human volunteer subjects. You will also get a chance to work with animal subjects. In addition you will get the rare opportunity to participate in a necropsy (an animal autopsy).

**Attendance:** This is REQUIRED. If you will be missing a lab you must contact your TA or instructor within 24 hours of the missed class. An absence results in an automatic ZERO on that day’s assignment and no make-ups will be given.

**Human subjects:** Most of the lab exercises will be performed on human volunteers. Participation as a subject is voluntary and will not affect your grade. If you have questions or concerns about being a subject please contact the instructor.

**Animal subjects:** You may be interacting with various animals at Long Marine Lab including the dolphins, birds, and seals. These animals are trained for voluntary collection of data. Please respect the animals and always listen to the trainers to avoid distress or injury to yourself or the animals.

**Necropsy:** You will have the opportunity to participate in a necropsy of a marine mammal at the end of the quarter. We will be assisting in determining the cause of death. This is a unique opportunity that is rarely offered and will help the stranding network identify causes of stranding events along our coast. If you have any questions and concerns about the necropsy, please contact your instructor.

**Submitting assignments:**
- Collected at the beginning of each class
- 10% penalty for every day late.
- Contact the instructor if an assignment is late
- No papers accepted via email and must be handed in person to your instructor
Academic integrity:
- All written and graph work must be original and your own work!
- No plagiarism - this includes copying, paraphrasing, etc. from another site, the web, another student.
- Evidence of cheating or plagiarism on an assignment will result in a grade of zero. Two strikes will result in dismissal and failure for the course.

Lab reports and worksheets: There are weekly worksheet assignments including two formal lab reports. You are given one week to complete each assignment unless otherwise specified.

Participation: Participation in the laboratory activities is required. Even if you are not acting as a volunteer subject you are required to assist in data collection and recording during the laboratory period. Arrive on time and prepared by bringing a copy of the lab with you (downloaded from the website). Read the lab assignment ahead of your lab period to expedite the experiments.