



# **PATH3207**

## **Musculoskeletal Disease**

Course Outline  
**Term 3, 2022**

School of Medical Sciences  
Faculty of Medicine & Health

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## 1. Staff

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
Course Convenor	Nicodemus Tedla	n.tedla@unsw.edu.au	By appointment	90655235
Lecturer	Ingvar Birznieks		By appointment	
Lecturer	Rowena Bull		By appointment	
Lecturer	Karim Burkhardt		By appointment	
Lecturer	Nick Di-Girolamo		By appointment	
Lecturer	Irina Dedova		By appointment	
Lecturer	Cristan Herbert		By appointment	
Course co-convenor	Patsie Polly	Patsie.polly@unsw.edu.au	By appointment	9065 7135
Lecturer	Chaturaka Rodrigo		By appointment	
Lecturer	Gary Velan		By appointment	
Lecturer	Martin Weber		By appointment	

## 2. Course information

Units of credit: 6 Pre-requisite(s): PATH2201/2202, ANAT2511or ANAT2111or ANAT1521or ANAT1551.

Teaching times and locations:

[https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/pluginfile.php/8297482/mod\\_resource/content/7/PATH3207%20Integrated%20timetable.pdf](https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/pluginfile.php/8297482/mod_resource/content/7/PATH3207%20Integrated%20timetable.pdf)

Any changes in timetable will be broadcasted via PATH3207 Moodle announcements

### 2.1. Course summary

The **Musculoskeletal Diseases** course, offered by the Department of Pathology covers bone and joint disease, neuromuscular disease, musculoskeletal trauma, and orthopaedics.

This course will be beneficial to students wishing to pursue careers in the health sciences, especially medicine (particularly rehabilitation medicine), biomedical research or hospital-based laboratory work. A sound understanding of musculoskeletal pathology should provide an effective framework from which to approach diagnosis and management of common clinical scenarios that you may well encounter in your future careers.

## 2.2. Course aims

PATH3207 comprises teaching current concepts of musculoskeletal diseases including arthritis, metabolic bone diseases, neoplasms in bone, causes of musculoskeletal pain and limitations of movement and neuromuscular diseases as well as detailed coverage of fracture healing and its complications, multiple traumas, and current research on biomaterial and prosthetic devices relevant to joint, muscle and/or neuronal repairs.

Students will be encouraged to develop the following Graduate Attributes by undertaking the selected activities and knowledge content.

- (A) An in-depth engagement with the relevant disciplinary knowledge in its interdisciplinary context.
- (B) The capacity for analytical and critical thinking, as well as for creative problem solving
- (C) The ability to engage in independent, team-based, and reflective learning
- (D) The skills of effective communication

These attributes will be assessed within the prescribed assessment tasks (Please see the Assessment section for more details)

## 2.3. Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe and explain the molecular and cellular pathogenic mechanisms of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular diseases.
2. Describe the macroscopic and microscopic appearances of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular diseases.
3. Identify underlying pathological processes and mechanisms of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular diseases and correlate this with clinical features.
4. Describe the sensitivity, specificity, cost effectiveness and availability of laboratory and imaging investigations for the diagnosis of musculoskeletal diseases.
5. Appraise recent advances in biomedical, bioengineering, molecular and biological research related to the treatment of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular diseases.
6. Develop written and oral skills in scientific communication.
7. Develop skills in peer review and assessment of scientific research.

## 2.4. Relationship between course learning outcomes and assessments

Course Learning Outcome (CLO)	LO Statement	Related Tasks & Assessment
CLO 1	Describe and explain the molecular and cellular pathogenic mechanisms of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular diseases.	Tutorial quizzes and a Mid-term written exam End of course written examination
CLO 2	Describe the macroscopic and microscopic appearances of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular diseases.	Tutorial quizzes and a Mid-term written exam End of course practical examination End of course written examination
CLO 3	Identify underlying pathological processes and mechanisms of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular diseases and correlate this with clinical features.	Tutorial quizzes and a Mid-term written exam End of course practical examination End of course written examination
CLO 4	Describe the sensitivity, specificity, cost effectiveness and availability of laboratory and imaging investigations for the diagnosis of musculoskeletal diseases.	End of course practical examination End of course written examination
CLO 5	Appraise recent advances in biomedical, bioengineering, molecular and biological research related to the treatment of musculoskeletal and neuromuscular diseases.	Evidence based Symposium End of course practical examination End of course written examination
CLO 6	Develop written and oral skills in scientific communication.	Evidence based Symposium
CLO 7	Develop skills in peer review and assessment of scientific research.	Evidence based Symposium

## 3. Strategies and approaches to learning

### 3.1. Learning and teaching activities

The intended learning outcomes are achieved through study of the common patterns of response to injury, which are often referred to as pathological processes. In depth study of mechanisms and causes unique to the musculoskeletal system are highlighted in context of the general pathological processes. To understand these processes, you will draw on your knowledge of normal anatomy, histology, biochemistry, physiology, general pathology, and biomedical engineering.

This course will be beneficial to students wishing to pursue careers in the health sciences, especially in clinical rehabilitation medicine, biomedical research, or hospital-based laboratory work. A sound understanding of musculoskeletal pathology should provide an effective framework from which to

approach diagnosis and management of common clinical scenarios that you may well encounter in your future careers.

The course employs a variety of teaching modes to facilitate your learning:

1. A series of lectures introduce you to pathological processes, as well as specific examples of those processes affecting the musculoskeletal system. These lectures are given by invited and campus-based discipline experts.
2. Tutorials that are designed in a form of collaborative learning that incorporate small group tutorials and a series of topical quizzes to be completed individually. It is anticipated that students will have an enhanced learning experience using team-based learning and peer teaching. The tutorials are intended to extend and amplify your understanding of material presented in lectures in an interactive format, where you are given opportunities to seek clarification on any aspect of the topics covered, as well as to tackle concepts that might be difficult to grasp.
3. Practical classes that incorporate clinical-pathological correlation sessions are intended to allow you to apply your understanding of disease processes to microscopic and macroscopic appearances of disease in tissues (lesions), and to correlate these with the clinical manifestations. Computer-based virtual microscopy is utilised together with a variety of diagnostic imaging modalities and laboratory investigations to permit correlation between disease processes, changes in cells and tissues at the microscopic level and the clinical manifestations of disease.
4. Evidence based symposia based on cutting edge topics in musculoskeletal diseases that are organised, designed, delivered, and assessed by students working in small groups.
5. A trial exam viva exam with group feedback aimed at familiarising students with the end of the year practical viva exam.
6. One strategically timed (week 7) briefing, Q&A and discussion session with the group with regards progress in the course, preparation for the end of the year practical viva exam and end of the year written exam.
7. Learning is supported via a Moodle module (accessible via student number and zPass at <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/>). Announcements, timetables, lecture slides and other resources will be made available during the course.
8. The PATH3207 Student Manual contains specific learning objectives for tutorials and practical classes, together with the course timetable and useful background information.

### **3.1.1. Team-based learning**

At the commencement of this course, you will be divided into four tutorial groups and each tutorial group will be subdivided into four teams, each consisting of six students. Each team will have a mixture of abilities, streams, and programs. The aim of this teaching approach is to enhance your learning experience using small group tutorials, team works, peer-teachings and peer-evaluations.

The role of the tutor is not to give you another lecture; but to facilitate your interactive discussions and assist you to clarify some challenging concepts presented in your lectures, practical classes and/or textbooks. You are therefore strongly urged to make adequate preparation for these tutorials and encouraged to participate. Attendance to all these tutorials is mandatory and is assessable.

Pre-reading will be allocated prior to each tutorial. Each tutorial will commence with a quiz (based on the pre-reading), which will be attempted individually, and the answers submitted to your tutor. At the end of each quiz, the tutor will guide you through the answers, encourage discussion and provide clarifications regarding the challenging questions and concepts. Each tutorial will have additional team activities to be completed on a worksheet in your course manual. **Please bring your course manual to all the tutorials and practical classes.**

You will receive a maximum of **4%** towards your final course mark for each tutorial quiz. Over the course of 5 tutorials, this will contribute to **20%** of your final mark. Additionally, these multiple-choice questions are representative of what you should expect in your final written exam, and they will also provide your tutor and the course convener critical information on how you are progressing with the course that would allow timely remedial intervention.

The names in each tutorial group and team will be posted on Moodle at <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/>. The same teams will work together to develop presentations for the Evidence-Based Symposium.

### **3.1.2. Evidence based symposium**

The evidence-based symposium is a collection of group presentations on cutting-edge topics in musculoskeletal diseases. These presentations are aimed to enhance students' skills in teamwork, effective communication, and peer-review processes in line with learning outcomes 5, 6 and 7 described in the Course Outline.

The selection of topics will take place in week 3, **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2022**. On this day teams will be allocated a random topic by a lottery from a pool of relevant topics.

Students will submit a 400-word Abstract by e-mail to [n.tedla@unsw.edu.au](mailto:n.tedla@unsw.edu.au) in week 7, no later than 5 pm on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2022**. This abstract will outline each team's forthcoming presentation in week 8. *Please follow the strict Abstract format outlined below.* Late submission and/or inappropriately formatted abstracts will not be accepted.

In week 8, each team of students will give a 12-minute (maximum) group presentation followed by an additional 5 minutes for question time as part of a symposium. Several one-hour sessions will be set aside for students to present their work to the rest of the group. Presentation style is at the discretion of each group (examples include PowerPoint presentations, Video, YouTube, role play, interview, etc.). Groups can choose their spokesperson beforehand, although all students are expected to contribute equally, and the performances of everyone may affect the group's overall score. The presentation will need to be supported by a thorough literature review. At the end of the presentation, questions can be asked of any member of the group by students and members of academic staff.

**15%** of the final mark for the course is allocated for this task, of which **2.5%** will be determined by members of the group, who will provide their collective score for each group member at the end of their presentation. **2.5%** will be determined by peers in the audience and **10%** will be allocated by academic staff (see assessment criteria on the following pages). Attendance to all the presentations is mandatory. Students will lose 1% for each day they do not attend and will lose an additional 2% if they do not attend their own group presentation.

The timetable for the Evidence Based Symposium will be posted on Moodle at <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/>

### **Example of Evidence Based Symposium Written Abstract**

Time New Roman, font 12, justified

Title and headings in Bold

**Joints Replacement - The Advances and Pitfalls of Current Research Aimed at Improving Duration:** Smith J, Kane SL, Lim K, Kwok J and Krishnan G.

*School of Biomedical Engineering, University of NSW, 2052 Australia*

Address in Italics

**Objective:** The average life span for a typical joint replacement is between 10 to 12 years. The objective of this presentation is to investigate current advances and pitfalls in surgical techniques and materials used aimed at improving durability of joint replacements

**Methods:** Research for the presentation began by seeking council with Professor William Walsh who provided us with first hand information as well as resources, including textbooks and joint prosthetics. The other information was obtained through the UNSW Sirius application. Search engines such as Science Direct, Compendex, MEDLINE and Pub Med provided abstracts on journal articles relative to our presentation question. We selected studies published from 1966–2009 and refined our search scope using the key words joint replacement, joint arthroplasty and total hip replacement. Statistics were also obtained from the Australian Orthopaedic Association National Joint Replacement Registry.

**Presentation Style:** The presentation method incorporated the use of PowerPoint while utilising three different speakers. The first speaker represented the patient, who discussed the need for increased duration of replacements and outlined relevant statistical information on the subject. The second speaker is representative of the surgeon/specialist, who explained the importance of good surgical technique in prolonging duration, while demonstrating that every advance in materials or treatment appears to bring with it several disadvantages. The third speaker is the researcher who outlines the importance of material research in joint arthroplasty. The use of a PowerPoint presentation allows us to explore several examples of current research in more detail than other forms of media. It was also selected because of its reliability, ease of use and familiarity amongst group members. As part of our presentation, several replacement hip prosthetics were distributed to the audience. By having a tangible example of a replacement accessible we believed that a greater connection and understanding of the subject would be attained.

**Results:** Although joint replacement surgery has advanced significantly there are still major improvements and advancements needed if researchers expect to extend the duration of joint replacements. It appears that with any new breakthrough in material, fixation or treatment there are several pitfalls and disturbances that challenge surgeons and researchers assessments of what is and what is not appropriate for implantation. Submitted by e-mail to [N.tedla@unsw.edu.au](mailto:N.tedla@unsw.edu.au)

**Conclusions:** There are still significant challenges and pitfalls in obtaining joint longevity primarily related to lack of suitable materials that have the desired strength, flexibility and biological properties.

Margins 2.2 cm all around

400 words

### 3.2. Expectations of students

Students are reminded that UNSW recommends that a 6 units-of-credit course should involve about 150 hours of study and learning activities. The formal learning activities total approximately 50 hours throughout the term and students are expected (and strongly recommended) to do at least the same number of hours of additional study.

If you wish to contact the course convenors or staff, you can do so by e-mail or Microsoft Teams, using the details provided in section 1 of this document and on the course Moodle page. We are committed to providing the best experience and outcome for all students and will therefore endeavour to respond to e-mails as soon as possible, but please consider the following:

- Standard work hours are Monday to Friday from 8 am to 6 pm. E-mail correspondence received outside of this time may be dealt with from the next working day.
- All staff and students have busy schedules and multiple commitments, so while staff will endeavour to answer e-mail correspondence as quickly as possible, please apply appropriate expectations in this regard (i.e. within 48 hours and on a workday).
- Please only use Teams messaging to communicate with the course staff during class. Outside of class please use e-mail.
- To help us improve the course, please consider providing us with feedback at any time and in any form and/or by completing the MyExperience survey later in the term.



### 3.3. Evidence Based Symposium assessment forms

#### Marking scheme for team member assessment

Student Name: .....

Group number: .....

Names of the assessors: .....

	/10
Participation in the planning of the presentation	
Execution of allocated tasks effectively and on time	
Attendance to meetings called on by group members	
Contribution to group discussion	
Scientific quality of contribution	
Total	

#### Justification

Signature: .....

Date: .....

## Marking scheme for peer assessment

**Presenting group:** .....

**Topic:**

**Student Assessor:** Name..... Group No.

	/10
Originality of presentation	
Clear explanation of the most important aspects of topic	
Evidence of inclusion of recent medical literature	
Evidence of critical evaluation of the literature	
Answering relevant questions	
Total	

**Comments:**

**Signature:** .....

**Date:** .....

## Marking scheme for assessment by academic staff

**Group number:** .....

**Assessor's name:** .....

	/10
Demonstrate an understanding of the topic and how it fits into the point of discussion	
Demonstrate effective communication of the most important aspect of the topic	
Ability to effectively discuss questions on the topic	
Demonstrate an ability to utilise the current medical literature to support argument	
Clear and justified conclusions	

**Comments:**

**Signature:** .....

**Date:** .....

### 3.4. Adaptive tutorials

These consist of 5 online adaptive tutorials focusing on learning outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4. These highly integrated on-line tutorials are excellent means for students to revise some of the key concepts in the course. The aim of these tutorials is to provide students with prompt feedback on their progress that will assist their preparation for the exams. They will allow independent learning and provide a guide to each student's strengths and weaknesses for a given topic. Each adaptive tutorial will be accessible via UNSW Moodle Vslide page at <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/> throughout the course. Please use the latest version of Firefox or Chrome to view microscopic virtual slides.

## 4. Course schedule and structure

This course consists of 45 hours of class contact hours. You are expected to take an additional 100 hours of non-class contact hours to review online topics (lectures), complete assessments and class preparation activities, and study and revision in preparation for exams.

Week	Date	Time	Location	Lecturer	Title
1	13/9/2022	11-12	LG02	Tedla	<b>Lecture</b> - Course overview and Pathological Basis of Bone and Joint pain
	13/9/2022	12-1	Online**	Burkhardt	<b>Lecture</b> - Primary and Metastatic Bone Tumours
	14/9/2022	9-10	Online	Petsoglou//Machet/ Arroyo/Sprogyte	<b>Tutorial</b> - Primary and Metastatic Bone Tumours*
	15/9/2022	9-11	G115	Tedla	<b>Practical</b> - Clinical and Histopathology of Bone Tumours
2	20/9/2022	11-12	LG02	Tedla	<b>Lecture</b> - Causes of Fractures and Mechanisms of Fracture Healing
	20/9/2022	12-1	LG02	Tedla	<b>Lecture</b> - Treatment approaches and Complications of Fractures
	21/9/2022	9-10	Online	Petsoglou//Machet/ Arroyo/Sprogyte	<b>Tutorial</b> - Fracture Healing and Complications*
	22/9/2022	9-11	G16	Tedla	<b>Practical</b> - Clinical and Histopathology of Fractures
3	27/9/2022	11-12	Online live	Dedova	<b>Lecture</b> - Strains, Sprains and Dislocations
	27/9/2022	12-1	LG02	Rodrigo	<b>Lecture</b> - Differential diagnosis of back pain
	28/9/2022	9-10	120	Tedla	<b>Orientation</b> - Prelude to Evidence-Based Symposium
	29/9/2022	9-11	G116	Tedla	<b>Combined Tutorial and Practical</b> - Clinical cases of back pain
4	4/10/2022	11-12	Online***	Bryant	<b>Lecture</b> - Degenerative and Septic Arthritis
	4/10/2022	12-1	Online live	Damodaran	<b>Lecture</b> - Inflammatory Arthritis
	5/10/2022	9-10	Online	Petsoglou//Machet/ Arroyo/Sprogyte	<b>Tutorial</b> - Inflammatory and Degenerative A15/9/22rthritis*
	6/10/2022	9-11	116	Tedla	<b>Practical</b> - Clinical Correlations and Histopathology of Arthritis
5	11/10/2022	11-12	LG02	Weber	<b>Lecture</b> - Metabolic Bone Diseases I: Osteoporosis and Osteomalacia
	11/10/2022	12-1	LG02	Weber	<b>Lecture</b> - Metabolic Bone Diseases II: Hyperparathyroidism, Paget's disease, Congenital defects
	12/10/2022	9-10	Online	Petsoglou//Machet/ Arroyo/Sprogyte	<b>Tutorial</b> - Metabolic Bone Diseases*
	13/10/2022	9-11	G115	Rodrigo/Weber	<b>Practical</b> - Clinical and Histopathology Metabolic Bone Diseases

Week	Date	Time	Location	Lecturer	Title
6	18/10/2022 19/10/2022 20/10/2022	Flexible week, no teaching activities			
7	25/10/2022	11-12	LG02	Burkhardt	<b>Lecture</b> - Pathological Basis of Neuromuscular Diseases and Indications for Muscle Biopsy.
	25/10/2022	12-1	Online***	Birznieks	<b>Lecture</b> - Pathological Basis of Upper and Lower Motor Neuron Lesions
	26/10/2022	9-10	Online	Petsoglou//Machet/ Arroyo/Sprogyte	<b>TRIAL EXAM</b>
	27/10/2022	9-11	G116	Tedla	<b>Course review</b> - Feedback and briefing on end of term practical and written exams
8	1/11/2022	11-12	CLB3	Tedla/Bull	<b>Evidence-based symposium</b>
	1/11/2022	11-12	LG02	Polly/Di-Girolamo	<b>Evidence-based symposium</b>
	1/11/2022	12-1	CLB3	Tedla/Bull	<b>Evidence-based symposium</b>
	1/11/2022	12-1	LG02	Polly/Di-Girolamo	<b>Evidence-based symposium</b>
	2/11/2022	9-10	CLB1	Tedla/Kaakoush	<b>Evidence-based symposium</b>
	2/11/2022	9-10	CLB2	Polly/Di-Girolamo	<b>Evidence-based symposium</b>
	3/11/2022	9-10	CLB1	Tedla/Bull	<b>Evidence-based symposium</b>
3/11/2022	9-10	CLB2	Polly/Di-Girolamo	<b>Evidence-based symposium</b>	
9	8/11/2022	11-12	Online live	Velan	<b>Lecture</b> - Pathogenesis of Shock
	8/11/2022	12-1	LG02	Tedla	<b>Lecture</b> - Head Injury and Intracranial Haemorrhages
	9/11/2022	9-10	Online	Petsoglou//Machet/ Arroyo/Sprogyte	<b>Tutorial</b> - Multiple Trauma and Hypovolemic Shock
	10/11/2022	9-11	G116	Tedla	<b>Practical</b> - Clinicopathological Correlations of Intracranial haemorrhages
10	15/11/2022	11-12	LG02	Tedla	<b>Lecture</b> - Clinical Approaches for the Diagnosis of Peripheral Neuropathy
	15/11/2022	12-1	LG02	Bowring	<b>Lecture</b> - Rehabilitation of Neuro-Musculoskeletal
	16/11/2022	10-11	Online	Petsoglou//Machet/ Arroyo/Sprogyte	<b>Tutorial</b> – Neuro-muscular Diseases*
	17/11/2022	9-11	G116	Tedla/ Petsoglou//Machet/ Arroyo/Sprogyte	<b>Practical Examination</b>

**NOTE:** Any changes in timetable will be communicated via PATH3207 Moodle announcements

\*A 10-minute MCQ tutorial quiz on the topic of the week

\*\*online pre-recorded

\*\*\*online pre-recorded and a Q&A session with the lecturer via Teams or face to face

Exam Period: 25 November – 8 December

Supplementary Exam Period: 9 January – 13 January

## Lecture Program Outline

Lecture Title	Lecturer	Content outline
Course overview and Pathological bases of bone/joint pain and limitation of movement	NT	Couse overview, aetiology, pathogenesis and diagnosis of bone and joint pain
Primary and metastatic bone tumours	KB	Types of bone tumours, macro and microscopic features, clinical features, and complications; Metastases to bone; sources of metastases; Involvement of the bone in haematological malignancies
Treatment and complications of fractures	NT	Principles of treatment and Complications of fractures
Strains, sprains, and dislocations	ID	Evaluation of muscle, tendon, ligament, and meniscus injuries with special emphasis to shoulder and elbow dislocation and knee and ankle injuries.
Differential diagnosis of back pain	CR	Aetiology and pathogenesis back pain: intervertebral disc diseases, degenerative, and inflammatory joint diseases, and non-skeletal causes of back pain.
Prelude to evidence-based symposium	NT	Introduction to the protocols and guidelines of the symposium, selection of topics and outline of timetable.
Causes, clinical manifestation, and diagnosis of mono- and oligo-arthropathies	KTB	Mono/oligo-arthropathies: causes; pathogenesis and clinical features of osteoarthritis, crystal arthropathies and septic arthritis
Causes, clinical manifestation, and diagnosis of poly-arthropathies	AD	Polyarthritis with special emphasis on aetiology, pathogenesis, clinical features, diagnosis and complications of rheumatoid arthritis, and brief outline of spondyloarthropathy and mixed connective tissue diseases as relevant differential diagnoses
Metabolic bone disease I	MW	Osteoporosis and osteomalacia; Causes, macroscopic, microscopic, radiological, and clinical features; complications
Metabolic bone disease II	MW	Hyperparathyroidism, Paget's disease, and congenital defects of osteogenesis; Causes, macroscopic, microscopic, radiological, and clinical features; complications
Pathological basis of neuromuscular diseases and indications for muscle biopsies	KB	Causes of myopathy, myasthenia disorders, and neurogenic disorders resulting in muscle disease; Investigation of muscle diseases and indications for muscle biopsy.
Upper and lower motor neuron lesions	IB	Pathological basis of UMN and LMN lesions, clinical manifestations, and underlying aetiology
Pathogenesis of Shock	GV	Pathophysiology, causes and effects of shock.
Head injury and intracranial haemorrhages	NT	Intracranial haemorrhage-epidural, subdural, subarachnoid, intracerebral: causes and effects
Clinical approaches for the diagnosis of peripheral neuropathy	NT	Pathological responses to peripheral nerve injury and clinical assessments
Rehabilitation of neuro-musculoskeletal diseases	GB	Outline indications, general approaches of rehabilitation programs in Neuro-Musculo-Skeletal diseases and discuss cost

**KEY:**

Birznieks	A/Prof Ingvar Birznieks	A/Professor, SOMS, Department of Physiology, UNSW
Bowring	Dr Greg Bowring	Senior lecturer, FAFRM (RACP), UNSW; Staff Specialist, POWH
Bryant	Dr Katherine Bryant	Senior lecturer, SOMS, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Burkhardt	Dr Karim Burkhardt	Lecturer, SOMS, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Bull	A/Prof Rowena Bull	A/Professor, SOMS, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Davidson	Dr Trevor Davidson	Senior lecturer, MBBS, FRCPA, POWH
Damondaran	Dr Arvin Damondaran	Senior lecturer, MBBS, RACP, Rheumatologist, Prince of Wales Clinical School
Dedova	Dr Irina Dedova	Senior lecturer, SOMS, Department of Anatomy, UNSW
Di Girolamo	Prof Nick Di Girolamo	Professor, SOMS, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Herbert	A/Prof Cristan Herbert	A/Prof, SOMS, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Kaakoush	A/Prof Nadeem Kaakoush	A/Prof, SOMS, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Polly	Prof Patsie Polly	Professor, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Rodrigo	Dr Chaturaka Rodrigo	Senior lecturer, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Tedla	Prof Nicodemus Tedla	Professor, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Weber	Dr Martin Weber	Senior lecturer, MBBS, FRCPA, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Velan	Prof Gary Velan	Professor, Department of Pathology, UNSW
Wong	Dr Keith Wong	Lecturer, Department of Radiology, POWH

## 5. Assessment

### 5.1. Assessment tasks

Assessment task	Length	Weight	Mark	Due date and time
<b>Assessment 1:</b> Evidence Based Symposium	10 min group presentation	15%	100	1-3/11/2022
<b>Assessment 2:</b> Tutorial Quizzes and a Mid Term written exam	Five MCQ each 10 min	20%	100	Weekly 15/9/2022- 16/11/2022
<b>Assessment 3:</b> End of course Practical Examination	10 SAQ, 60 min	20%	100	17/11/2022
<b>Assessment 4:</b> End of Course Written exam	2 SAQ and 20 MCQ, 120 min	45%	100	17/11/2022

Students will undertake multiple forms of assessment during the session:

- 1) **Evidence Based Symposium:** This is a group presentation on week 8 and comprises **15%** of the final mark. Of the **15%**, **2.5%** will be determined by members of the group, **2.5%** by peer assessment and **10%** will be allocated by two academic staff based on content, presentation, use of relevant literature and ability to answer questions on the topic. A detailed guide on the tasks involved and rubrics of the marking schemes will be provided in a form of a 1-hour presentation by the course convener on week 3.
- 2) **Tutorial quizzes:** These weekly tutorial quizzes via Moodle are individual assessments and will comprise **20%** of the final mark (**4%** for each of 5 individual quizzes). Each quiz contains 5 multiple choice questions, primarily based on the two lectures given during same week and a pre-reading indicated on your course manual. You are therefore strongly advised to attend and review the lectures and perform the allocated pre-reading before you come to the tutorial. The recommended pre-readings are only a guide, additional reading on the subject from the prescribed textbooks is highly recommended. At the end of each quiz, you will get automated online feedback on the answers that will clarify misconceptions and mistakes. *These quizzes are aimed at providing you with timely feedback on your progress with the course and provide you with remedial assistance if required as well as to assist your tutor to further elaborate/focus on the specific questions that are most challenging to your group*
- 3) **End of course Practical Exam:** Students will undertake online practical examination via Moodle on week 10, Thursday the 17th of November 2022, 9:00am -11 am in room 116 level WW building. This will constitute to 20% of the final mark of the course. The exam will consist of a series of 10 stations, each with questions based on material presented during term focused on learning outcomes 2, 3, 4 and 5. Students will rotate around the stations, spending ~4 minutes per station. Each question will be based on material presented during the whole term including interpretation and description of clinical and pathophysiological processes of a patient clinical history, diagnostic investigations, interpretation of photographs, diagnostic images,



macroscopic specimens, virtual histopathological slides etc. A Trial exam will be provided on week 7 of the course to demonstrate the process of the examination and to guide you on what is expected. Students will be provided with feedback at the end of the Trial examination.

- 4) **End of Course Written Exam:** At the end of the course there will be a written exam that accounts for **45%** of the final mark for the course. The questions assess all the learning outcomes and encourage an in-depth understanding of the pathology of musculoskeletal diseases in a clinical and research context. Marks will be weighted as follows: short answer questions **25%**; and objective items **20%**. The short answer questions vary in style but are intended to provide you with the opportunity to demonstrate your understanding of the topic and your ability to integrate ideas rather than simple regurgitation of facts. The objective items consist of 20 multiple choice questions where the best or most appropriate answer is chosen from the alternatives provided.

## 5.2. Sample Examination Paper

### *SAMPLE END OF COURSE EXAMINATION FORMAT FOR 2022*

- (1) TIME ALLOWED: 1.5 HOURS.
- (2) ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS.
- (3) ANSWER **PART A** QUESTIONS 1 AND 2 IN SEPARATE BOOKS. WRITE LEGIBLY IN INK.
- (4) ANSWER **PART B** USING THE GENERALISED ANSWER SHEET PROVIDED.
- (5) THIS PAPER MAY NOT BE RETAINED BY THE CANDIDATE.

#### PART A (25 Marks)

1. Explain to a healthy 20-year-old female how she might be able to prevent herself from developing osteoporosis later in life.  

(10 marks)
2. A 22-year-old man was brought by ambulance to the Emergency Department. One hour previously, he had been driving a car and was involved in a high-speed head-on collision. He had not been wearing a seat belt. Immediately after the accident, he briefly lost consciousness and recovered soon after. On arrival to the hospital, he was disorientated and was gradually losing consciousness. Initial examination revealed multiple abrasions to the head, fracture on the left side of the skull and some bleeding from the left ear. What injuries might this patient have sustained? Explain how these might have developed.  

(10 marks)

#### PART B (20 marks)

This part of the examination consists of 20 questions, each containing 5 statements. For each question, select the **BEST or MOST APPROPRIATE** answer (i.e that which is most relevant for the disease and/or its consequences) from among the alternatives, several, or all of which may be true. On the supplied generalised answer sheet, **FILL IN** the corresponding circle. **USE PENCIL.**

1. Antibody tests are useful in the diagnosis of:
  - (A) Parkinson disease
  - (B) Multiple sclerosis
  - (C) Segmental demyelination
  - (D) Myasthenia gravis
  - (E) Motor neuron disease

2. Which of the following factors most likely increases the risk of osteoporotic fracture:
- (A) High bone mineral density
  - (B) High body weight
  - (C) Poor muscle strength
  - (D) High lean mass
  - (E) Exposure to ionising radiation
3. Intervertebral disc herniation:
- (A) Characteristically occurs at L3/L4
  - (B) Is commonly associated with facet joint degeneration
  - (C) Typically leads to spondylolisthesis
  - (D) Usually results in anterior protrusion of the nucleus pulposus
  - (E) Affects athletes more frequently than the elderly
4. Duchene muscular dystrophy:
- (A) Dystrophin is present in large quantities
  - (B) Clinical expression occurs in adolescence and progression inevitable
  - (C) It is the most common of the X-linked muscular dystrophies
  - (D) Is commonly associated abnormal muscle and nerve fibres
  - (E) Pulmonary infection is a rare complication
5. Rheumatoid Arthritis:
- (A) Is associated with periarticular osteoporosis and juxta-articular erosions
  - (B) Is characterised by a florid polymorphonuclear cell infiltrate within hyperplastic vascular synovia
  - (C) Yields chronic inflammatory cells on aspiration of synovial fluid
  - (D) Is associated with elevated serum rheumatoid factor in approximately 95% of cases
  - (E) Typically presents as a chronic, asymmetrical, joint arthropathy

Answers: 1D, 2C, 3E, 4B, 5A

## Further information

UNSW grading system: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/grades>

UNSW assessment policy: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/assessment>

### 5.3. Assessment criteria and standards

Online Tutorial Quizzes will be made available to you via the course Moodle page, as well as during the team-based learning sessions facilitated by your tutor (also see page 6).

Details regarding the assessment tasks for the Evidence-Based symposium will be provided to you during the lecture on week 3 as well as being available on the course Moodle page. A detailed marking rubric for each task is provided on pages 7-11 above and will also be provided to you via the course Moodle page.

The Practical Examination that consists of 10 stations with SAQs will have a detailed rubric for each task be provided on the examination paper. You will earn 0-10 marks for each station with a maximum mark of 100 that will be aggregated to 20% ie the final mark for each station will be 2%. A trial practical examination on week 7 will be provided with a representative rubric for each task.

Detailed instruction and rubric for each task for the End of Term Written Examination that consists of 2 short answer question (25%) and 20 MCQ (20%) will be provided on the examination paper (see example on pages 7 and 8 above).

## 5.4. Submission of assessment tasks

### Late Submission

UNSW has standard late submission penalties as outlined in the UNSW Assessment Implementation Procedure, with no permitted variation. All late assignments (unless extension or exemption previously agreed) will be penalised by 5% of the maximum mark per day (including Saturday, Sunday and public holidays). For example, if an assessment task is worth 20 marks, then 1 mark will be lost per day (5% of 20) for each day it is late.

Late submission is capped at 5 days (120 hours). This means that a student cannot submit an assessment more than 5 days (120 hours) after the due date for that assessment.

### Special Consideration

If you experience a short-term event beyond your control (exceptional circumstances) that impacts your performance in a particular assessment task, you can apply for Special Considerations.

You must apply for Special Consideration **before** the start of your exam or due date for your assessment, except where your circumstances of illness or misadventure stop you from doing so.

If your circumstances stop you from applying before your exam or assessment due date, you must **apply within 3 working days** of the assessment, or the period covered by your supporting documentation.

More information can be found on the [Special Consideration website](#).

## 5.5. Feedback on assessment

**Online Tutorial Quizzes via Moodle:** At the end of each quiz, you will get automated online feedback on the answers that will clarify misconceptions and mistakes. This will be further discussed with your tutor during your small group tutorials. These quizzes are aimed at providing you with timely feedback on your progress with the course and provide you with remedial assistance if required as well as to assist your tutor to further elaborate/focus on the specific questions that are most challenging to your group.

**Online Practical Examination:** Detailed feedback on the trial online practical examination will be provided on week 7 by the course convenor, Professor Tedla.

**Evidence Based Symposium:** The marking schemes for this activity will be provided during week 3 (also included on pages 7-11 above) as well as being available on the course Moodle page have inbuilt feedback that will be discussed by your peers and teachers during the group presentation on week 8.

## 6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

**Academic integrity** is fundamental to success at university. Academic integrity can be defined as a commitment to six fundamental values in academic pursuits: honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility and courage.<sup>1</sup> At UNSW, this means that your work must be your own, and others' ideas should be appropriately acknowledged. If you don't follow these rules, plagiarism may be detected in your work.

The Department of Pathology considers plagiarism in submitted written work as a serious academic misconduct and imposes severe penalties. Submitted abstract, papers and/or manuscripts will be routinely checked for editorial originality using UNSW approved software called [iThenticate](#). It is therefore, advisable for students to check their papers prior to submission and confirm no professional and/or scholarly plagiarism is committed.

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<sup>1</sup> International Center for Academic Integrity, 'The Fundamental Values of Academic Integrity', T. Fishman (ed), Clemson University, 2013.

Evidence of plagiarism in submitted assignments, etc. will be thoroughly investigated and may be penalised by the award of a score of zero for the assessable work. Flagrant plagiarism will be directly referred to the Division of the Registrar for disciplinary action under UNSW rules.

Further information about academic integrity and **plagiarism** can be located at:

- The Current Students site <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism>, and
- The ELISE training site <https://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/elise>

Your attention is drawn to the following extract from the above website:

The basic principles are that you should not attempt to pass off the work of another person as your own, and it should be possible for a reader to check the information and ideas that you have used by going to the original source material. Acknowledgment should be sufficiently accurate to enable the source to be located speedily". If you are unsure about this consult your lecturer.

The following are some examples of breaches of these principles:

- a) Quotation without the use of quotation marks. It is a serious breach of these rules to quote another's work without using quotation marks, even if one then refers to the quoted source. The fact that it is quoted must be acknowledged in your work.
- b) Significant paraphrasing, e.g. several sentences, or one very important sentence, which in wording are very similar to the source. This applies even if the source is mentioned, unless there is also due acknowledgment of the fact that the source has been paraphrased.
- c) Unacknowledged use of information or ideas unless such information or ideas are commonplace.
- d) Citing sources (e.g. texts) which you have not read, without acknowledging the 'secondary' source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.

These principles apply to both text and footnotes of sources. They also apply to sources such as teaching materials, and to any work by any student (including the student submitting the work) which has been or will be otherwise submitted for assessment. You must obtain the prior approval of your lecturer if you wish to submit to that lecturer an essay substantially like one which has already been, or will be, submitted to another lecturer.

Using the principles mentioned above about proper acknowledgment, you should also proceed on the general assumption that any work to be submitted for assessment should in fact be your own work. It ought not be the result of collaboration."

Appropriate citation of sources therefore includes surrounding any directly quoted text with quotation marks, with block indentation for larger segments of directly quoted text. The preferred format for citation of references is an author-date format with an alphabetically arranged bibliography at the end of the assignment. Note that merely citing textbooks or website URLs is unlikely to yield a bibliography of satisfactory standard. **The internet should be avoided as a primary source of information.** Inclusion of appropriate journal articles, both primary research publications and reviews, is usually expected

*The Conduct and Integrity Unit provides further resources to assist you to understand your conduct obligations as a student:* <https://student.unsw.edu.au/conduct>.

## 7. Readings and resources

You are expected to use the following text available online via the UNSW library website at <http://library.unsw.edu.au> (zID and zPass required). Search for Robbins Basic Pathology. *Robbins Basic*

*Pathology*. 10th Edition. V. Kumar, A.K. Abbas, & J.C. Aster (2018). Saunders & Co. Philadelphia PA; Elsevier Saunders. This book can also be purchased from the UNSW Book Store.

Students wishing to study the molecular biology, clinical features of diseases and diagnosis in greater depth might consider the purchase of the following texts:

1. *ROBBINS AND COTRAN, Pathologic Basis of Disease* 9<sup>th</sup> edition. V. Kumar, A.K. Abbas & J.C. Aster (2013) Elsevier Saunders. (recommended)
2. *ORTHOPAEDIC, Examination, Evaluation, and Intervention*. Mark Dutton (2004). McGraw Hill.
3. *DIAGNOSTIC MUSCULOSKELETAL IMAGING*. Theodore T Miller & Mark E. Schweitzer (2005). McGraw Hill.
4. *MUSCULOSKELETAL EXAMINATION*. Jeffrey Gross, Joseph Fetto & Elaine Rosen 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed (2009). Wiley Blackwell.
5. *HISTOLOGY AND CELL BIOLOGY. AN INTRODUCTION TO PATHOLOGY*. Abraham L. Kierszenbaum. Mosby (2002).

## 7.1. Additional Learning Resources

In addition, there are many resources available on the web, which vary from simple patient information brochures to on-line pathology courses to information on the latest research. Some general sites you may find useful are:

Medline Plus ('health topics' index of disease with information)

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthtopics.html>

American Arthritis Foundation (Patient information and latest research on arthritis)

<http://www.arthritis.org>

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases <http://www.niams.nih.gov/>

Neuromuscular Disease Centre, Washington University, St Louis, MO USA

<http://www.neuro.wustl.edu/neuromuscular/>

Muscle Physiology, University of California, San Diego <http://muscle.ucsd.edu>

## 7.2. PATH3207 Moodle course

The online module for the Musculoskeletal Disease course can be found by logging in to Moodle at <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au/>, using your student number as the username (e.g. z1234567) and your zPass as the password. The PATH3207 Moodle module will contain information directly related to the course such as tutorial lists, revisions to the lecture timetable, examination timetables, links to lecture slides and Lecture Recording+ etc. **You are expected to visit this site regularly during your course.**

### 7.2.1. Online lecture slides

PDF version of most lecture slides will be uploaded to Moodle together with corresponding recorded lectures (Lecture Recording+ or Teams). However, large numbers of lecture slides in this course are images that are not annotated but explained/discussed in during the lecture. Therefore, you are strongly advised to attend lectures live online via the General Channel of the PATH3207 T3 2022 Class Teams. Note that no online recordings will be available for lectures that are of sensitive nature and those where intellectual property is protected.

## 7.2.2. PATH3207 Virtual slide box and Images

Students will be able to access microscopic slides and images to all practical classes through the UNSW Virtual slides in Moodle by logging in to <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au>. Students can also log into large collections of our macroscopic and diagnostic images, available in SLICE at the BEST Network linked to <https://www.best.edu.au>.

## 7.2.3. Images of Disease (IOD) database

This database is a collection of images used for teaching within the Department. The latest version is available online, optimised for smart phones and tablet computers as well as Firefox4+, Chrome 13+ and Safari browsers on laptop and desktop computers at <http://iod.med.unsw.edu.au/> . An interactive Images of Disease app for iPhone and iPad is available to download from that website. Android and Windows phone versions will also be released shortly.

The IOD database contains over 3000 images relevant to your study as an undergraduate. Many of these images represent specimens from the Museum of Human Disease, histopathological images from the student histopathological slide set as well as some diagnostic images such as X-rays.

**Many images used in this program are of a sensitive nature and are intended for the purpose of private study by pathology students and graduates. You should exercise appropriate standard of professional ethics when using them.**

## 7.2.4. The Museum of Human Disease

The Donald Wilhelm Museum of Human Disease is located on the ground floor of the Samuels Building (Building F25). It was established by Professor Donald Wilhelm, the Foundation Professor of Pathology at this university. Thanks to his foresight, and to the tireless efforts of Dr G. Higgins (the Museum Curator until 2004), the Museum has been meticulously maintained and updated over the years to reflect the changing patterns of disease in our society. The Museum contains over 2,700 specimens (or "pots"), which display diseased human tissue at the macroscopic level, usually preserved in formalin. Specimens are obtained both from organs removed surgically and from tissue obtained at autopsy, where the natural history of disease is in full view. **Please take note that some specimens of diseases which have become rare, e.g. diphtheria, are over 60 years old, and are irreplaceable.** Each specimen is numbered and is accompanied by a clinical history (when known), a macroscopic description of the abnormalities displayed, and a histopathological description of changes at the microscopic level (where relevant). That information, specific to each of thirty areas (or "bays"), can be found in the Museum catalogues located in a bracket within each bay.

All the specimens in the museum are arranged in one or other of two major groups. One group comprises collections of specimens according to pathological processes such as congenital, inflammation and healing, vascular, neoplasia etc. The second group comprises collections of specimens under organ systems, such as cardiovascular, central nervous, renal etc. As responsible adults, we expect you to maintain decorum in the museum, behave with care and respect for the integrity of the specimens and help to keep the Museum tidy always. This means no eating or drinking in the Museum, and always returning specimens and catalogues to their allocated places. **Do not shake the pots!** This activity conveys no useful information, but often damages the specimens. If you discover that a specimen is leaking or broken, follow the instructions listed in the safety notice below. **Remember that the Museum is a precious learning resource, of which you are encouraged to make full use.**

The Museum of Human Disease page contains links to some excellent undergraduate and postgraduate educational resources that might be useful for you. The address is <https://medicallsciences.med.unsw.edu.au/community/museum-human-disease/education>

### 7.2.5. Security in the Museum

**It is a crime under the Human Tissue Act to steal or mistreat material preserved in the Museum or practical class laboratories. Anyone who contravenes the Act will be prosecuted.**

To protect the collection of specimens, access to the Museum is restricted for students during weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Museum is security locked and can only be entered by using your student card to enable the doors to be opened. Mr Derek Williamson, Mr Adam Strang play a supervisory role during office hours. The Museum and practical class laboratories are under constant electronic surveillance.

### 7.2.6. Safety in the Museum

- Always handle museum specimens with care and respect. All specimens consist of generously donated human tissue.
- The specimens are preserved in Perspex and contain a range of preserving chemicals that may be harmful. Chemicals used may include formalin, pyridine, and sodium dithionate. A full list of chemicals and associated information is available at the Health and Safety (H&S) station in the Museum and on the SoMS website.

Chemical	Max. Percentage Composition
Glycerol	17 (v/v)
Pyridine	0.8 (v/v)
Sodium Acetate	7 (w/v)
Formalin	<2 (v/v)
Sodium Dithionate	0.4 (w/v)

- For reasons of hygiene, never take food or drink into the museum.
- Never leave a museum specimen on the floor, or in any precarious position.
- If a specimen is leaking, turn it upside down to prevent further leakage, then immediately inform Mr David Cutting or a member of academic staff.
- If a specimen is broken, do not attempt to wipe up the spillage. Use the kitty litter provided in the central cupboards to absorb the fumes, then clear the area and immediately inform the Museum staff including Mr Derek Williamson, Mr Adam Strang or any academic staff from the Department of Pathology.
- Remember that the museum is here for your benefit - your cooperation in maintaining neatness and safety always is appreciated.
- For more information on matters related to occupational and health safety policies of the UNSW visit the following web site: <http://www.ohs.unsw.edu.au/> or [safety.unsw.edu.au/](http://safety.unsw.edu.au/)

### 7.2.7. Guide to Practical Classes

Practical classes and tutorials in Musculoskeletal Diseases are aimed at amplifying and extending your understanding of the topics gleaned from attendance at lectures and reading of the recommended text, as well as correcting any misconceptions. Hence, adequate preparation and active participation are essential.

Practical classes will reinforce the clinical-pathological correlations involved with each topic. They are intended to help you to acquire the ability to recognize the macroscopic and microscopic features of



pathology specimens and to relate the pathology to clinical application. The format of each practical class will be at the discretion of the tutor. Macroscopic “pots” will be generally used in conjunction with projected microscopic slides, X-rays, and other materials. Materials for the practical classes are located at UNSW Virtual slides in Moodle by logging in to <https://moodle.telt.unsw.edu.au> . Remember, it is much better to make a mistake in the relative safety of a practical class, than to make a critical error in an essay or exam because of misconception of basic pathological principles. ***It is recommended that you regularly visit the Museum of Human Disease.***

### **7.2.7.1. A simple guide to description of macroscopic specimens (“pots”)**

The best approach to the study of macroscopic specimens in the Museum is to be systematic. As you cover each lecture topic this year, you should make it a point to visit the Museum to become familiar with macroscopic examples of that disease process, and other related conditions. One of the major tasks for you will be to learn how to differentiate with the naked eye between disease processes that at first glance have similar appearances. Sometimes this cannot be accomplished even by close examination, in which case you should formulate a list of differential diagnoses, in order of decreasing likelihood. All this takes time and careful attention to honing your skills of observation in the Museum. **In addition to the specimens and related conditions covered during practical classes, you are expected to cover all specimens in Bay 6, Bay 13, Bay 17 and Bay 21 of the Museum of Human disease.**

#### **1) Anatomical description**

Almost all macroscopic specimens will contain enough “normal” tissue for you to identify the organ(s) of origin. Hence a good appreciation of normal anatomy is required (i.e. pathology requires integration with your previous studies). Knowledge of the normal dimensions of organs is important in order to comment on pathological enlargement, distortion or shrinkage of tissue. The way in which the tissue has been mounted is also relevant. For example, bones are usually kept intact or cut longitudinally to display abnormalities in the bone marrow and medulla.

#### **2) Description of the lesion(s)**

A “lesion” is a recognisable abnormality in an organ or tissue caused by injury or disease. Lesions can be sub-classified into “focal” (localised), “multifocal” and “diffuse” (an abnormality of the entire organ or tissue). An example of a focal lesion is a tumour in the lower part of femur. You should describe focal lesions as you would describe a lump in a surgical patient, e.g. “There is a mass lesion 5 cm in diameter above the knee, pushing the periosteum and extending to the overlying muscle. The mass is predominantly solid and whitish in colour, with focal areas of brown-red discolouration (haemorrhage) and softening (necrosis).”

#### **3) Identification of the major pathological process**

Once you obtain a basic knowledge of the classification of disease, it is possible to categorise abnormalities in tissue as traumatic, inflammatory (acute or chronic), vascular (thrombosis, embolism, infarction, haemorrhage), disorders of growth (atrophy, hyperplasia, hypertrophy, metaplasia, hamartoma, neoplasia - benign or malignant, primary or metastatic), metabolic or degenerative. For example, the qualities of the bone lesion described above are typical of a primary malignant tumour - a single, abnormal, invasive mass that has overgrown the surrounding tissue, with areas of necrosis and haemorrhage (indicative of rapid growth).

#### **4) Related lesions and complications**

It is important to integrate your description with your theoretical knowledge of disease causation and complications. For example, wrinkled skin (solar elastosis) surrounding a skin cancer on the back of the hand is caused by the same agent as the tumour - ultraviolet radiation. In the above example, it is

important to note whether the bone tumour has been complicated by invasion to the blood vessels and or spread to other bones (as osteosarcomas often do), because this has prognostic implications.

## 5) Anatomical diagnosis

The diagnosis is no longer a guessing game once you become aware of the basic pathological principles - your description justifies the selection of which pathological processes are operative, which you then relate to the anatomy and to your knowledge of the natural history of disease to formulate a tissue diagnosis. In the above example, the diagnosis is "primary osteosarcoma of the lower femur, complicated by metastases to the vertebrae".

**Remember: Your descriptive skills will only improve with practice.** It is recommended that students work through the Museum in pairs or small groups - one student is armed with a textbook, lecture notes and Museum catalogue, while the other(s) act as "the guinea pig" and are required to describe and identify the specimens. **Be warned: it is useless for you to look at a number on a specimen, refer to that number in the Museum catalogue and learn it by rote.** That is not an approach befitting thoughtful prospective professionals. It is much better to look carefully at a specimen, attempt to identify the disease process, justify your diagnosis, and only then refer to the catalogue, textbook and lecture notes. If you are unable, even after referral to the text, to work out why a diagnosis was made, then you should ask your tutor at a convenient time.

### 7.2.7.2. A simple guide to writing histopathological descriptions

Haematoxylin and eosin are used for staining all routine sections, and special stains are used only to confirm or refute the presence of a substance in the tissue. In addition, histochemistry, immunohistochemistry and electron microscopy may be used extensively in the hospital situation to confirm a clinical diagnosis. Haematoxylin is preferentially taken up by nucleic acids and stains them blue, hence any highly cellular tissue will appear blue (basophilic). Other sources of basophilia include hyaline cartilage, calcium salts and bacterial colonies. Eosin is preferentially taken up by proteins, hence any proteinaceous tissue will appear pink (eosinophilic). Clear spaces may be caused by fat (washed out by aqueous fixatives), water or air. If you have an atlas of histology you may find it useful at these classes. We assume that you are acquainted with the normal histological appearances of human tissues - if not, revise this prior to examining the histopathology slides.

Armed with the basics outlined above, it is possible to write a histopathological description, which should possess the following components:

#### 1) Anatomical and General Description

- **Draw a simple sketch of the main features** to remind you of these areas when you look at the screen or look down at the microscope. This can be used to clarify your description, e.g. area A in the sketch is strongly eosinophilic and is an area of haemorrhage, B is palely eosinophilic and is an area of fibrosis, etc.
- **Make a general statement that both identifies the tissue and indicates whether the lesion is focal or diffuse.** For example, "*Slide 1 is a 2 X 2 cm section of peripheral lung tissue (i.e. it contains no major bronchi) including one pleural surface that contains a focal basophilic lesion labelled area A. The surrounding normal lung tissue is labelled area B.*" Or "*Slide 2 is a section through the left ventricle measuring 2 X 1.5 cm including pericardium, myocardium and endocardium. The tissue is diffusely abnormal.*"

#### 2) Description of the Major Lesion and Identification of the Major Pathological Process

- These elements require a thorough appreciation of the entirety of the section. Such an appreciation cannot be achieved by using only the 40X objective, which will result in failure to see the forest for

the trees. Remember the following maxim: Use a low-power objective and a high-powered mind (not *vice versa*)!

- Avoid the trap of describing each abnormal feature in the order that you discover it, without any regard to its relationship to the totality of the lesion. That is, your description requires prior thought, interpretation, and planning. Jot down your observations on scrap paper, but then order them (to exhibit your understanding of "the big picture"). The major pathological process (e.g. acute inflammation, malignant neoplasia) should then become obvious to the informed reader even before you have named it.

### 3) Identification of Related Lesions

- Sections may contain abnormalities that either share a common aetiology with or predispose to the major lesion (e.g. solar damage to dermal collagen in skin adjoining a melanoma), or else complicate the main lesion (e.g. invasion of dermal lymphatic vessels by melanoma cells). Linking of these elements requires an alert mind (which we hope you already possess) and an understanding of the natural history of disease (which you will acquire with study). Some complications are so important that it is necessary to comment on their absence (e.g. lymphatic or venous invasion by malignant neoplasms).

### 4) Tissue Diagnosis

- This should bring together the anatomy, major lesion, and any related lesions in a concise fashion with the use of all relative descriptive adjectives (e.g. chronic osteomyelitis with multiple areas of acute inflammation and bacteria).

## 8. Administrative matters

For student administrative matters, please submit enquiries online via UNSW Student Portal Web Forms

<https://portal.insight.unsw.edu.au/web-forms/>

You may also meet the following members of the school support staff during the year:

#### Mr Adam Strang

Position: Manager, Museum of Human Disease

Location: Room G04 Ground Floor Samuels Building, Building F25

Mr Williamson provides support for all undergraduate teaching programs. He plays a major role in broadening the use of the Museum of Human Disease by introducing an integrated learning program for senior high school students and community interest groups. Mr Williamson Co-ordinates a network of volunteers, who assist with the supervision of visitors from outside the University.

Phone: 9385 2190 or 9385 1522

E-mail: [a.strang@unsw.edu.au](mailto:a.strang@unsw.edu.au)

#### Joanne Dable

Position: Curator & Education Officer, Museum of Human Disease

Location: Room G06 Ground Floor Samuels Building, Building F25

Ms Dable is a Curator & Education Officer. Ms Dable will assist you on how to handle if you encounter incidence of broken, leaking, or displaced specimens and any museum related enquiries.

Phone: 93850330

E-mail: [j.dable@unsw.edu.au](mailto:j.dable@unsw.edu.au)

## Mr David Cutting

Position: Museum Preservation Specialist

Location: Room G06 Ground Floor Samuels Building, Building F25

Mr Cutting is a Curator and will assist you on how to handle if you encounter incidence of broken, leaking, or displaced specimens and any museum related enquires.

Phone: 9385 1001

E-mail: [davecutting@unsw.edu.au](mailto:davecutting@unsw.edu.au)

## 9. Equitable learning Services

Students who have a disability that requires some adjustment in their learning and teaching environment are encouraged to discuss their study needs with the course convenor prior to or at the commencement of the course. Alternatively contact the Equitable Learning Services. Information for students with disabilities is available at: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>

Issues that can be discussed may include access to materials, signers or note-takers, the provision of services and additional examination and assessment arrangements. Early notification is essential to enable any necessary adjustments to be made.

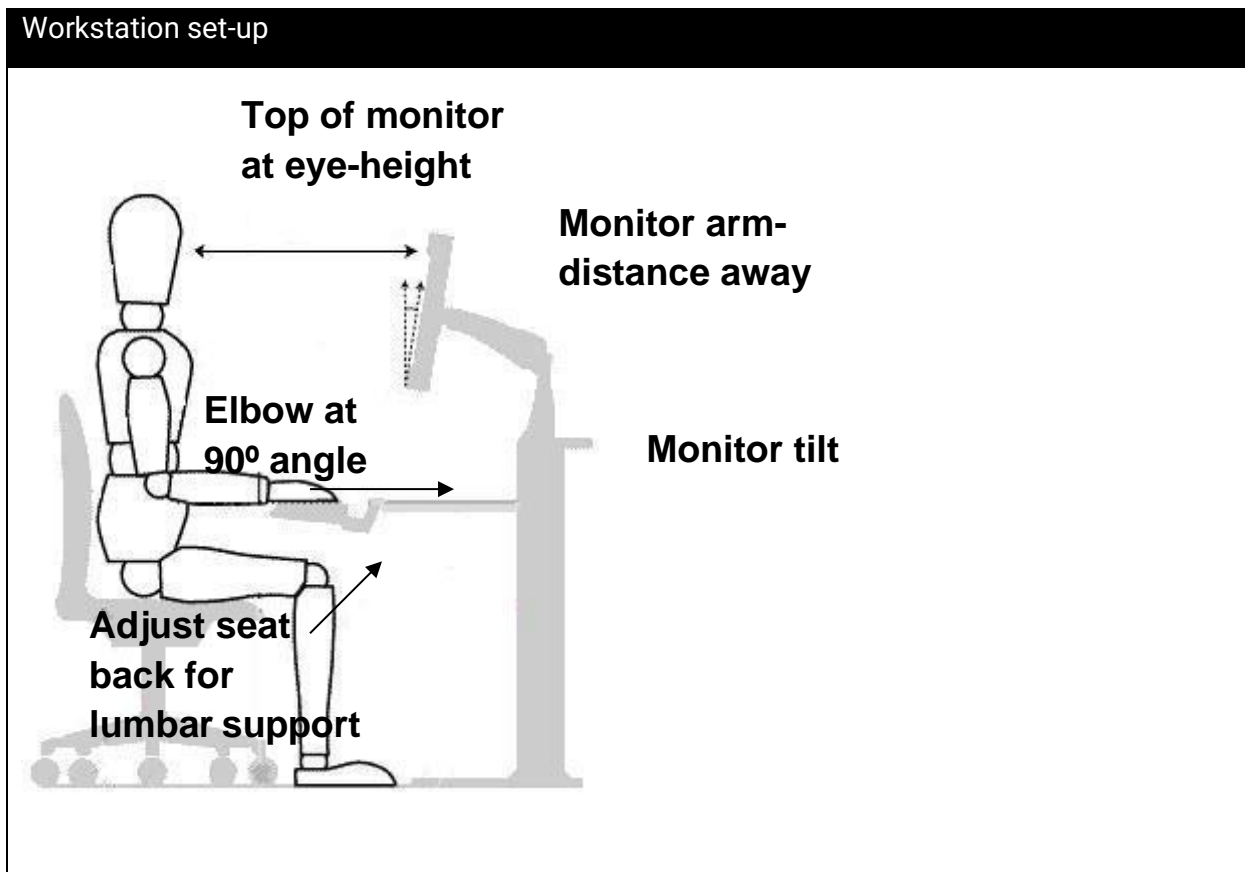
## 10. Additional support for students

- The Current Students Gateway: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- *Student Wellbeing and Health* <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au/services/students>
- *UNSW Student Life Hub*: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/hub#main-content>
- *Student Support and Development*: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- *IT, eLearning and Apps*: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/elearning>
- *Student Support and Success Advisors*: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/advisors>
- *Transitioning to Online Learning* <https://www.covid19studyonline.unsw.edu.au/>
- *Guide to Online Study* <https://student.unsw.edu.au/online-study>

# 11. Teaching Laboratories Risk Assessments

Medicine Teaching Laboratory  Student Risk Assessment		Pathology practicals in G115 G116, G120, G08, G16/G17 at Wallace Wurth for PATH3207, 2022
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Hazards		
Ergonomics	Musculoskeletal pain	Correct workstation set-up.
Electrical	Electrical shock/fire	Check electrical equipment in good condition before use. All portable electrical equipment tested and tagged.
Handling pots	Chemical spillage	Instructions on correct manual handling of pots



Personal Protective Equipment

All pots contain real human tissue that has been generously donated to medical science and **must be treated with appropriate respect and dignity.** Specimens are preserved in Perspex and contain a range of preserving chemicals that may be harmful. Chemicals used include **formalin, pyridine, sodium dithionate**. A full list of chemicals and associated MSDS information is available in the H&S Station and on the SoMS website.

**MANUAL HANDLING OF POTS**

It is recommended that all students wash their hands thoroughly as they leave practical class. Chemical residues may be present on pots.

**Carry one pot at a time.** ALWAYS use two hands and support the base of pot.

**Avoid rough handling and/or tilting of pots.** This can cause leaking joints or tear tissue in specimen.

**Limit the number of pots on a table at any one time.**

### **SPILLS AND LEAKAGES**

If a specimen is leaking or broken, do not attempt to wipe up the spillage. Clear the area and immediately inform the Museum Manager or a member of academic staff. A spill kit will then be used to absorb the fumes.

### **Emergency Procedures**

In the event of an alarm, follow the instructions of the demonstrator. The initial sound is advising you to prepare for evacuation and during this time start packing up your things. The second sound gives instruction to leave. The Wallace Wurth assembly point is in the lawn in front of the Chancellery. In the event of an injury inform the demonstrator. First aiders and contact details are on display by the lifts. There is a first aid kit in the laboratory and the Wallace Wurth security office.

### **Clean up and waste disposal**

Not necessary in these practicals.

No open-toe shoes allowed

I have read and understand the safety requirements for this practical class and I will observe these requirements.

Signature: .....Date: .....

Student Number: .....

Reviewed on 18/07/2022.