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Transforming 1st year Anatomy and Physiology into a blended online/inlab practical format

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Background

Anatomy Laboratory at UOW under increasing demands due to increase in undergraduate 1st year Anatomy and Physiology student numbers (nearly doubled in 5 yrs)



Background

High demand for anatomy laboratory space has resulted in:

- Reduction in available revision times in anatomy laboratory for undergraduate students
- Restructuring of 1st year Anatomy and Physiology Subjects
- Previously:
 - MEDI111 – Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology I (590 students)
 - MEDI100 – Human Structure and Function (70 students)
- In 2017:
 - MEDI111 – Access to Anatomy & Physiology Laboratories (280 students)
 - MEDI100 – Access ONLY to Physiology Laboratory (400 students)



Restructured timetable

Students enrolled into either:

- Stream A practicals
- Stream B practicals
- Alternating between inlab and online practicals
- Online practicals had associated assessment tasks

Stream A Practical	Stream B Practical
-	-
In-lab Practical 1 - Skeletal System I (41.G74)	Online Practical 1 - Skeletal System (Moodle)
Online Practical 1 - Skeletal System (Moodle)	In-lab Practical 1 - Skeletal System I (41.G74)
In-lab Practical 2 - Skeletal System II & Articulations (41.G74)	Online Practical 2 - Skeletal Muscle (Moodle)
Online Practical 2 - Skeletal Muscle (Moodle)	In-lab Practical 2 - Skeletal System II & Articulations (41.G74)
-	-
In-lab Practical 3 - Muscular System (41.G74)	Online Practical 3 - Nervous System (Moodle)
MID-SESSION RECESS PUBLIC HOLIDAY: EASTER MON 17/4	
Online Practical 3 - Nervous System (Moodle)	In-lab Practical 3 - Muscular System (41.G74)
In-lab Practical 4 - Nervous System (41.G74)	Online Practical 4 - Respiratory System (Moodle)
Online Practical 4 - Respiratory System (Moodle)	In-lab Practical 4 - Nervous System (41.G74)
In-lab Practical 5 - Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems (41.G74)	Online Practical 5 - Cardiovascular System (Moodle)
Online Practical 5 - Cardiovascular System (Moodle)	In-lab Practical 5 - Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems (41.G74)
In-Lab Anatomy Revision (41.G74) Stream A - Thursday 1st June Normal Lab time	In-Lab Anatomy Revision (41.G74) Stream B - Friday 2nd June Normal Lab time



Inlab practicals

Inlab practicals involved:

- Anatomy model revision
- Physiology activities
- Mnemonics whiteboard
- Practice quiz in revision prac



Online practicals

Online practicals involved:

- Lecture note revision
- PhysioEx activities
- Animations
- Prac manual activities
- Anatomy glossary
- Practice quiz based on Subject Outline
- Moodle quiz (4% of assessment, 5 x quizzes = 20% total)

The screenshot displays the PhysioEx software interface for Exercise 6: Cardiovascular Physiology, Activity 5: Examining the Effects of Various Ions on Heart Rate. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Navigation:** Overview, Objectives, Introduction, Experiment (selected), Lab Report.
- Instructions:** 1. Watch the contractile activity from the frog heart on the oscilloscope. Click Record Data to record the number of ventricular contractions per minute (from the heart rate display).
- Virtual Lab Setup:** A frog heart is suspended from a stand. A reservoir labeled "23°C Ringer's" is connected to the heart. Three bottles of "Calcium Ions", "Sodium Ions", and "Potassium Ions" are positioned above the heart.
- Monitor:** Displays a graph of heart rate activity over time (0 to 10 seconds). The current heart rate is 60 beats/min, and the status is "Heart Rate Normal".
- Control Panel:** Includes a "Record Data" button and a table for recording data.

Solution	Heart Rate (beats/min)

*Example PhysioEx Activity
(Mastering A&P platform) Pearson publishing*



Online study tools

Virtual Anatomy Laboratory



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What worked well in this format?

- Students enjoyed the *flexibility* of doing the online assessment tasks in their own time
- More *opportunity to attend a make up practical class* if students are unwell due to same topic running for a fortnight
- *Consolidation of knowledge* through the design of linked lecture and laboratory related online assessment tasks
- Inclusion of animations and simulations provided a *variety of ways to learn*
- *~4% lower failure rate* than the previous years cohort



What didn't work well in this format?

- Only 260 out of 400 students purchased access to mastering A&P platform
- Online assessments open for 7 days (closed 10pm Sundays) however Pearson support only available Mon-Fri
- Virtual Anatomy Laboratory under-utilised and not as user friendly as it could be
- Some students did feel the need for more lab time
- Tutorials only ran on Fridays, more flexibility/different days would be better



What improvements could be made?

- Changing opening times for online assessments to Mon-Fri
- More laboratory time
- Virtual access to cadaveric material customised to relevant subject content
- More consolidation/recognition activities to assist with learning a large amount of content



Virtual access to cadaveric material

Microsoft HoloLens?

- Augmented reality
- Livestreaming to multiple venues
- Multimedia resource building for online study tools



Virtual access to cadaveric material

Microsoft HoloLens trialled in MEDI112 in 2017 (Spring session Anatomy and Physiology subject)

- 500 students enrolled in subject, 186 students completed survey (36%)
- 7 point Likert scale assess enjoyment, learning benefit and engagement
- Free text field available to justify Likert scale choice and add extra comments



Preliminary results of HoloLens Trial

- 70% of respondents answered that they *enjoyed* (either somewhat, agreed or strongly agreed) viewing the HoloLens
- 67% answered that it *helped them to learn*
- 66% answered that it helped them be *more engaged* in their learning
- *Removed issues* surrounding *overcrowding* around demonstrators
- All structures viewed by students from the same angle
- Potential for *development of online resources* (Virtual lab, Moodle activities)
- Improvements suggested by students centered around practical issues such as lighting, steadiness and user practice



Where to now?

- Faculty is investigating anatomy software providers – institutional licence
- Nursing re-instating Anatomy and Physiology content 2019
- Continuing to update Virtual anatomy laboratory. HTML5 upgrade for compatibility with more devices



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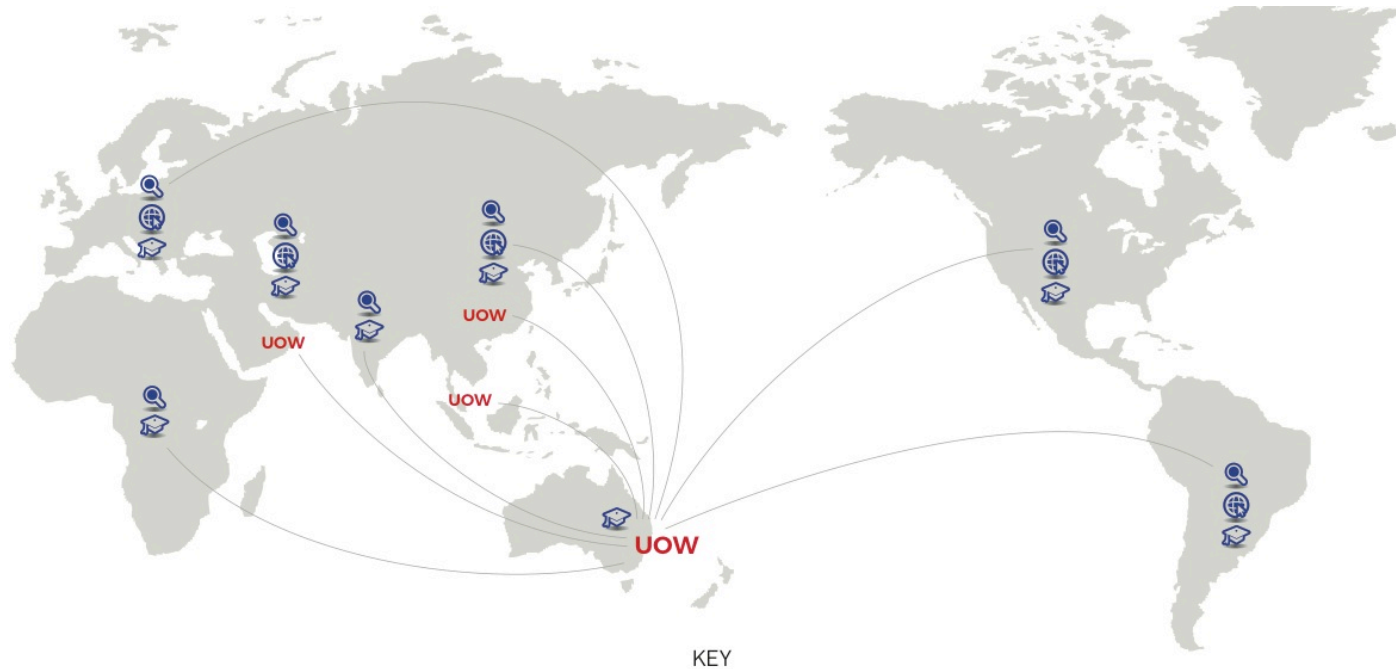
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Our global presence



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