

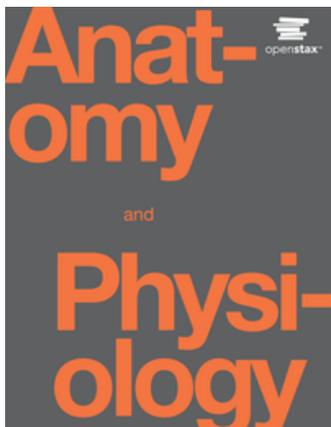


Faculty Review of Open eTextbooks

The [California Open Educational Resources Council](#) has designed and implemented a faculty review process of the free and open etextbooks showcased within the California Open Online Library for Education (www.cool4ed.org). Faculty from the California Community Colleges, the California State University, and the University of California were invited to review the selected free and open etextbooks using a rubric. Faculty received a stipend for their efforts and funding was provided by the State of California, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Textbook Name:

Anatomy and Physiology



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Textbook Authors:

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Professor

Format

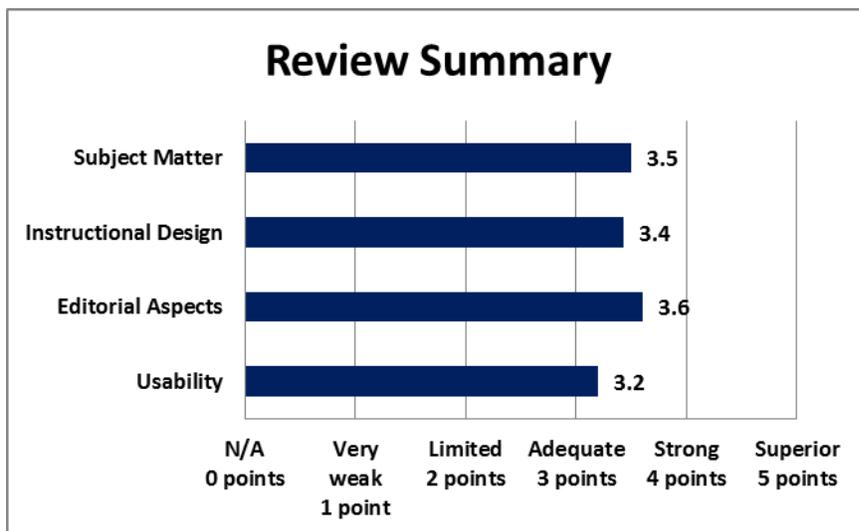
Reviewed:

[Online](#)

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Date Reviewed:

December 2015



California OER Council eTextbook Evaluation Rubric

CA Course ID: [BIOL 120B](#)

Subject Matter (30 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the content accurate, error-free, and unbiased?					X	
Does the text adequately cover the designated course with a sufficient degree of depth and scope?				X		

Does the textbook use sufficient and relevant examples to present its subject matter?					X	
Does the textbook use a clear, consistent terminology to present its subject matter?					X	
Does the textbook reflect current knowledge of the subject matter?				X		
Does the textbook present its subject matter in a culturally sensitive manner? (e.g. Is the textbook free of offensive and insensitive examples? Does it include examples that are inclusive of a variety of races, ethnicities, and backgrounds?)				X		

Total Points: 21 out of 30

Please provide comments on any aspect of the subject matter of this textbook:

- There is adequate depth and coverage in this text. There are some places that could be better (like the section on osmosis), but no textbook is perfect. (And this book can actually be customized at <http://legacy.cnx.org/mydashboard>, though it isn't a simple process.)
- The organization is also sometimes strange...fluid compartments aren't introduced until chapter 25, with the urinary system. But it is an important concept for understanding many aspects of physiological function (I introduce the idea on day 1!).
- There are images, powerpoints available, and review questions at the end of each chapter. There are no unlabeled images or test banks, though...those would be nice.

Instructional Design (35 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Does the textbook present its subject materials at appropriate reading levels for undergrad use?					X	
Does the textbook reflect a consideration of different learning styles? (e.g. visual, textual?)				X		
Does the textbook present explicit learning outcomes aligned with the course and curriculum?					X	
Is a coherent organization of the textbook evident to the reader/student?					X	
Does the textbook reflect best practices in the instruction of the designated course?				X		
Does the textbook contain sufficient effective ancillary materials? (e.g. test banks, individual and/or group activities or exercises, pedagogical apparatus, etc.)				X		
Is the textbook searchable?				X		

Total Points: 24 out of 35

Please provide comments on any aspect of the instructional design of this textbook:

- This textbook is extremely professional. It is consistently organized and very pleasing to the eye.
- The biggest issue is the images. They are rather FLAT, which is a disadvantage in an A&P textbook (because both anatomy and physiology are such visual sciences).
- It would also be nice to have access to test banks and unlabeled images.

Editorial Aspects (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the language of the textbook free of grammatical, spelling, usage, and typographical errors?					X	
Is the textbook written in a clear, engaging style?				X		
Does the textbook adhere to effective principles of design? (e.g. are pages laid out and organized to be clear and visually engaging and effective? Are colors, font, and typography consistent and unified?)					X	
Does the textbook include conventional editorial features? (e.g. a table of contents, glossary, citations and further references)					X	
How effective are multimedia elements of the textbook? (e.g. graphics, animations, audio)				X		

Total Points: 18 out of 25

Please provide comments on any editorial aspect of this textbook.

- The presentation of this text is excellent. It has a very professional design.

- The images could be better.
- There are no references for further research.

Usability (25 possible points)	N/A (0 pts)	Very Weak (1pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
Is the textbook compatible with standard and commonly available hardware/software in college/university campus student computer labs?					X	
Is the textbook accessible in a variety of different electronic formats? (e.g. .txt, .pdf, .epub, etc.)					X	
Can the textbook be printed easily?					X	
Does the user interface implicitly inform the reader how to interact with and navigate the textbook?				X		
How easily can the textbook be annotated by students and instructors?		X				

Total Points: 16 out of 25

Please provide comments on any aspect of access concerning this textbook.

- The textbook is available as a color hard copy (for about \$50 through Amazon), online as a pdf, or online as a website. It is also available through a program called "Bookshare," which provides fully accessible versions of the text!

Overall Ratings	Not at all (0 pts)	Very Weak (1 pt)	Limited (2 pts)	Adequate (3 pts)	Strong (4 pts)	Superior (5 pts)
What is your overall impression of the textbook?					X	
How willing would you be to adopt this book?	Not at all (0 pts)	Strong reservations (1 pt)	Limited willingness (2 pts)	Willing (3 pts)	Strongly willing (4 pts)	Enthusiastically willing (5 pts)
					X	

Total Points: 8 out of 10

Overall Comments

If you were to recommend this textbook to colleagues, what merits of the textbook would you highlight?

- This book is professional and complete. It is available in many formats and can be easily acquired in hard copy format. It is also accessible and provides teaching tools, like PowerPoints.

What areas of this textbook require improvement in order for it to be used in your courses?

- Unfortunately, this is an Anatomy and Physiology textbook. This means that there is always extra information in each chapter for a course that only covers Physiology (like C-ID BIOL-120B). However, with some effort by the instructor, a syllabus can be constructed to offer a very clear set of reading requirements appropriate for just the physiology content. Additionally, the images could be more engaging. Test banks and unlabeled images would be fantastic.

We invite you to add your feedback on the textbook or the review to [the textbook site in MERLOT](#) (Please [register](#) in MERLOT to post your feedback.)



For questions or more information, contact the [CA Open Educational Resources Council](#).



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