

## The “Mastering A&P Option”

This semester you have the option of whether or not to utilize a resource known as “Mastering A&P.” Your text book publisher has a variety of resources and activities available to you online to help you study and learn the concepts of anatomy and physiology. You may or may not benefit from these. There are also some practice tests you can take before you take my lecture exam to help you know whether or not you have grasped these concepts. Other instructors have implemented Mastering in their courses and believe they have improved student success. They report that students resist initially but by the end of the semester many students believe that the Mastering activities were the key to their success.

This semester I will conduct a study. Participation in Mastering A&P will be optional. At the end of the semester I will compare grades to see if Mastering helped my students or not.

### You have 3 options:

**Option 1)** You may choose NOT to utilize Mastering A&P and continue to study the way you have always studied. Your grade will be based 60% on 5 lecture exams and an optional comprehensive final and 40% on the best 10 of 12 lab quizzes. It is up to you and your study group to implement study strategies that are productive for you. Many students have scored well in my classes long before Mastering was ever conceived. However, many have also not scored so well and the Mastering activities might have been just what they needed.

**Option 2)** You may choose to utilize Mastering A&P on an OYO basis and still have your grade calculated as above. You may use it as much or as little as you like – start or stop any time you like.

**Option 3)** You may choose to have the Mastering A&P practice exams included in the calculation of your average. To do this you will have to commit this intention to me **before lecture exam 2**. This way you can ‘test drive’ Mastering for exam 1 before committing to using it. In this case your course grade will be calculated based on 6 lecture exams, not 5. The 6<sup>th</sup> exam score is the average of all of your Mastering practice exams. There will still be the optional comprehensive final and the 10 of 12 lab quizzes.

### So how do you check out the Mastering activities?

If you bought a new 8<sup>th</sup> edition text it came with an **access code**. If you bought an 8<sup>th</sup> edition used and the access code was never used you may still use it. Access codes from 7<sup>th</sup> edition texts will not work. If the access code for your text has already been used or there never was one you may purchase an access code online for about \$50 when you go to the Mastering web page. My understanding is you have access to Mastering for the duration of AP1 and it will also be good for AP2 for as long as 24 months.

To use your access code or to purchase and then use an access code go to:

<http://www.masteringaandp.com/> and follow the prompts.

When asked for the Course ID it is JJAMESAP1.

Good luck. Let me know your thoughts.

JJames