



Great universities constantly expand their reach by sharing knowledge — among colleagues, among departments, among schools, and finally across countries and continents.

Tufts OCW Quarterly Newsletter

Combined Spring 2008 and Summer 2008

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<http://ocw.tufts.edu>

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Four New Courses Released in March and June 2008 Launches

[Cardiovascular Pathophysiology](#), Spring 2008 - School of Medicine

In the second year Introduction to Cardiovascular Pathophysiology course, students will be introduced to the pathophysiologic basis for common cardiovascular diseases. This includes the basics of hemodynamic perturbations and congenital and arrhythmic disorders of the heart. Students are also introduced to the spectrum of coronary disease and cardiomyopathies as well as the basics of vascular diseases.

[Introduction of Geographic Interface Systems \(GIS\) for Urban and Environmental Analysis](#), Fall 2007 - School of Arts and Sciences

GIS, a computer-based tool for storing, mapping, and analyzing spatial information together with non-spatial data, is very helpful when studying urban and environmental topics. This course focuses on introducing students to the use of geographic information systems in the urban/suburban/metropolitan environment. Students will learn to use GIS and how to frame spatial questions for research and teaching as well as gain technical expertise.

[Special Care in Dentistry](#), Spring 2008 - School of Dental Medicine

Persons with developmental disabilities, attributable to mental, emotional, sensory and/or physical impairment are visiting the dental office on a regular basis. They deserve the same level of care that we all expect, but exposure to this population in dental education is often lacking. Special Care in Dentistry is a curriculum designed to introduce you to some characteristics and dental care needs of persons with special needs. These units are designed to increase your knowledge and awareness of patients with developmental disabilities, and provide you with practical tools for providing high-quality care.

[Basic Human Pathology, Part II](#), Academic Year 2007/2008 - School of Dental Medicine

This course, Basic Human Pathology, includes the teaching of both general and systemic (organs) pathology. It is divided into two parts. Part I, general pathology, refers to the study of basic pathology processes that underlie all disease. Part II, systems pathology, refers to the study of diseases affecting specific organs and

their systems. It is a transition course between the other basic science courses and the clinical sciences of dentistry. Not only does it serve as a foundation course, its knowledge base will also aid in the understanding of managing patients with complex medical histories, particularly now that patients are living longer and continue to seek regular dental care.

Website Traffic Update

Tufts OCW is now using Google Analytics to track the usage trends of its visitors. Some 2008 third quarter (July, August, and September) statistics follow.

Tufts OCW had over 75,000 absolute unique visitors to the site with an average of almost 1,000 visits per day. The busiest day of the quarter was July 31, 2008, with 1555 visits. More than 50% of the visits come from the United States. Tufts OCW has received visits from around the world, and while the top international visits came from the Philippines, the United Kingdom, India, Canada, China, Australia, Germany, Malaysia, and Brazil (in descending order), we have had visits from such diverse countries as Libya, Yemen, Botswana, Niger, Uzbekistan, Tanzania, and Mauritania.

Users found our website by Direct Traffic (10%), Referring Sites (39%), and Search Engines (51%). The top referring sites are via Google images, education portals, and the OCW Consortium.

Visits to the health sciences courses remain high, with the many visits to Pathophysiology of Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Medicine I, Basic Human Pathology, Zoological Medicine, and Human Growth and Development.

One of the most frequently visited courses remains the 'Three-Dimensional Modeling, Animation and Rendering Using Blender 3D Software' course, from the School of Arts and Sciences. We are excited to announce that the updated version of the course, called [Blender 3D Design](#), has just been added to the website.

Attendance at OpenCourseWare Consortium Conference in Dalian, China

Tufts Associate Provost, Mary Lee, attended the [Open Education Conference 2008](#), co-organized by the OpenCourseWare Consortium (OCWC), Dalian University of Technology (DUT), and China Open Resources for Education (CORE), which took place in Dalian, China, on April 24-27. The theme of the conference was "Open Educational Resources--Development, Application, Collaboration, and Sustainability." An international sub-group interested in OER in Health started to take shape where Tufts can share its experiences with others. A formal OER in Health meeting is being planned for the fall with support from the Hewlett Foundation.

Website Updates

In the Winter 2008 Tufts OCW quarterly release, the Tufts OCW homepage will have received a few design updates. Look for a new Flash slideshow at the top of the homepage which highlights new and popular course content. Information on the main homepage will be restructured to a more readable format, and old links will be updated.

Tufts OCW added to Wikipedia

Check out the history of Tufts OpenCourseWare and more at the Tufts OpenCourseWare link that has been added to [Wikipedia](#).

Tufts OCW Wants You!

We are always looking for new Tufts courses to publish. If you are a Tufts faculty member, we would be happy to provide you with a faculty information packet. Please email ocweditor@tufts.edu to start the process, with "Interest in contributing new OCW course" as the subject line.

Support OCW

If you would like to support Tufts in this exciting educational initiative, please visit the [online form](#). When you reach Step 2, "About Your Gift," skip down to the "Other" field and enter "OpenCourseWare Fund" before entering the amount of your gift. Or you may call 800-737-7035 from anywhere in North America or 617-627-2643 from anywhere in the world to make a gift via credit card. You may mail a donation payable to "Trustees of Tufts College" to:

Tufts University
P.O. Box 3306
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About Tufts University OpenCourseWare

OpenCourseWare (OCW) is part of the open educational resources (OER) movement in which course content is openly accessible to everyone online. [Tufts OpenCourseWare](#) is a free, online publication of high-quality educational material from a number of Tufts University courses available for use by self-learners, students, and faculty around the world. Tufts OCW is not a distance education program and does not provide university credit or degrees, therefore no enrollment process, fees, or registration are necessary. Tufts OCW demonstrates the university's multidisciplinary approach, and its particular strength in the life sciences. The project exemplifies the international perspective and underlying ethic of service to local, national and international communities that are essential to the identity of Tufts University. Tufts is a member of the [OpenCourseWare Consortium](#) (OCWC), working with other universities "to advance education and empower people worldwide."

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