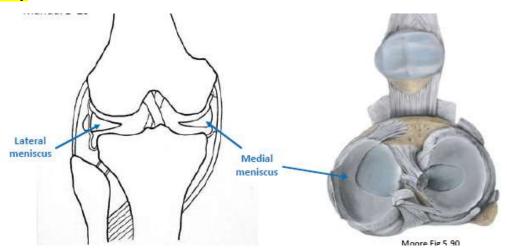
# **Menisci LO3**

3. Identify in pots, models, diagrams and cadaver specimens and describe the structure, location, attachment, and functions of the menisci (or semi-lunar cartilages).

**Menisci** are crescent shaped semilunar wedges of *fibrocartilage* that are thicker peripherally and thin centrally



### **Medial meniscus**

**Structure**: C shaped fibrocartilage, larger

## **Attachments:**

- coronary ligaments
- Intercondylar tubercles of tibia
- ACL and PCL

#### **Function:**

- Increase joint congruence
- Reduce stress
- Shock absorption

Medial meniscus ACL

Lateral meniscus

**Structure**: almost circular fibrocartilage, smaller and more mobile

## **Attachments:**

- coronary ligaments
- Intercondylar tubercles of tibia
- ACL and PCL
- Popliteus muscle

## **Function:**

- Increase joint congruence
- Reduce stress
- Shock absorption

**Coronary ligaments** are little ligaments that attach to the edge of the menisci like little stiches all the way round

Medial and lateral meniscus are attached to the ACL and PCL to help anchor them

Don't have a nerve supply because they are cartilage!