

BIOL3010 Molecular Genetics, Fall 2012

Lectures: 9.30AM to 10.45AM Tuesdays and Thursdays SM2100

Instructor: Dr. Malathi Krishnamurthy

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Office Hours: Monday: 10:00-11:00AM ; Wed: 10-11.00AM

Course Web Site:

Molecular Genetics is a Web-Assisted Course:

Figures and important information for each lecture will be posted on the Blackboard course web site (we will be using Blackboard 9.1) as PPT slides at least one day before the lecture. These notes can be printed out ahead of lecture and used to help you take notes during the lecture. Clickers are not used for this course. **Please note that important information will be given during lecture that is not included in the posted notes, thus it is important for you to attend each lecture and take notes during class time in order to do well in this course.**

You may contact me by email, I check my messages and will reply promptly to any questions/concerns you may have.

Required Text:

Essentials of Genetics, 7th Edition (Klug and Cummings) (ISBN# 0-321-61869-6)

Prentice Hall, New Jersey (2010)

Purchase of the textbook also includes free access to Geneticsplace.com

A Study guide and Solutions Manual (Harry Nickla) (ISBN# 978-0-321-61870-2) is also available. You are not required to purchase this book but may it may be helpful if you want additional problems to work through.

Important Dates:

T	9/11	1st Exam 20% (On lectures 8/21 to 9/6) (15% for Hons students)
R	10/4	Honors students get topic approved
T	10/9	2nd Exam 20% (On lectures 9/13 to 10/4) (15% for Hons students)
R	11/8	3rd Exam 20% (On lectures 10/11 to 11/6) (15% for Hons students)
R	11/29	Honors essay due (15%)
W	12/12	Final Exam 8.00-10.00AM – cumulative 40%

Learning Outcomes of BIOL3010:

BIOL 3010 is a 3 credit hour lecture course. Through this course you will:

- 1) Become familiar with the fundamental concepts underlying modern molecular genetics such as the properties of nucleic acids, mechanisms of DNA synthesis, replication and repair, and sources of DNA variation.
- 2) Gain a greater understanding of the multiple levels of gene expression including regulation of transcription and post-transcriptional regulation, and protein synthesis (translation).
- 3) Provide you with an introduction to the role of genetics in human diseases as well as the practical application of modern molecular genetics in our society.

Course Policy on Absences:

Students are expected to attend all lectures. Although no official attendance record will be kept, extra credit may be awarded for attendance at the discretion of the advisor after appropriate announcement in class or by email.

Students who wish to withdraw from the course are responsible for withdrawing by the specified deadline. If you remain registered for the course past the deadline you can only receive a letter grade for the course (A-F). I will only give an Incomplete (I) grade in extenuating circumstances and you must consult with me prior to me giving you an Incomplete grade.

In the event of an unanticipated absence at an exam due to illness or emergency, evidence of the necessity of the absence must be provided in the form of a doctor's letter or equivalent. Any unaccounted absence will result in no points awarded for that exam and thus greatly threatens your chances of success in the course.

For anyone that has substantiated to me that they had to miss an exam due to illness or emergency, I will work with them to schedule a makeup exam. The format of the makeup exam will be up to my discretion and will likely consist of short answer/ essay style questions. **Makeup exams will only be considered where INDEPENDENT proof of the necessity of the absence is presented.**

Student Evaluation:

There will be three in class exams during the semester and a comprehensive final exam.

The in class exams will consist of approximately 50 multiple-choice questions. These exams will only cover new material (i.e.-material covered since the previous exam)

The final exam will be comprehensive and will likely consist of approximately 75-100 multiple-choice questions. About 50% of the final exam will cover topics discussed since the third exam. The remaining 50% will cover topics discussed from the start of the semester.

Any student arriving more than 15 minutes late for an exam **or** after any student has completed the exam and left the room (which ever comes first) will not be allowed to take the exam.

Bring 2-3 sharpened number 2 pencils with good erasers to the exam.

If an exam is missed, the instructor must be notified within 48 hours and documentation of the reason for missing the exam must be provided. Acceptable excuses include a death in the immediate family and documented illness of the student.

Make-up exams will be given at the discretion of the instructor and will consist primarily of short answer/essay type questions. Because of this, it is likely that make-up exams will be more difficult than the exam taken in class. In addition, make-up exams will be administered in the university test center and I will not be available to answer questions that may arise during the exam.

Exams will be based on materials from lectures and assigned textbook readings, however material covered in the lectures will be emphasized so students should attend class and take detailed notes. The instructor will not provide lecture notes, so if you miss a class be sure to get notes from other students. There will not be any set number of questions per lecture; some lectures may include 5 or 6 questions whereas others may only have 1 or 2.

This course will be taught at the level of above average learners. To perform well, you need to review the material before and after the lecture and attend lectures.

Grading of BIOL3010

The breakdown of marks is shown below:

T	9/11	1st Exam 20% (On lectures 8/21 to 9/6) (15% for Hons students)
T	10/9	2nd Exam 20% (On lectures 9/13 to 10/4) (15% for Hons students)
R	11/8	3rd Exam 20% (On lectures 10/11 to 11/6) (15% for Hons students)
R	11/29	Honors essay due (15%)
W	12/12	Final Exam 8.00-10.00AM – cumulative 40%

GRADING SCALE:

Grade equivalents will be assigned as follows: This scale is based on the assumption that knowledge of 50% of the material is needed to pass this course.

% of available marks	Grade	Standard
92-100	A	Achievement of outstanding quality
89-91	A-	Achievement of slightly less than outstanding quality
85-88	B+	Achievement of slightly more than high quality

78-84	B	Achievement of high quality
75-77	B-	Achievement of slightly less than high quality
71-74	C+	Work of slightly more than acceptable quality
64-70	C	Work of acceptable quality
61-63	C-	Work of slightly less than acceptable quality
57-60	D+	Work slightly above the quality expected
52-58	D	Work below the quality expected
50-51	D-	Work slightly below the quality expected

Course Policy on Cheating:

Everybody in this course is capable of earning a passing grade without the need to cheat. Any student caught cheating will be given a grade of zero for that exam/assignment and all available information on the incident will be forwarded to the Dean of Student Affairs for investigation and appropriate action.

ANTICIPATED LECTURE SCHEDULE FOR SPRING 2012

The actual topics that we cover on given days are subject to change depending on the rate of progress.

Lecture/Date:	Topic:
1: T 8/21	Course orientation and Introductory Lecture (Read Chap. 1 & 2)
2: R 8/23	Mendelian Genetics, (Chap. 3)
3: T 8/28	Modification of Mendelian Ratios (Chap. 4)
4: R 8/30	Mutation in Bacteria, Conjugation Mapping (Chap 8)
5: T 9/4	Mutation in Bacteriophage and Transduction Mapping (Chap. 8)
6: R 9/6	Gene Mapping in Eukaryotes, Recombination (Chap. 7)
T 9/11	1st Exam 20% of final grade (On lectures 8/21 to 9/6)
7: R 9/13	Nature of Genetic Material-DNA and RNA (Chap. 9)
8: T 9/18	DNA Structure, DNA Replication I (Chap. 9 & 10)
9: R 9/20	DNA Replication II (Chap. 10)
10: T 9/25	Chromosome Structure and Organization (Chap. 11)
11: R 9/27	Gene Mutation and DNA Repair I (Chap 14)
10/2	NO CLASS, FALL BREAK
12: R 10/4	Gene Mutation and DNA Repair II (Chap 14)
T 10/9	2nd Exam 20% of final grade (On lectures 9/13 to 10/4)
13: R 10/11	The Genetic Code, Transcription I (Chap. 12)
14 T 10/16	Transcription II (Chap. 12)
15: R 10/18	Translation I (Chap. 13)
16: T 10/23	Translation II (Chap. 13)
17: R 10/25	Gene Regulation in Prokaryotes I-The Lac Operon (Chap. 15)

18: T 10/30	Gene Regulation in Prokaryotes II-Attenuation (Chap. 15)
19: R 11/1	Gene Regulation in Eukaryotes (Chap. 15)
20: T 11/6	Developmental Genetics (Chap. 20)
R 11/8	3rd Exam 20% of final grade (On lectures 10/11 to 11/6)
21: T 11/13	Recombinant DNA Technology (Chap. 17)
22: R 11/15	Recombinant DNA Technology (Chap 17)
23: T 11/20	Genomics and Proteomics (Chap 18)
11/22	NO CLASS, THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
24: T 11/27	Genetic Engineering (Chap. 19)
11/29	ESSAY ON GENETICS IN SOCIETY DUE
25: R 11/29	Genetic Basis of Cancer/Cell cycle control (Chap. 16)
26: T 12/4	Genetic Basis of Cancer/Cell cycle control (Chap. 16)
27: R 12/6	Final Course Summary/Course evaluations
W 12/12	Final Exam 40% of final grade (about 50% on lectures from 11/13 to 12/6 and the other 50% from the entire course)

Honors students see grading and requirements at the end.

STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Department of Biological Sciences

Academic dishonesty by students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate courses and programs offered by the Department of Biological Sciences will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to:

1. Obtaining assistance from another individual during an examination.
2. Giving assistance to another individual during an examination.
3. The unauthorized use of study material or textbooks during an examination.
4. Changing answers on an examination after it has been returned and then submitting it for regarding.
5. Plagiarizing written assignments. Plagiarizing includes but is not limited to : a) Copying laboratory reports from previous years, b) copying or paraphrasing reports, term papers, or these prepared by other students, c) unauthorized collaboration in the preparation of reports, term papers, or theses, and d) use of another author's materials without appropriate acknowledgement through quotation and citation.
6. Attempting to bribe or otherwise induce an instructor to alter either a grade or examination score.

7. Obtaining or attempting to obtain a copy of an examination prior to its administration.

In accordance with policies presented in The Student Handbook and The University Catalog, Instructors have the responsibility and right to report cases of alleged dishonesty to departmental, college, and university administrative units. Students involved in academic dishonesty may expect to receive a grade of F on specific assignments as well as in the course where the assignment was made. In addition, disciplinary action may be recommended through appropriate college and university disciplinary committees. Please consult your instructor for instructions on the implementation of this policy.

BIOL3010: Molecular Genetics
Honors Section
FALL 2012

Students enrolled in the Honors section of Molecular Genetics are required to write a research paper on a topic of your choice that is related to the field of molecular genetics. Your topic must be approved by Dr. Krishnamurthy.

1. The papers must be a minimum of 10 pages (12 point font, 1 ½ line spacing, with 1” margins on the top and bottom and 1.25” left and right margins) and a maximum of 12 pages (excluding your reference page).
2. Figures and diagrams may be used but must be appropriately referenced.
3. Write the report in your own words (i.e.- do not use direct quotes) but be sure to reference all information you take from other sources even when written in your own words.
4. Break up your paper into three main sections:
 - a. Introduction – What is the topic and why is it interesting/important
 - b. Main Body – Describe the topic in such a way that someone who was unaware of previously would be able to understand what it is about. This section will make up most of the paper.
 - c. Conclusion – Why was the topic important and what does the future hold for that topic
5. Reference Sources – You may use a variety of sources for information including: Articles from the lay press (news papers, news magazines, internet sources, etc.); Articles from scientific journals (either original published data or review articles); and books. Articles from the lay press are a good starting point for a topic that would be of general interest to the public but you are required to use articles from scientific journals.

Assessment:

This paper will account for 15% of your final grade (Each in-class exam will count as 15% for students in the Honors Section instead of 20%). Final exams will account for 40% of the grade.

Your paper will be graded based primarily on the content and your demonstration of an understanding of the material. Papers that are not of the appropriate length and that do not have proper spelling and grammar will be reflected in a lower grade.

Important Dates:

9/13/2012 Have topic approved by Dr. Krishnamurthy

11/29/2012 Hand in final draft due to Dr. Krishnamurthy

