

GENERAL BIOLOGY LABORATORY
BI 213L, Spring 2009

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Office Hours: M & F 10:00-11:30, T 9:00-11:30, right after lab on T and R, and any time my office door is open.

Laboratory Text: Investigating Biology: Morgan & Carter, 6th Edition, 2008

Laboratory Homework: Each week's lab will have assigned lab homework. Activities should be completed in lab, while most homework will be completed outside of lab. Homework is worth 5 points, based on 1) completeness (points are always taken off for leaving questions blank), and 2) accuracy of selected questions. Homework is practice so *some* mistakes are allowed; however, certain questions require mastery of key concepts and these will be graded for accuracy. You will not know ahead of time which questions these are, so give *all* questions your full attention and effort. If you need help, please come in during office hours.

Laboratory Studies: Several longer studies will be given during the term. There will be a separate handout with instructions for completing each of these assignments and explaining how it will be graded. Success on these assignments requires some critical, independent thought to create meaning from raw data.

Laboratory and Lecture Grades: At the end of the term your laboratory grade, as a percentage of the total points assigned in lab, will be combined with your lecture grade. Your grade for the entire course will be based on the percentages you earn from both lecture and laboratory.

Course Grading Policy: Department policy states that **if you fail the laboratory portion of this course you will receive a failing grade for the ENTIRE course.** If you fail the course and decide to repeat it, you will be required to retake the laboratory along with the lecture even if you received a passing grade for the laboratory.

Student Expectations: Attendance is mandatory. Three (3) or more absences will result in a failing grade for the **ENTIRE** course. In addition, you are expected to have read the laboratory exercise ahead of time and to have completed any pre-lab assignments prior to the beginning of laboratory.

The moment you walk in the door, you are **IN CLASS**. Please give your full attention and respect to the learning process. **Turn off your cell phone**, put away any portable music devices and other electronics, leave hot-button topics of conversation outside, and begin any activities that are posted on the board or are handed out.

Missing a Quiz and/or Laboratory: Students are expected to take **ALL** quizzes. If you miss a quiz, you **MUST** schedule an appointment with me in order to take a make-up. If you must miss a lab during your assigned lab period, please talk to me about making up the lab during a different time. This must be arranged ahead of time because there is limited seating in most labs. Please remember that no laboratories can be made up after the last lab for any given week after that week has concluded. All make-up work must be completed before the end of the last week of classes. **No make-up work will be accepted during finals week.**

The Biology Department's Policy on Cheating:

During a quiz or exam any written, digital, or spoken interaction with other students will be regarded as cheating.

The use of crib notes (i.e., pre-prepared notes), text-messaging during a quiz, use of electronic devices that have not been pre-approved, and looking at other student's test papers will be regarded as cheating.

Plagiarism is turning in someone else's work as your own. This includes verbatim copying from sources (books, internet, CDs, etc.) without giving credit to the source, turning in papers purchased from a paper mill, copying the work of another student, or having someone else write your paper. When preparing papers for submission to an instructor, some paraphrasing may be appropriate. However, when a book or article is quoted at any length, quotation marks and citations (in-text indications of where the material came from and a detailed reference list at the end) must be included. A paper should not, however, be made up mostly of quotes. I can only grade your work; the writers of your source material are not in the class and I cannot grade their work, nor can I give you a grade based on their work. As a college student, you must learn to synthesize facts gleaned from sources into your own writing.

The penalty for cheating will be a zero grade for the test or quiz or assignment in question.

Disability statement:

Students who may need accommodations due to documented disabilities, who have medical information which the instructor should know about, or who need special arrangements in an emergency, should speak with the instructor during the first week of class. If you have not accessed services and think you may need them, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 838-8250 or email ods@wou.edu

Graded work: Your grade is based on three areas: 1) Completion of lab activities and lab homework, 2) Written reports for three larger studies, and 3) Quizzes and mini-quizzes. Every week will have either a major quiz or a mini-quiz except the first week and the field trip week.

Grade Tracking

Please keep all graded work until after the end of the term. Use the form below to keep a running record of your grades. Your grades will be posted on the Bi 213 page of my website using the last 4 digits of your V number (or other code of your choice). If there is a discrepancy between my records and yours, the graded copy of your lab or quiz is your proof that you completed the work.

Labs

Lab 13: ____/5
 Lab 14: ____/5
 Lab 15/16: ____/5
 Lab 20: ____/5
 Lab 21: ____/5
 Lab 27: ____/5

Studies

Hormones: ____/10
 Field study: ____/10
 Competition: ____/10

Quizzes

Mini-quiz 1: ____/5
 Quiz 1: ____/20
 Mini-quiz 2: ____/5
 Quiz 2: ____/20
 Mini-quiz 3: ____/5
 Quiz 3: ____/20
 Quiz 4: ____/20

Total: ____/155

Course Organization: Laboratory Schedule

Week of	Laboratory
Mar 30	Lab 13; Competition Experiment (handout)
Apr 6	Lab 14 ; Mini-quiz 1
Apr 13	Lab 15; Lab 16 ; Quiz 1
Apr 20	Lab 20; Mini-quiz 2
Apr 27	Lab 21 ; Plant Hormone Experiment (handout), Quiz 2)
May 4	Complete Hormone Lab; Mini-quiz 3
May 11	Lab 27 (part 1, field study A & B); (Field Trip: McDonald-Dunn Forest)
May 18	Lab 27 (part 3 - data analysis), Quiz 3
May 25	NO LABS Memorial Day Holiday (May 25th) Academic Excellence Showcase (May 28th)
Jun 1	Analysis of Competition Experiment, Quiz 4

Note: Schedule of quizzes and activities may change if circumstances warrant.