

Syllabus
Biology 380 Cell Biology (Section 13043)
Fall Semester, 2006

Contact information:

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- Course textbook: *Molecular and Cellular Biology*, 5th edition, by Lodish *et al.* Reading assignments for the week will be announced at the beginning of class.

Note: A searchable electronic 4th edition is available free, on-line:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/bv.fcgi?call=bv.View.ShowTOC&rid=mcb.TOC>

I am expecting that you remember what you were taught in Biology 107, which is a prerequisite course, but just in case you need to refresh your memory, I've placed copies of the following textbooks on 2 hr. reserve at the library (4th floor) for your reading pleasure and edification:

- *Biology*, 7th edition (Raven) - the textbook used in this course
- *Biology* (Campbell)
- *Biological Science* (Freeman)
- *Biology: The unity and diversity of life* (Starr & Taggart)
- *Biology* (Solomon and Berg)

The books are on reserve for the course "Biology 107".

Class meetings: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 9:00 - 10:15 PM, EH 2225.

Course objective(s)

- 1) Students should demonstrate knowledge of a) the structure and metabolism of cells; and b) the transmission and expression of genetic information.
- 2) Students should demonstrate specialized knowledge in one or more disciplines of biology.
- 3) Students should be aware of and/or capable of using new and existing methods and technologies in these disciplines.

Topics covered:

A study of the organization of cells with emphasis on structure, chemical composition, bioenergetics, metabolism, regulation of metabolism, cell differentiation and special cell functions.

Course requirements and methods of evaluation:

Attendance and participation at class meetings, participation in class, completion of all examinations, quizzes, and homework assignments. Examinations, quizzes, and homework will be evaluated based on the demonstration of knowledge of the assigned content. All requests for an excused absence from class must be handled by completing a tracking form (<http://escience.ws/b470/excuseme.html>), attaching appropriate documentation (e.g. a physician's note), and delivering or sending the form to me. Excused absences may include illness, personal tragedy, or attendance at a scientific conference.

Grading criteria:

25% Class attendance, class participation, quizzes, homework assignments

50% Midterm examinations (three midterms)

25% Final examination (8:00-10:00 AM, December 18)

Course letter grades may include "plus" or "minus" designations. The grading of the class will be based on each student's absolute level of performance, and a "curve" that compares performance to class rank. The midterm exams will be weighted equally, unless a student shows improvement, in which case later "better" exams will be weighted more heavily in the final grade. In a typical semester, the top 10-15% of students get a grade of "A". However, this is not a competition between students and I will give as many students an "A" grade as have earned it.

Biology Department Withdrawal Policy:

Unrestricted withdrawals are permitted only until the end of the third week. Thereafter, requests to drop a class will be honored only when a verifiable serious and compelling reason exists and when there is no viable alternative to withdrawal. Poor performance is not an acceptable reason for withdrawal. During the last three weeks of the semester withdrawals will not be approved except when a student is withdrawing from all classes for verifiable medical reasons.

Cheating and plagiarism:

All forms of cheating and plagiarism (the claiming of the work of others as your own) are expressly forbidden by University rules and will not be tolerated. Any student observed cheating or participating in any act of academic dishonesty will have his or her case referred to the Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs for possible University disciplinary action. In addition, the student may receive a failing grade in the course.