
BIOL 501

Recent Research in Molecular Biology

Winter Term (2013-14)

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Molecular biology is the area of biology that analyzes biological phenomena at the molecular level. Molecular Biology overlaps with Genetics, Biochemistry and Cell Biology to ultimately establish unambiguously the causal relationship between genetic information and biological outcomes. The course will focus on how molecular biology is used in basic and medical research to dissect the mechanisms involved in a large variety of biological problems. Students in the course will explore molecular literature and techniques that are relevant to their interest through seminar presentations, writing critiques, scientific reviews. The schedule and evaluation of the course will be finalized after consultation with the students.

RECOMMENDATION BIOL 430.

SCHEDULE

Seminar: Friday 8:30-11:30. BIOSC 3112

Instructor	Wm. Bendena
Instructor Contact	William.bendena@queensu.ca Phone: 613-533-6121
Office Hours	By appointment
TA:	N/A
TA Contact Information	N/A
Office Hours	N/A

Learning Objectives

The goals of Biology 501 are to provide students with a comprehensive appreciation of molecular genetic processes :

Learning Hours

<i>Teaching method</i>		<i>Average hours per week</i>	<i>Number of weeks</i>	<i>Total hours</i>
In-class hours	Lecture			
	Seminar			
	Laboratory			
	Tutorial			
	Practicum			
	Group learning	3	12	36
	Individual instruction			
Other	Online activity			
	Off-campus activity			
	Private study		12	84

Total hours on task	120
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Course Outline

Topics through scientific journal articles are selected by students in an area of their interest. Students are required to present 2 seminars outlining technical and scientific approaches. Seminars are critiqued by the class. Class critiques are monitored by the instructor. Students are also responsible for critiquing a book selected for molecular content and presenting an essay on its merits. A second essay on a molecular subject apart from their seminar topic is required.

Textbooks/Readings

Selected at the beginning of each class.

Grading Scheme

Component	Weight (%)	Date
Seminars 1	10	
Book review presentation	10	
Book review essay	15	
Seminar 2	20	
Final essay	25	
Class participation	20	

Grading Method

Your course average will then be converted to a final letter grade according to Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale:

Queen's Official Grade Conversion Scale

Grade	Numerical Course Average (Range)
A+	90-100
A	85-89
A-	80-84
B+	77-79
B	73-76
B-	70-72
C+	67-69
C	63-66
C-	60-62
D+	57-59
D	53-56
D-	50-52
F	49 and below

Academic Integrity and Queen's Code of Conduct

Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the regulations concerning academic integrity and for ensuring that their assignments and conduct conform to the principles of academic integrity. Information

is available in the Arts and Science Calendar (see Academic Regulation 1 - <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/regulations/academic-regulations>, on the Arts and Science website (see <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academics/undergraduate/academic-integrity>), and at Biology's website (<http://www.queensu.ca/biology/undergrad/integrity.html>) and from the instructor of this course. Departures from academic integrity include plagiarism, use of unauthorized materials, facilitation, forgery and falsification, and are antithetical to the development of an academic community at Queen's. Given the seriousness of these matters, actions which contravene the regulations on academic integrity carry sanctions that can range from a warning or the loss of grades on an assignment to the failure of a course to a requirement to withdraw from the university.

Accommodation Policy, Exam Conflicts, and Other Conflicts

Students who feel they need accommodations for disabilities or extenuating circumstances, or have a conflict between exams or other commitments should consult the Biology Department's website for details about how to proceed (<http://www.queensu.ca/biology/undergrad/integrity.html>). In general, the earlier a course coordinator is apprised of an extenuating circumstance, the more likely an accommodation can be made. Students are encouraged to be proactive in anticipating difficulties, when it is possible to do so.

Students may apply to write a make-up or deferred exam if they have an exam conflict as defined in the Academic Regulations of the Faculty (See Arts and Science Calendar Regulation 8 - <http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/academic-calendars/regulations/academic-regulations>). In this case, the student should report to the Exams Office first to verify that there is a genuine exam conflict. Biology professors will not consider your situation to be a conflict unless it meets the criteria set out by the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Students may request a make-up or deferred exam if they have an exam conflict with off-campus travel associated with a field course (e.g BIOL-307/3.0 or 407/3.0) that is held during the fall or winter terms.

Copyright

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Accommodation of Disabilities

Queen's University is committed to achieving full accessibility for persons with disabilities. Part of this commitment includes arranging academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure they have an equitable opportunity to participate in all of their academic activities. If you are a student with a disability and think you may need accommodations, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Disability Services Office (DSO) and register as early as possible. For more information, including important deadlines, please visit the DSO website at: <http://www.queensu.ca/hcds/ds/>