

BIOL 202 Foundations of Biology - Cellular/Molecular Biology

FACE-to-FACE COURSE

COORDINATOR	Dr. Mary Konsolaki	EMAIL:	mary.konsolaki@njit.edu
INSTRUCTORS:	Dr. Brandon Winick Dr. Paco Chow	OFFICE HOURS:	Tue 12:00pm-2:00pm (F2F) or by appointment (virtual)
COURSE SCHEDULE:	CKB 326 Mon 8:30am-11:20am (001) B. Winick Wed 11:30am-2:20pm (003) B. Winick Thu 1:00pm-3:50pm (005) P. Chow Thu 6:00pm-8:50pm (101) P. Chow	COURSE WEBSITE:	https://njit.instructure.com/courses/44132

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course surveys the chemical components and structure of the cell and methods of study; thermodynamics and metabolism; membrane biology, energy utilization and transfer; protein and nucleic acid structure and function; transcription, translation, gene regulation and cellular transport, signaling and communication. This laboratory complements the lecture course BIOL201 Foundations of Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology. Both courses BIOL201 and BIOL202 must be taken concurrently, although they are separate courses with different grades.

PREREQUISITES:

Concepts in Biology BIOL200, and Chemistry BIOL121 or BIOL125. Concurrent enrollment in BIOL201 required.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Through selected readings, lectures, discussions and occasional group activities, students are encouraged to learn on their own about the main processes taking place in the cell from a molecular perspective. After successfully completing the course, students will have

- ✓ the ability to describe the general structure of biomolecules as well as their role in cellular metabolism and the flow of genetic information;
- ✓ information and concepts on bioenergetics and the use of energy by cells;
- ✓ the information on the principles of membrane transport mechanisms and their role in important physiological processes at the organismal level;
- ✓ acquired concepts and general principles on gene expression and its regulation;
- ✓ knowledge on the concepts and general principles on eukaryotic signal transduction;
- ✓ the skills to read, interpret and apply general information in the fields of cell and molecular biology;
- ✓ evaluate contemporary hypotheses on the functional mechanisms of the cell;
- ✓ reinterpret and/or postulate alternative hypotheses or ideas to explain or describe the phenomena studied in the course;
- ✓ the opportunity to explore the topics covered in the course in higher level classes which require Foundations 201/202 as pre-requisites in the biology major and minor.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS: All reading materials for this course will be provided by the instructors and can be accessed on Canvas. Students are required to wear a laboratory coat and bring a scientific laboratory notebook (specifications will be provided in class).

Some additional reading may be occasionally assigned from the following online resources (free text): Harvard University MCB <https://projects.iq.harvard.edu/lifesciences1abookv1> and Labxchange <https://www.labxchange.org/>

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS: Any additional materials required for class would either be provided through Canvas (UCID required), or via web link.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT:

Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: [NJIT Academic Integrity Code](#).

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu.

GENERATIVE AI:

This course expects students to work without artificial intelligence (AI) assistance in order to better develop their skills in this content area. As such, AI usage is not permitted throughout this course under any circumstance.

STUDENT ABSENCES FOR RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE:

Students must notify their instructors in writing of any conflicts between course requirements and religious observances, ideally by the end of the second week of classes and no later than two weeks before the anticipated absence.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is required in all lectures and will be recorded through Canvas, LabXchange quizzes or attendance sheets. Attendance and Participation counts for 5% of the final grade and 85% attendance is sufficient for full credit. For the Department of Biology policy on missed classes, please visit <https://biology.njit.edu/policy-absences>

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION:

If you have a special need that may require an accommodation or assistance, please inform your instructor of that fact as soon as possible and no later than the end of the second class meeting. Students with disabilities who require accommodations must contact the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (C-CAPS), Campbell Hall, (entry level), room 205, (973) 596-3420

Late work: Work submitted late will be penalized with a 10% per day reduction.

COURSE EVALUATION	
Attendance / Pre lab	10%
Post Lab submissions (8)	40%
Lab Report	20%
2 Exams	30%
TOTAL	100%

Grading Scale			
A	90-100	C	70-74
B+	85-89	D	60-69
B	80-84	F	0-59
C+	75-79		

COURSE SCHEDULE

Schedule: Dates listed by week; Labs will meet once every week, unless otherwise noted. Homework assignments will be due on Canvas at midnight, the night before the next lab. Please note that this is the proposed schedule and is subject to change. A more detailed schedule will be continually updated via the course Canvas site.

Week	Activity
9/8	Lab 1. Introduction/Making solutions (Attendance 2.5, Postlab 3)
9/15	Lab 2 Ph adjustment of solutions (Titration) (Prelab 2pts, Postlab 3pts Attendance 0.5)
9/22	Lab 3 Protein quantitation (Bradford method) (Prelab 2pts, Postlab 3pts Attendance 0.5)
9/29	Lab 4 Measuring Enzyme kinetics (Prelab 2pts, Postlab 3pts Attendance 0.5)
10/6	Lab 5 Lab Report Orientation (Attendance 2.5, Postlab 3) Lab 4 for Thu sections
10/13	Laboratory First Exam (Labs 1-4)
10/20	Lab 5 for Thu sections Lab 6 Protein separation with gel electrophoresis (Sickle Cell Anemia) (Prelab 2pts, Postlab 3pts Attendance 0.5)
10/27	Lab 6 for Thu sections Lab 7a DNA isolation and PCR (Genetic Fingerprinting I) Attendance 0.5
11/3	Lab 7a for Thu sections Lab 7b Gel electrophoresis of PCR products to determine genotype (Genetic Fingerprinting II) (Prelab 2pts, Postlab 3pts Attendance 0.5)
11/10	Lab 7b for Thu sections Lab 8 Drosophila lab (Prelab 2pts, Postlab 3pts Attendance 0.5)
11/17	Lab 8 for Thu sections Lab 9 Does organelle shape matter? Applications of High-throughput Imaging PART 1 (Prelab 2pts, Postlab 3pts Attendance 0.5)
11/24	Lab 9 for Thu sections Thanksgiving week
12/1	Lab 10 Does organelle shape matter? Applications of High-throughput Imaging PART 2 (Postlab [short research proposal] 5pts Attendance 0.5)
12/8	Laboratory Second Exam (Labs 5-8) Lab Report due