

# BIO 184: Biology of Human Sexuality and Reproduction (3 credits)

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point at Marshfield (Spring 2019)  
Lecture: T 5:30-8:00 pm  
Room 201

**Instructor:** Laura Lee; Associate Professor of Biology  
**Office:** Room 217-B (389-6524)  
**Email:** [laura.lee@uwc.edu](mailto:laura.lee@uwc.edu)  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays 4:30-5:30 or by appointment

**Required Texts:** *Biology of Human Sexuality & Reproduction*. Jones & Bartlett, Publ.  
Supplemental assigned readings will be posted on D2L

## Course Description & Objectives:

BIO 184 is an introductory biology course that focuses on the biological aspects of human sexuality and reproduction. This course fulfills both Natural Science and Interdisciplinary Studies requirements for the Associates Degree. We will examine this topic at the following levels: the cell, the organism and the population. Topics that will be discussed from a biological perspective include anatomy & physiology, pregnancy and development, birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, gender issues, genetics and birth defects, and the role of technology in reproduction.

### Course Objectives:

1. To gain knowledge of the structure and function of the human reproductive system, and to understand how structure and function are inter-related.
2. To understand the role of the reproductive system as it relates to health, pregnancy and disease states.
3. To understand the applications of human reproduction in terms of technology, human population issues and evolutionary biology.
4. To understand and be able to weigh arguments on both sides of "controversial" issues in reproductive biology.
5. To understand reproductive biology from an interdisciplinary perspective.
6. To be able to find and evaluate sources related to the topics in this course.

## Notes & Study Aids:

Every student has good intentions at the beginning of the year in terms of reading and studying. But, by the end of the semester, many textbooks remain closed and unused. I know you'll get busy and want to blow off reading, but I expect you to use your textbook! Do the assigned reading either before or after class. Use the photos and diagrams in the textbook to further your understanding of the material. I could ask questions or break you into small discussion groups at any time!

This course will be taught using D2L as an instructional aid. You should all be provided with a D2L login and password, and are given access to the BIO 184 D2L site. Each topic on D2L will contain lecture outlines, objectives, links to web sites and readings, assignments and other materials. It is to your advantage to access and make use of this information. In the past, students who use D2L tend to "get more" out of the lectures, and are better prepared for exams and assignments. Because this class meets only once a week, checking D2L regularly is even more important, as announcements and activities may be posted for you during the week.

Because of its interdisciplinary nature, a variety of guest lecturers from other fields of study will join us during the semester to share their perspectives on this topic. While I may not have their information ahead of time to post on D2L, you are expected to attend these lectures and take notes as usual, as information from guest lecturers is just as important and "testable" as information from my lectures.

## Assessment:

The final grade in this course will be determined by student performance on lecture exams, a final exam, quizzes, assignments, and an end-of-semester paper. Points will be distributed as follows: unit exams, a cumulative final, weekly quizzes (lowest one dropped), and miscellaneous assignments (including a paper). You can earn a limited number of extra credit points by attending up to two talks/events/seminars relating to course topics and submitting a brief write-up or each, and answering “Jeopardy-type” questions in class (see Extra Credit instructions on D2L). Please do not ask for additional, individual extra credit assignments. All assignments must be handed in on time – points will be deducted for late assignments, regardless of whether or not you are in class that week!. All late materials must be turned in prior to the exam that covers that topic. Makeup exams will **not** be scheduled unless arrangements have been made with me personally. Make up quizzes are **not** allowed, but if you know ahead of time that you will miss, you can take one early. The final grade distribution will be as follows:

92-100% = A	78-79.99% = C+	60-61.99 = D-
90-91.99% = A-	72-77.99% = C	<60% = F
88-89.99% = B+	70-71.99% = C-	
82-87.99% = B	68-69.99% = D+	
80-81.99% = B-	62-67.99% = D	

University-wide assessment: For the 2018-19 academic year, UW Colleges classes that fulfill outcomes at the Foundation Level of the UWSP [General Education Program](#) (GEP) will be assessed utilizing the GEP assessment portfolio process. BIO 184 is not a Foundation Level course for the GEP ([category learning outcomes](#)) and will not be part of GEP assessment this year.

Final Paper: A critical evaluation paper will be due at the end of the semester. You can work alone or with a partner (no groups bigger than two). You will find an article about reproduction in a “popular press” source (a newspaper or magazine, for example), summarize it, do additional research on the topic (using credible sources) and finally evaluate the popular press article based on the additional information that you gathered. This paper will be due at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> week of class, and will be worth 50 points. More detailed information on this assignment will be distributed in class.

## Course Attendance & Behavior Policies:

You are expected to attend all class sessions, including videos and guest lectures. You are responsible for all material, whether or not you are actually in attendance. Quizzes, discussions and in-class assignments occur frequently during class. They are designed to determine your level of understanding and encourage your efforts to stay current with class material. The consequence of poor attendance is likely to be failure in the course. Quizzes and discussions cannot be made-up.

Any student who cannot be present for a scheduled exam or in-class assignment due to a religious observance will be provided with an alternate way of fulfilling that particular course requirement, providing the student notifies me of the scheduling conflict within the first ten days of the class. Religious beliefs may run contrary to some of the material covered in class; whether you agree or disagree, the understanding of all material is still testable. I am also always willing to work with students who require special accommodations because of a disability. Please bring these concerns to me and the campus CASE worker as soon as possible.

Although I want you to have fun in this class, I do expect mature behavior from all my students. Much of the material in this course is of a “sensitive” or “mature” nature. So let’s act like grown-ups: no offensive comments or jokes, everyone’s opinions matter, treating guest lecturers with respect etc.

## Policy on Phones & Electronic Devices

Phones are not to be used during class unless I instruct you to take them out for a class-related exercise. If you must be available for work/family, please leave phones in your pocket on vibrate. Laptops, tablets and other devices may be used for the sole function of following along with lecture or other course-related activities. Violations of this rule will result in this privilege being revoked.

**Academic Misconduct:**

Academic integrity is central to the mission of this institution. UWS 14 defines academic misconduct as any "action which a student: 1) seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation; 2) uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise; 3) forges or falsifies academic documents or records; 4) intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others; 5) engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance; 6) assists other students in any of these acts." UWS 14 allows for disciplinary sanctions that range from an oral reprimand to suspension or expulsion from the University. You can obtain a copy of the full academic misconduct policy through the Student Services office. If I observe academic misconduct, or if suspicions of cheating are reported to me, I will request that the identified parties come to my office to discuss the situation, and the procedures set out in UWS 14 will be followed. While group study is encouraged for class assignments and exam preparation, written evaluations (exams, reports, homework) must be your own work unless you are told otherwise. I recognize that the rules regarding academic misconduct can sometimes be confusing for students with respect to specific assignments or course work. If you have questions, I encourage you to come and see me before the assignment is submitted. Ignorance or misunderstanding of the UW System policy will not serve as a valid excuse for academic misconduct.

**Problems? Questions?**

I hope that you will see me early on if you have any problems or questions. It is much more useful to deal with problems early in the semester, rather than wait until a few days short of the final and expect me to work miracles (my pet peeve). It is important to jump on any problems as early as possible. Please feel free to contact me as much or as often as you would like. My main purpose for being here is to help you learn about biology!!

### TENTATIVE TOPIC OF EVENTS IN BIO 184

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topics</u>	<u>Chapters*</u>
1 (1/29)	Intro to Reproduction (Cells & Chromosomes)	2, 3
2 (2/5)	Human Heredity	3
3 (2/12)	Human Heredity Living with Cystic Fibrosis*	3
4 (2/19)	Hormones Female Reproductive Biology	4, 5, 9 5, 11
5 (2/26)	Male Reproductive Biology Reproductive Health	4, 11 8
6 (3/5)	<b>EXAM 1</b> Equity in Health Care*	
7 (3/12)	Fertilization/Development/Birth Childbirth – Culture, Choice*	6 6
8 (3/19)	Birth Control The Abortion Debate	7 7
<b>SPRING BREAK!!!!</b>		
9 (4/2)	Psychology of Gender* Biology of Sex Differentiation	10, Supplement Supplement
10 (4/9)	Infertility & Treatments	Supplement
11 (4/16)	<b>EXAM 2</b> History of Eugenics*	Supplement
12 (4/23)	DNA Biology Biotechnology	13 Supplement
13 (4/30)	Biotechnology* Evolution of Sex	15 Supplement
14 (5/7)	Sociobiology Papers due	Supplement
15 (5/14)	Population Issues	Supplement

\* A more detailed list of reading assignments will be provided with the learning objectives for each topic on D2L.

**Final exam:** During the final exam period, you will take a combination EXAM 3/ “cumulative” final exam.