
BIOLOGY 314 – Cell Biology

Spring 2021 Course Syllabus

Instructor:

Dr. Michael Steury

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Course Information:

Lecture – Online - Canvas

Lectures posted biweekly, view asynchronously

Lab - Room 323, Chemistry Biology Building (CBB)

Section 01L1 – Tuesday: 9:00 AM – 11:50 AM

Section 02L2 – Tuesday: 2:00 PM – 4:50 PM

(Students will be divided into two groups and attend lab every other week to maintain social distancing)

Office hours: Bring questions to your lab section or contact Dr. Steury to set up a one-on-one discussion via Zoom or in person

Required Texts: (Can be acquired at the university bookstore)

- Molecular Biology of the Cell, 6th edition (MBoC 6e) by Alberts, Johnson, Lewis, Morgan, Raff, Roberts and Walter (2015, Garland Science, New York/Oxford)
 - I do NOT recommend using older editions of this book for this course
- **Biology 314 Lab Manual** – the lab manual will be provided to you each week
- A notebook dedicated just to this class is recommended

Course Description and Objective:

Cells are the building blocks of life. During this course we will discuss the key features of cellular structure, function and application to the field of biology. My goal as your instructor will be to provide you with the information necessary to create thoughtful and creative conclusions regarding these topics. Additionally, I will challenge you to use the scientific method to investigate various cell types and components in the laboratory environment. You are expected to attend and participate in both classroom and laboratory activities and show respect to your colleagues and myself during the semester. I look forward to our journey through cell biology and hope that you will find this class both rewarding and fun!

Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of BIOL314, students will be able to:

1. Identify biomolecules necessary for cellular function
 2. Describe the structure and function of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells.
 3. Understand the requirements needed for cells to create energy.
 4. Describe the processes involved in cellular transcription and signaling.
 5. Identify the main components required for cell shape, structure and adhesion.
 6. Outline the process of growth, division, and death and how these mechanisms are regulated.
 7. Give examples of how cells maintain their identity and how this impacts tissue formation.
 8. Understand how the application of cell biology impacts society through research and medicine.
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Grading:

Grade Items	% of Course Grade	Points
Exam I	16 %	100
Exam II	16 %	100
Exam III	16 %	100
Final	16 %	100
Lecture Quizzes	8 %	50 (10 @ 5 points each)
Pre-Lab Assignments	4 %	24 (12 @ 2 points each)
Lab Reports	16 %	100 (8 @ 12.5 each)
Lab Quizzes	8%	50 (10 @ 5 points each)
Total	100 %	624

Grade Scale:

A ≥ 93%	B+ ≥ 87%	C+ ≥ 77%	D+ ≥ 67%	F ≤ 59%
	B ≥ 83%	C ≥ 73%	D ≥ 60%	
A- ≥ 90%	B- ≥ 80%	C- ≥ 70%		

Grades will be posted on Canvas

Exams/Quizzes/Assignments:

Exams: There will be four Exams given during the semester. The final exam will take place during finals week but will NOT be comprehensive. Lecture exams will include matching, multiple choice, short-answer and essay type questions. Exams will be designed to test your mastery of the material as well as your ability to apply critical-thinking skills. All exams must be taken for a grade. Missed exams can only be made up upon instructor acceptance of documentation for an excusable absence.

Lecture/Lab quizzes: Lecture quizzes will be given at the end of the last class each week. These quizzes will cover only material from that week and are meant to be assess whether you have attended and incorporated the content from lecture. There will be 10 quizzes (50 points) representing the available 5 points. Lab quizzes will be given during the lab session for the week. Quizzes will not be allowed to be made up unless communicated in advance by an excusable absence.

Pre-Lab Preparation: You are expected to maintain a lab notebook! This can be in the form of a spiral/bound notebook or binder with attached loose leaf paper. Each lab has a “pre-lab checklist” where specific tasks are listed. These are due BEFORE THE START of that weeks lab. If you have completed all the required tasks you will receive full credit, if you have not completed the tasks or your answers are incomplete you may receive partial credit.

Lab Reports: Lab reports will be due during the semester with varying point totals. You will be expected to write clear and thorough findings. When applicable, you will be asked to interpret your data. You may be allowed one late lab report a semester (with a 50% point penalty), after that no late lab reports will be accepted.

Extra credit opportunities are not available to individuals, so please do not inquire about this. If extra credit is offered, it will be communicated and made available to the entire class.

Attendance Policy:

- Your commitment to your courses will determine the success of the hybrid format!
- Because the class will be given asynchronously, attendance at all lectures and labs will not be formally required. **HOWEVER** you are expected to complete lectures and assignments by their assigned completion dates. Any missed assignments cannot be made up without instructor approved documentation for an excusable absence.
- Excusable absences include illness, accident, family emergency, professional development activity, religious activity (see UWSP University Handbook Chapter 22), or university sanctioned event. Acceptable documentation is the instructor's discretion, but may be written or electronic documentation for the reason of absence. In the case you have an expected or unexpected absence, please contact the instructor **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** to notify about the nature of the absence and determine if it can be excused.

Generally, missing any class will put you at a disadvantage in this and all courses. You are paying to attend this course and learn about Biology. Attending is the first step to getting your money's worth!

Academic Conduct:

Do not copy the work of other students; Do not represent the work of other students as your own; Do not share your work with other students

You are responsible for the honest completion and representation of your work and for the respect of others' academic endeavors. Any action of cheating, plagiarism, or academic misconduct is subject to the penalties outlined in UWS University Community Rights and Responsibilities, Chapter 14. Please refer to the University Community Rights and Responsibilities rules and regulations for more information: <https://www.uwsp.edu/dos/Documents/CommunityRights.pdf#page=11>

Student assignments determined to be in violation of these policies will result in a grade of zero (0). Depending on the circumstance, students may receive further penalty in accordance with these policies.

Course Communication:

Information about this course will be communicated through D2L and/or sent to University email accounts. Students are responsible for/expected to check their University email regularly. If you use an email account other than your University account to contact the instructor, be sure your full name is included in the message!

Electronic Devices:

Cell phones should be turned **OFF** and **NOT BE USED** during class times. No other communication or musical devices are allowed. Students needing an electronic language dictionary during exams may use one with permission from the instructor (see below). No video or audio recording of lectures is permitted without the prior permission from the instructor (see below).

Students Seeking Assistance & Students Disabilities:

As the instructor, it is my goal to meet the educational needs of ALL STUDENTS and to provide the best learning environment possible.

Any students seeking/considering use of assistive technology, materials, or accommodations are encouraged to talk with the instructor at the beginning of the course. It is my goal to find the most effective way to teach all students. Students with a disability seeking accommodations should also register with the Disability and Assistive Technology Center (<https://www.uwsp.edu/disability/Pages/default.aspx>) in the Learning Resource Center (the Library).

UWSP COVID-19 Mask Policy:

This class will largely be conducted through Canvas and all resources will be provided online to you. Weekly labs will not be required for you to complete the course, but attendance is encouraged if you are healthy and able to attend. When you attend these in person sessions you must adhere to the UWSP policy on masks and social distancing.

Face Coverings:

- At all UW-Stevens Point campus locations, the wearing of face coverings is mandatory in all buildings, including classrooms, laboratories, studios, and other instructional spaces. Any student with a condition that impacts their use of a face covering should contact the [Disability and Assistive Technology Center](#) to discuss accommodations in classes. Please note that unless everyone is wearing a face covering, in-person classes cannot take place. This is university policy and not up to the discretion of individual instructors. Failure to adhere to this requirement could result in formal withdrawal from the course.
- Class cannot take place unless all people present are wearing masks. All content for this course will be available online as well as in person. If you are uncomfortable wearing a mask **please reach out to me before coming to class** so we can discuss alternative options.

Other Guidance:

- Please monitor your own health each day using [this screening tool](#). If you are not feeling well or believe you have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to class; email your instructor and contact Student Health Service (715-346-4646).
 - As with any type of absence, students are expected to communicate their need to be absent and complete the course requirements as outlined in the syllabus.
- Maintain a minimum of 6 feet of physical distance from others whenever possible.
- Do not congregate in groups before or after class; stagger your arrival and departure from the classroom, lab, or meeting room.
- Wash your hands or use appropriate hand sanitizer regularly and avoid touching your face.
- Please maintain these same healthy practices outside the classroom.

Suggested study habits:

It is often observed that people learn more when they encounter and interact with subject material in different ways. The following scale presents representative measures of how we might learn through different forms of interaction.

You learn:

- 10% of what we **read**
- 20% of what we **hear**
- 30% of what we **see**
- 40% of what we **see & hear**
- 50% of what we **write**
- 60% of what is **discussed**
- 70% of what we **experience**, and
- 95% of what we **teach**

Before each class:

- a) Read the textbook chapters and summary sections that pertain to the info in the lecture slides (Powerpoint). While reading, take notes on the side of each slide to help clarify the information discussed in class. These notes can be used as lecture slide guide sheets.

Before the exam:

- a) **Rewrite your notes!** For each lecture, continue developing your lecture slide guide sheets and write out the information that was covered for each slide. Try to describe any images/figures on the slide in your own words. Try to do this for each lecture BEFORE the next lecture. Then read it over once to see the whole picture or overall theme of that lecture. When appropriate, make a table of info to help compare concepts.
- b) **Anticipate exam questions.** Come up with 1-2 questions of your own from each slide to quiz yourself later. Definitions, short answers, problems, and comparisons are all good types of questions.
- c) **Study your notes.** At the end of each week you will have made lecture slide guide sheets that include your notes for that material. Before the week's lectures, read over your lecture slide guide sheets and highlight only the information you could not remember.
- d) **Focus your studies.** Before the exam you will have made a set of lecture slide guide sheets with the information you need to reinforce already highlighted. Focus on this highlighted material one or two days before the exam. Reread, highlight info that you are having trouble learning or remembering and say it out loud, to yourself, with another person from class, a friend or study group.
- e) **Practice questions.** At the end of each chapter, try the practice questions (suggested on D2L) before looking at the answers in the back of the book. Write down the ones you do not understand and ask the instructor for guidance with those problems.
- f) **Revisit your study questions.** Try to answer the questions that you generated for each slide. Study with someone in class and try to answer each other's questions.
- g) **Teach your peers.** If you can teach it to another person, then you know it!

The night before the exam:

- a) **Value your sleep.** Being wakeful and well rested can help your performance on the exam. Be sure to get a good night's sleep before the exam. Cramming at the expense of sleep is not the best method.
- b) **Try to relax.** Study hard, but also seek ways to reduce your stress. Take breaks to help refocus your mind.

After the exam:

- a) A good grade can result from **reading** the text and your notes, **listening** to lectures, **seeing** the words and figures, **writing** and **rewriting** notes from class, the **experience** of answering questions from the chapters or provided, and **discussing** topics with another person (saying it out loud).
- b) Your grade should reflect the amount of cumulative effort you put into your studying. Remember, for every hour of lecture, you should a lot two hours of designated studying time. In other words, for each exam you should be spending about 10-15 hrs studying! It isn't possible to effectively achieve that right before an exam.

BIOL-314 COURSE SCHEDULE – Cell Biology, Steury

Date		Topic	Chapter	
Jan	25	Syllabus/Course Overview – What is a Cell? How do we visualize it?	9	Exam I
	27	Plasma Membrane: Structure and Lipid Properties	10	
February	1	Plasma Membrane: Proteins	3,10	
	3	Membrane Transport: Principles and Transporters	11	
	8	Membrane Transport: Channels and Electrical Properties	11	
	10	Intracellular Compartments and Nuclear Transport	12	
	15	Exam 1		
	17	Protein Transport into Mitochondria, chloroplasts and the ER	12	
	22	Membrane transport: Endocytosis and Exocytosis	13	
March	24	Energy Conversion in the cell: The mitochondrion	14	
	1	Energy Conversion in the cell: Chloroplast and Photosynthesis	14	
	3	The cytoskeleton: function, actin and myosin	16	
	8	The cytoskeleton: microtubules and intermediate filaments	16	
	10	Exam 2		Exam III
	15	Gene expression: transcriptional controls and regulators	7	
	17	Gene expression: cellular memory and post transcriptional control	7	
		SPRING BREAK		
29	Cell Signaling I: Principles and G-protein coupled receptors	15		
31	Cell Signaling II: Enzyme coupled receptors and gene regulation	15		
April	5	Cell cycle: Mitosis	17	
	7	Cell Cycle: Meiosis	17	
	12	Cell Death	18	
	14	Exam 3		
	19	Cell Junctions: Cell-to-cell and Cell-to-matrix	19	
	21	Cell Junctions: Cell-to-matrix	19	
	26	Cancer cell biology	20	
	28	Developmental Biology: Morphogenesis	21	
May	3	Developmental Biology: Neurogenesis	21	Exam IV
	5	Tissue regeneration/Stem cell biology	22	
	10	Pathogens and Infection	23	
	12	Synthesis and Review		
Exam 4: TBD (Week of May 17)				

Lab Schedule –

Wk	Lab Topic
2	Observations and Measurements of Cells Using Bright Field and Phase-Contrast Microscopy
3	<i>Student Cohort 2</i>
4	Isolation and Erythrocyte Membranes and Observations of Normal, Crenated and Lysed Red Blood Cells
5	<i>Student Cohort 2</i>

6	Separation and Analysis of Erythrocyte Membrane Proteins by SDS-PAGE and Detection of Glycosylated and Non-Glycosylated Forms of Aquaporin-1 with Immunoblotting Techniques
7	<i>Student Cohort 2</i>
8	Electron Transport in Mitochondria Isolated from Heart Muscle Tissue
9	<i>Student Cohort 2</i>
10	Chemical Requirements for the Contraction of Glycerinated Muscle Myofibrils
11	<i>Student Cohort 2</i>
12	Chemical Requirements for Recovered Motility in De-membranated Flagella
13	<i>Student Cohort 2</i>
14	Introduction to Mammalian Cell Culture: Adherent Cell Cultures and Role of Integrins
15	<i>Student Cohort 2</i>

Course and/or lab schedule is subject to change. Any changes will be communicated to you by the professor