

BIOL 141, Foundations of Biology: Cells, Energy and Organisms
Preliminary Syllabus, Summer 2015

Date	Topic	Textbook Chapter(s)
Tues, May 26	Introduction	1
Wed, May 27	Protein Structure and Function	3
Thurs, May 28	Nucleic Acids	4
Mon, June 1	Carbohydrates	5
Tues, June 2	Lipids & Membranes	6
Wed, June 3	Cells	7
Thurs, June 4	Exam 1	1-6
Mon, June 8	Energy and Enzymes	8
Tues, June 9	Cellular Respiration	9
Wed, June 10	Photosynthesis	10
Thurs, June 11	Cell-Cell Interactions	11
Mon, June 15	Exam 2	7-11
Tues, June 16	Cell Cycle	12
Wed, June 17	Meiosis	13
Thurs, June 18	DNA and the Gene	15
Mon, June 22	How Genes Work	16
Tues, June 23	Transcription and RNA Processing	17
Wed, June 24	Translation	17
Thurs, June 25	Exam 3	12-17
Mon, June 29	Nervous System	46
Tues, June 30	Immune System	51
Wed, July 1	Animal Nutrition	44
Thurs, July 2	Cumulative Final Exam	

Specific reading assignments and deadlines will be posted on Blackboard.

Class Meetings

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30-11:40 a.m.

Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth Feeser

E-mail: efeeser@umbc.edu

Phone: (410) 455-3289

Office: BS 458

Office hours are by appointment. E-mails will usually be answered by the next school day.

Course Description (from the UMBC Catalog): This course for majors provides a broad overview of contemporary biological concepts. Major topics include structure and synthesis of nucleic acids and proteins, molecular genetics, prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell structure and function, biochemistry of energy transformation, and animal and plant development and physiology. This course is designed to prepare students for upper level biology core and elective courses. It is one of two introductory courses (BIOL 141 & 142) designed exclusively for BIOL, BIOC and BINF majors.

Prerequisites: You must have completed MATH 150 or MATH 151 or MATH 155 or equivalent with a 'C' or better, or have Math test placement into MATH 151.

Required Materials

Textbook: *Biological Science*. Freeman, Quillin, & Allison. (Pearson) 5th edition. You may choose the print or e-book version of the text. However, you will only be allowed to use the print version as a reference during class.

Mastering Biology Access Code: You must purchase an access code for the Mastering Biology website either through the bookstore or online. You will likely pay less if you purchase your access code in combination with your textbook.

Clicker: Turning Technologies Response Card RF. Clickers must be registered through the BIOL141 Blackboard page no later than 9 a.m. on Wednesday, September 3rd.

Grading

Mastering Biology Quizzes	15%
Clicker Questions	10%
Class Participation & Active Learning Assignments	10%
Highest scores from Exams 1, 2, and 3	20%
Second highest score from Exams 1, 2, and 3	20%
Lowest score from Exams 1, 2, and 3	0%
Comprehensive Final Exam	25%

Grading scheme, class schedule, and class policies subject to change due to inclement weather or at the instructor's discretion. Any changes will be announced on Blackboard.

Assignments

- Online Course Content: Blackboard and the Mastering Biology website are essential components of this course. Students should check their UMBC e-mail and Blackboard before and after each class meeting for course announcements and assignments. Mastering Biology quizzes will comprise 15% of your final grade. All quizzes must be completed by the stated deadline. Students may consult the textbook while taking a quiz, but sharing quiz questions or answers with other students is cheating.
- Exams: The lowest score from Exams 1, 2, and 3 will be dropped. There will be **no make-up exams**. If you miss an in-class exam, the missed exam will be your lowest exam grade and will be dropped. Students must arrive on time for exams; a student will not be allowed to begin an exam late if any student has completed the exam and left the exam room. Seats will be assigned on exam days, and students may not leave their assigned seats until the exam is completed.
- Class Participation and Active Learning Assignments: Assignments must be submitted in the format and at the time specified by the instructor.

- **Clickers:** You should bring your clicker to every class and answer all clicker questions. Some clicker questions will be graded for accuracy, while others will be graded only for participation. The lowest 10% of your clicker grades will be dropped, so forgetting your clicker once during the semester will not adversely affect your grade. Students may only enter clicker responses on their own clicker. Entering clicker responses for another student is cheating. Both the student entering the responses and the student whose clicker is being used improperly will receive a grade of '0' for all clicker questions on the day of the infraction, and disciplinary action may be taken.

Academic Integrity

“By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult [UMBC policies](#), or the [Faculty Handbook](#) (Section 14.3).”

“Student academic misconduct may take numerous forms such as, but not limited to, those listed below:

1. Fabrication: The intentional and unauthorized generation or augmentation of data, information, citation or result in an academic exercise.
2. Falsification: The intentional and unauthorized altering of any information, citation or result in an academic exercise.
3. Plagiarism: The intentional or knowing representation of the words, ideas or work of others as one's own in an academic exercise. The appropriation of the language, ideas or thoughts of another and representation of them as one's own original work.
4. Cheating: The intentional use or attempted use of unauthorized material in an academic exercise.
5. Improprieties of Authorship: Improper assignment of credit or misrepresentation of material as original without proper referencing of the original authors.
6. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty: The intentional or knowing assistance or attempted assistance of another student to commit an act of academic misconduct.”

CHEATING OR PLAGIARISM WILL RESULT IN A GRADE OF '0' FOR THE ASSIGNMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION. The '0' grade will not be dropped, even if the syllabus states that the lowest grade in a given category will be dropped.

Class Cancellation

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, UMBC posts information about class cancellations on the UMBC homepage (www.umbc.edu) and on the UMBC hotline (410-455-6789). BIOL141 will not meet if UMBC is closed or if all UMBC classes are cancelled. Please check your e-mail 30 minutes before class begins for any class-specific cancellations. The instructor may require additional online coursework if a class meeting is cancelled.

Classroom Policies

- Cell Phones: Students are expected to turn off their cell phones, MP3 players, and all other electronic devices when they enter the classroom. All electronic devices must be put in a backpack or purse during class. A student who texts during class or whose phone rings, vibrates, or otherwise disrupts class will be asked to leave the classroom and may not be allowed to return. A student whose phone disrupts an exam will lose 2 points on the exam. Any student in possession of an electronic device during an exam will receive a '0' on that exam.
- Laptops and Tablets: Use of laptops, tablets, or other electronic devices is not permitted in class, except for those students who require a laptop for taking notes as an academic accommodation. A student requiring this particular academic accommodation must provide the instructor with a letter of accommodation from Student Support Services. Any student with an academic accommodation who uses a laptop for any purpose other than taking notes during class will lose the privilege of using a laptop during class.
- Respectful Behavior: In order to create a positive learning environment, students must show respect for each other, teachers, and UMBC staff. Examples of respectful behavior include arriving to class on time, staying in class until the end, being attentive, listening and using appropriate language.
- Taping Lectures: No part of a class meeting or conversation may be recorded (audio or video) without the instructor's written permission. A student requiring recorded lectures as an academic accommodation must provide the instructor with a letter of accommodation from Student Support Services.

Accommodations and Support for Students with Disabilities

UMBC is committed to eliminating discriminatory obstacles that may disadvantage students based on disability. Student Support Services (SSS) is the UMBC department designated to receive and maintain *confidential* files of disability-related documentation, certify eligibility for services, determine reasonable accommodations, develop with each student plans for the provision of such accommodations, and serve as a liaison between faculty members and students regarding disability-related issues.

If you have a disability and want to request accommodations, contact SSS in the Math/Psych Building, Room 213 or Academic IV-B wing Room 345 (or call 410-455-2459 or 410-455-3250). SSS will require you to provide appropriate documentation of disability and complete a Request for Services form available at <http://sss.umbc.edu>. If you require accommodations for this class, make an appointment to meet with me to discuss your SSS-approved accommodations.