

BIOLOGY 150B – MODERN BIOLOGY
Department of Biology, University of Victoria
Spring 2016

Course Description

An introduction to biological science, emphasizing cellular and physiological processes. Topics include principles of genetics, cell biology, plant physiology and animal physiology.

Lecture Meetings

A01 (CRN 20217): TWF 9:30 – 10:20 am, ECS 123

A02 (CRN 20218): TWF 1:30 – 2:20 pm, BWC B 150

Instructors

Rossi Marx; email: zoology@uvic.ca. Office hours in Petch 105: TBA and by appointment.

Dr. Marx will also be serving as course coordinator, so if you have any course business or other issues, she is the person to see.

David Creasey; email: dcreasey@uvic.ca. Office hours in Petch 007: TBA.

Kim Curry; email: cellbiol@uvic.ca. Office hours: TBA.

If you send an email to either one of us, please put "Biology 150B" in the message line.

We love biology, have had a lifelong involvement with it, and would like to share with you our endless fascination and excitement of the scientific study of life.

Required Text

Biology, Life on Earth with Physiology, 10th edition, by Audesirk, Audesirk and Byers. Available in the bookstore. We do not recommend any other edition of this or any other text.

Course Website

Biology 150B has a CourseSpaces website. You will find there lecture notes and notices, marks, and links.

Please be aware that the lecture notes are for personal use only and must not be published, distributed or sold.

Class Conduct

We would like to remind students that talking in class, texting, surfing, reading a newspaper and eating three-course dinners are all irksome to students sitting nearby and to the instructor. We ask that you be mindful of this and treat the people around you with respect and courtesy.

Evaluation

Midterm 1 (January 29, 2016)	30%
Midterm 2 (March 4, 2016)	30%
Final Exam	40% (cumulative)

Midterms, Final Exam, and Grading Policy

All exams will have multiple choice questions.

No electronic devices will be permitted during the midterms and final exam unless this rule is specifically suspended by the instructors.

During exams, invigilators cannot answer any clarification questions. However, if you believe a question is bad (no correct answer, more than one equally correct answer), please bring your concerns to the attention of an invigilator as soon as possible after the exam.

If you must miss a midterm for a valid reason (illness, accident, family affliction, or competition as a UVic athlete), you must notify us as soon as possible and provide suitable documentation for your absence. Your course grade will be computed from the other components of the course, and you will not be penalized.

The final exam can be deferred in cases of illness, accident, family affliction, or commitments as a UVic athlete. If you expect to miss the final exam for any of these reasons, please notify Rossi Marx as soon as possible. You must also fill out a Request for Academic Concession (RAC) form, available from Undergraduate Admissions and Records in the University Center or online (<http://www.uvic.ca/registrar/assets/docs/record-forms/rac.pdf>).

This term, the final exam period ends for all faculties on Friday, April 22; the last exam will be in the evening of that day. Your last exam might be on this date, or it might be sooner – you will know for sure when the final exam schedule is drawn up in February.

Travel plans are not a valid reason for missing a midterm or the final exam, even if a plane ticket has been purchased for you by someone else without your knowledge. Please do not make plans to leave Victoria until all your exams are finished.

No supplemental final exam will be given in this course.

Deferred final exam

For those students who need to defer the final exam for any of the reasons listed above, and who have submitted a RAC form, the deferred exam will be scheduled by the Examinations office, and will be written near the end of July. In some cases, alternative arrangements can be made. Contact Rossi Marx for more information.

Grading Policy

In determining final grades for the course, our spreadsheet will round your course score to the nearest whole percent. That is the official course grade that will be submitted for you. Under a new policy, instructors at UVic no longer submit letter grades for students.

We cannot change your grade for any reason, except if we have made an error calculating it. There is no extra work that you can do to raise your grade.

Course Experience Survey (CES)

We value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to us regarding the course and our teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. When it is time for you to complete the survey you will receive an email inviting you to do so. You will need to use your UVic netlink ID to access the survey, which can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. We will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

The CES system is available at this link: ces.uvic.ca/blue.

Important Dates

In the UVic calendar (<http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2015-05/GI/2AYeID.html>) you will find a fuller list of important dates, but the ones we have listed below are the ones that will matter to students in Biology 150B.

Monday, January 4	First day of classes
Sunday, January 17	Last day for 100% reduction of tuition fees for standard courses.
Wednesday, January 20	Last day for adding classes
Sunday, February 7	Last day for 50% reduction in tuition fees for standard courses. 100% of tuition fees will be assessed for courses dropped after this date.
Friday, January 29	Biology 150B Midterm Exam 1
Monday, February 8 – Friday, February 12	Reading break
Monday, February 29	Last day for withdrawing from courses without penalty of failure.
Friday, March 4	Biology 150B Midterm Exam 2
Friday, March 25	Good Friday, no classes
Monday, April 4	Last day of classes
Thursday, April 7 – Friday, April 22	Final exam period

Lecture topics (tentative)

Each instructor will let you know the relevant readings from the text.

Topic

The Life of the Cell

- Atoms, Molecules, and Life
- Biological Molecules
- Cell Structure and Function
- Cell Membrane Structure and Function
- Energy Flow in the Life of a Cell

Plant Anatomy and Physiology

- Photosynthesis
- Plant Anatomy and Nutrient Transport
- Plant Responses to the Environment

Animal Anatomy and Physiology

- Homeostasis
- Circulation and Respiration
- Nutrition and Digestion
- Nervous and Sensory Systems
- Muscles

Inheritance

- DNA, Gene Expression and Regulation

UVic is committed to promoting, providing and protecting a supportive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.