BIOCHEMISTRY 300A A01 – GENERAL BIOCHEMISTRY I
COURSE OUTLINE – Fall 2016

Place: ECS 123
Time: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 11:30 am-12:20 pm
Textbook: Biochemistry by Berg, Tymoczko, and Stryer, 8th edition
Instructors: Dr. M.J. Boulanger Office Petch 220: TW 12:30-1:30 pm
(or by appointment); email: mboulang@uvic.ca.

Sept 7  Introduction to Biochemistry 300A
         Concepts from chemistry, Chapter 1
         Protein composition and structure, Chapter 2
         Protein folding, Chapter 2
         Protein characterization, Chapter 3
         Hemoglobin - a model protein, Chapter 7

Sept 30 Midterm exam #1 (25%)
         Enzymes - basic concepts, Chapter 8
         Enzymes - kinetics, Chapter 8
         Enzyme catalytic strategies, Chapter 9
         Enzyme regulatory strategies, Chapter 10

Oct 21  Midterm exam #2 (30%)
         Carbohydrates, Chapter 11
         Lipids and cell membranes, Chapter 12
         Membrane channels and pumps, Chapter 13

Nov 15 Midterm exam #3 (30%)
         Signal transduction, Chapter 14
         Molecular motors, Chapter 35
         Drug development, Chapter 36

Nov 30 Midterm exam #4 (15%)

GRADING SCHEME

Techniques to be used in assessing performance in the course:

Grading of short answer and long answer exam questions.

Conversion of marks to final letter grades:

The total mark, calculated from the marks on all of the exams according to the weighting scheme above, will be converted to a percentage and then to a letter grade in the following way:
A+ 90 -100  B+ 77 - 79  C+ 65 - 69  F  < 50
A  85 - 89  B  73 - 76  C  60 - 64  N **  < 50
A- 80 - 84  B- 70 - 72  D  50 - 59

** N grades
Students who have completed the 4 exams will be considered to have completed the course and will be assigned a final grade:

Failure to complete one or more of these elements will result in a grade of “N” regardless of the cumulative percentage on other elements of the course. An N is a failing grade, and it factors into a student’s GPA as 0. The maximum percentage that can accompany an N on a student’s transcript is 49.

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION AND POLICIES

1. The Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology upholds and enforces the University’s policies on academic integrity. These policies are described in the current University Calendar. All students are advised to read this section.

2. Cell phones, computers, and other electronic devices must be turned off at all times unless being used for a purpose relevant to the class. Students having a cell phone, tablet, or computer on their person during an exam will be assumed to have it for the purpose of cheating.

3. Any recordings of lectures may only be performed with written permission of the instructor, and are for personal use only. The instructor retains copyright to such recordings and all lecture materials provided for the class (electronic and otherwise); these materials must not be shared or reposted on the Internet.

4. Course materials, such as notes, problem sheets, quizzes, examinations, example sheets, or review sheets, may not be redistributed without the explicit written permission of the instructor.

5. Students are expected to be present for the midterm and final exams. Instructors may grant deferrals for midterm examinations for illness, accident, or family affliction, and students must provide appropriate documentation 48 hours after the midterm exam. The Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology considers it a breach of academic integrity for a student taking a deferred examination to discuss the exam with classmates. Similarly, students who reveal the contents of an examination to students taking a deferred examination are considered to be in violation of the University of Victoria policy on academic integrity (see current University Calendar). Deferral of a final exam must be requested with an Academic Concession form and submitted directly to Undergraduate Records. Deferred final exams for fall term courses will be arranged by the instructor. Deferred final exams for spring term courses will be arranged through Undergraduate Records and must be written before the end of the summer term as stipulated in the University Calendar.

6. Multiple choice scan sheets for machine scoring (bubble sheets) are considered the authentic exam answer paper and will be retained by the department for 1 year.

7. Professors may refuse to review/remark exams not written in indelible ink. In addition, requests for review/remark of a midterm exam must be made within 48 hrs of the exam being returned. Students are expected to promptly pick up midterm exams after marking has been completed, either in class or from the instructor.

8. Examination papers that have pages removed, or are mutilated will not be marked.

9. I reserve the right to use plagiarism detection software or other platforms to assess the integrity of student work.