Dear class,

Given the progression and trajectory of the COVID-19 outbreak I am making changes to simplify the content and the evaluation of my section of the course. Due to unprecedented (but appropriate) measures being taken in Canada and the world, many of us will be facing challenges outside of classes. The following changes will allow students to complete this course on a timeline that works best for them.

I have used the learning objectives in your syllabus as a guide. I plan on assigning streamlined content that will meet these objectives. In my view the one remaining item is:

- “You will be able to discuss the utility of budding yeast a model eukaryotic system, and discuss several systems biology approaches that are revolutionizing research in molecular biology

The changes are as follows:

I will post three more sets of PDFs, with accompanied audio. These will cover topics 2-4 listed on slide 14 of the first set of notes, that is:

Topic 2- The power of Genetics / Scheckman Introduction
Topic 3- Systems Biology
Topic 4- Synthetic Biology

Each section will be evaluated by a short multiple choice quiz, delivered through CoursesSpaces. They are non-cumulative. You can complete these quizzes at any time before the scheduled final exam of April 22nd at 4pm.

The short quiz/assignment, in place of our group assignment, will cover Topic 2 and, the content of Dr. Randy Scheckman’s Youtube lecture (link to be provided on CourseSpaces).

These changes are reflected in the original and modified syllabi, shown here:

Original Syllabus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>DJB assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>DJB test 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>35%</td>
<td>DJB test 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>CJN assignment</td>
<td>(Mar 26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>CJN exam</td>
<td>(April 22)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New syllabus:

5% DJB assignment
25% DJB test 1
35% DJB test 2

5% Assignment  Topic: Randy Scheckman YouTube Video + Power of Genetics
10% Quiz 1  Topic: Introductory Material
10% Quiz 2  Topic: Systems Biology
10% Quiz 3  Topic: Synthetic Biology