BIO 115 General Biology I Laboratory (Section 1) Fall 2015; Monday 1pm-4pm 209 Cox Science & Language

Practical Exams: Two lab practicals will be given consisting of identification, problem solving, short, and long essays relevant to preceding lab activities. <u>Make-up exams are offered only in consideration of extraordinary circumstances</u>. In the case of absence from an exam because of a University-sponsored activity, the student should arrange a time to take the exam upon return to the <u>University</u>.

Final Exam: A final exam will be given finals week during normal lab time that is similar in structure to other lab practicals, but instead covers the entire semester.

Self-Designed Experiment: Students will form groups and propose an experiment to perform within the time and reagent constraints of BIO115. These points are earned in design, execution and the presentation of results at the end of the semester in oral and written form.

Lab Results/Summaries: Due at the beginning of each laboratory meeting are assigned analyses of data and/ or summaries.

General Education Objectives: BIO114/ 115 fulfills 4-credits under the Natural Science General Education Objective: Students will understand the natural world through systematic observation by analyzing data and by forming, testing, and revising hypotheses. Four separate criteria are assessed for this objective. The first and fourth criteria are addressed through a reflective essay in response to a prompt from popular media concerning recent scientific activity. The second and third criteria are addressed through a summative report on the independent experiment(s) designed and executed as part of BIO 115. Both of these assignments are distributed in BIO 114; refer to that syllabus for the General Education rubric.

Academic Credit Hour Definition: The University has adopted the following United States Department of Education definition of a credit hour:

A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally-established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than:

(1) one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out-of-class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester or trimester hour of credit, or ten to twelve weeks for one quarter hour of credit, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time.

Expected Outside Time Commitment: Following the USDOE definition, students should expect to spend a minimum of 90h outside time for the BIO 114 component, since it is similar to a 3-credit course, and 30h for BIO 115 (*i.e.* 1-credit) for a total combined minimum of 120h outside time. Estimated time is given by activity in the table below with an actual sum estimate of 123h outside time for BIO 114 and BIO 115.

Summary of Expected Out-of-Class Time*	
Activity	Category Total Time (hours)
Exam Studying (10h x 4)	40
Homework (1h x 7 assigned)	7
Readings (2h x 18 chapters)	36
G.E. Writing (5h x 2 assigned)	10
Lab Time (2h x 15 labs)	30
Semester Total	123

* Accounts for BIO114/115 combined four credits, a minimum of 120h outside time tL aboratories (BIO115) are scheduled as weekly three hour blocks with two of the hours counted toward outside time

Add/Drop Deadlines and Other Important Dates:

- o Last day to add a class August 28, 4:30 PM.
- o Last day to drop a class during refund period September 21, 4:30 PM
- o Last day to drop a class or withdraw from the University October 30. 4:30 PM
- o End of Midterm October 16
- o Midterm grades reported October 20
- o Daylight Saving Time ends November 1
- o Finals Week December 7-11

Tentative Laboratory Schedule

DATE	TOPIC
24/ 25 Aug	Intro, Safety, Experimental Design and Scientific Method
	Microscopy $\&$ Cells
7/ 8 Sep	NO LAB

LAB FAQs!

- 1. Why is attendance required?
 - a. Because the class only meets once/ week and your participation in experiments is necessary for learning concepts and practical applications in biology.
- 2. What happens if I know I have to miss a lab (e.g. for a University event)?
 - a. For excused absences, best effort should be made to do a make-up lab after your absence, preferably the same week. Generally, you are not allowed to make up for an unexcused absence.
- 3. Are there dissections in this lab? Do you offer non-dissection alternatives?
 - a. Generally, no. This lab is intro. cell & molecular biology. However, it takes place in a lab with many preserved specimens.
- 4. I missed my lab time; can I show up to one of the other sections?
 - a No, usually. However, if you were participating in a University-sponsored event (excused absence), the best option for making up what you missed might be another lab time <u>that same week</u> if there is room.
- 5. Is there really lab Thanksgiving week? Can I miss it?
 - a Yes, lab sessions are held that week (classes are in session Monday & Tuesday)