

BI206L -- Cellular and Organismal Biology Laboratory

Spring 2015

Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Michael Weichhaus
Address: Wesselkamper, Room 107
Phone: 440-4286
Email Address: michael.weichhaus@chaminade.edu
Office Hours: Tue: 15:00-17:00 and Thu: 09:00-12:00
Class Hours: Friday 02:30PM - 05:20PM, Henry Hall, Room L1

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS: BI 206L is a 1 semester credit introductory biological science laboratory for those students enrolled in BI 206 - Cellular and Organismal Biology II. This laboratory course is for students desiring advanced studies in the sciences, e.g., biology, forensic science, medicine, dentistry, environmental health, and other areas.

Goals of the Course: This course is designed to fulfill the following goals:

1. To present principal methods and techniques coupled with appropriate instruments utilized in the study of cells and organisms;
2. To allow investigation and problem solving by manipulative and experimental methodology including preparation of written laboratory reports;
3. To examine applications of principles and concepts in lecture, such as the relationship between;
4. To work collaboratively in order to accomplish a common goal, i.e., lab experiment; and
5. To learn structure and function of cells, tissues, and organs by microscopic examination of preserved specimens, and dissection.

Objectives for Students: At the completion of the course, the student will be able to do the following:

1. apply the Scientific Method to observable phenomenon;
2. identify specific biological equipment;
3. distinguish between quantitative and qualitative chemical tests;
4. identify biological specimens;
5. identify cellular and tissue types and structures;
6. identify different techniques;
7. identify parts of a scientific laboratory report;
8. understand and set-up an experimental procedure;
9. develop an appreciation of working collaboratively in groups;

Laboratory preparation, outline, and attendance:

1. Preparation of laboratory assignments listed on the lab outline and presented in lab handouts are essential in successful completion of the laboratory and safety of your fellow students.
2. Handouts in the laboratory outline refer to assignments not in the lab manual. Lab handouts will be given to students prior to the laboratory exercise and include procedures and instructions for the laboratory.
3. Attendance for the laboratory is mandatory. Laboratory absences must be documented by valid excuses, such as a physician's excuse. Grade penalties will be imposed for unexcused absences by the instructor.

Laboratory notebook:

1. All students will be required to maintain a bound laboratory notebook into which **ALL** laboratory information and data is to be entered. **Lab notebooks will be graded twice** and are to be handed in on exam days.
2. The notebooks must be bound with non-tear out pages. Spiral notebooks are unacceptable, as are three-hole folder paper.
3. Please follow the format including a table of contents with dates, experiment title, and page numbers.

Laboratory Reports:

1. A written report will be required on two lab exercises. The report should be written so that it could be understood by another student in a similar biological course, but who has not done the same lab exercise. Points will be taken for spelling and grammar. Lab work can be done in groups, but lab reports must be done individually.
2. Late lab reports will receive deductions on the grade.

Grade Determination:

1. Separate grades will be given for lecture and laboratory. It is possible to receive different grades for lecture and laboratory.
2. The instructor does not curve grades or grade scores. Grades will be determined according to the scale below.
3. There will be two lab practical examinations with each consisting of station questions. Station questions are those questions in which the student has a specified period of time to identify the organism under a microscope, relate a function of a structure or explain a graph. The first exam will include material completed **prior** to the exam; the second exam will include material covered since the midterm exam, it is not cumulative.
4. The laboratory grade will be determined in the following manner:

Midterm lab exam	22.5 percent
Final lab exam	22.5 percent
Two lab reports (20 percent each)	40 percent
Lab notebook:	<u>15 percent</u>
Total	100 percent

Grading scale:

A	90 – 100%
B	80 – 89%
C	70 – 79%
D	50 - 69%
F	less than 50%

Class standing and extra help:

1. Students may obtain their grades at any time by consulting with the instructor. Students with D or F grades will receive verbal notification and/or deficiency notices. It is mandatory that students receiving deficiency notices make an appointment to see the instructor.
2. Tutoring services are available through the Chaminade University Learning Center. The Biology Department provides upper class students majoring in biology as tutors. Please contact the AAP regarding availability of tutoring services.

Situations to avoid:

1. Tardiness and Absences:
Arriving late will cause you to miss important information and instructions given at the beginning of each class session. Please be on time as a mark of respect for your instructor and classmates, and be discreet in entering the lab if you must come late. Avoid skipping class and contact me if you cannot attend a class.
2. Turning in assignments late:
If there is insurmountable problem, please let me know ASAP. You can always contact me via email. I would rather have your work late than not at all, but timelines are imposed to help you keep up and comprehend the materials being discussed.

Music Devices and Cellphones

Use of music devices and cell phones is prohibited during all Natural Science and Mathematics classes at Chaminade, unless specifically permitted by your instructor. Use of cellphones and music devices in laboratories is a safety issue. In addition, use of cellphones and music devices in any class is discourteous and may lead to suspicion of academic misconduct. Students who cannot comply with this rule will be asked to leave class and may be subject to laboratory safety violation fines. Please refer any questions to the Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

ADA Accommodations

Students with special needs who meet criteria for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provisions must provide written documentation of the need for accommodations from the CUH Counseling Center (Dr. June Yasuhara; phone 735-4845) by the end of week three of the class, in order for the instructor to plan accordingly. Failure to provide written documentation will prevent your instructor from making the necessary accommodations. Please refer any questions to the Dean of Students and review the procedures at http://www.chaminade.edu/student_life/sss/counseling_services.php.