

COURSE SYLLABUS

Honors Introductory Biology II

BISC208H – Spring 2012 – Hodson

GENERAL INFORMATION

Course registration is for BISC208, Section 080. It is 4 credits (lecture and laboratory are combined). Co-requisite is a second-semester course in General Chemistry: CHEM102, 104, 106 or 112 (or AP credit).

This second semester of a two-semester foundation course in general biology focuses on the major concepts, facts, and vocabulary involving multicellular systems, systematics and evolution, plant biology, animal biology, and ecology. Some of the topics will be explored in lecture only, some in lecture and lab, and some exclusively in lab.

If you scored a 4 or 5 on the biology AP test, you may exempt this course but it is highly recommended that you do not. Professional schools (health sciences) do not accept AP credits for required undergraduate courses. For the biology major this restriction is not a problem because at least one additional biology course with lab is taken. Non-majors must take BISC208 if exempt from higher level biology courses with lab to fulfill the professional school entrance requirements.

Communication outside of class is preferred as e-mail; telephone calls are discouraged. Please get in the habit of checking your e-mail inbox daily if you don't already. You also may send anonymous comments to me at any time via the Suggestion Box link on the course homepage.

The Sakai server will be used for announcements, lecture assignments, grades, and lab data file downloads because it is secure and accessible from both on- and off-campus. To access the server, do the following:

- Run a Web browser. UD is recommending Firefox at this time.
- Enter: <https://sakai.udel.edu/portal> (or <http://www.udel.edu/sakai>)
- Enter your UNIX user ID and password.
- Choose the appropriate site from the menu of Sakai sites. Note there are separate sites for the lecture and lab.
- Don't forget to log out when you are finished.

Office: 225 McKinly Laboratory

Office Hours: See "My Spring 2012 Schedule" link on the course home Web page given below.

Office Telephone: 302.831.8440 (please, urgent matters only)

E-Mail: hodson@udel.edu

Course web site (direct connect): URL = <http://www.udel.edu/hodson/208H/208indexH.html>

COURSE POLICIES

Regular attendance in lecture is expected. We need your thinking power, your questions, and your comments.

Laboratory policies are given in the lab manual.

Testing out of BISC208, i.e. credit-by-examination, will normally earn 3 credits. If 4 credits are desired, the corresponding laboratory experience must be obtained. For this purpose, the student should register for BISC266 for 1 credit. Testing out does not earn honors credit.

For future reference: A student who has taken BISC208 and wishes to retake the course for a higher grade may (at the discretion of the new instructor) be exempt from the laboratory component only if the lab score was at least 80% and the lab experience was similar to what is currently offered, i.e. not taken too many years ago. The laboratory score can't be carried forward; the retake grade for 4 credits will be based only on lecture test scores.

EVALUATION

Lecture

There are assignments due every week. One type is submitting to the Sakai server (Tests and Quizzes tool) a question based on the assigned textbook chapter for possible use in lecture. There may be other types – to be determined.

There will be quizzes every other week of 30-45 min in length. The format will be one or more of the following: multiple-choice, true/false, short answer, matching. The lowest quiz score will be dropped. A quiz may be waived if a valid excuse is presented: (1) medical, (2) family emergency, (3) university-sanctioned event (e.g. sports), (4) religious holiday, or (5) other hardship (determined on case-by-case basis). Excuses must be verified in writing. Test taking before or after the announced time is generally not available but might be arranged depending on the circumstances determined on a case-by-case basis. No individual custom make-up testing is available. There is no extra credit available to individual students even if requested. A final exam is to be decided.

Lab

Laboratory work will be evaluated by the lab instructor who is a trained graduate student. See lab schedule for evaluation details.

COURSE EVALUATION

Lecture	75%
Lab	25%
Total	100%

LECTURE EVALUATION (out of 100%; to be adjusted to 75% of course)

Tests	90%
Assignments	10%

COURSE GRADING SCHEME

	<u>Minus</u>		<u>Plus</u>
A	90-92	93-100	
B	80-82	83-87	88-89
C	70-72	73-77	78-79
D	60-62	63-67	68-69
F		0-60	

LAB EVALUATION (out of 100%; to be adjusted to 25% of course)

Assignments	8%
Quizzes	10%
Work plans (flow sheets)	2%
Short reports	20%
Long reports	20%
Final Exam	40%

THINGS YOU PROVIDE

- Textbook (Brooker et.al. 2/e 2010)
- Laboratory Manual (custom) - Hodson and Acuff, 17/e, 2012 (available for purchase in area bookstores) and 3-ring binder
- Eye protection – must have neck strap and be worn around the neck when not protecting the eyes
- Data acquisition, analysis, and communication will use computers extensively, and laboratory reports must be created with word processor software. It is strongly recommended that you own or have easy access to a computer with Microsoft Office (*Word, Excel, Powerpoint*), and Adobe *Acrobat Reader* installed. *Reader* is available from the Adobe website (www.adobe.com). You will NOT be allowed to use removable media for taking files out of or bringing files into the laboratory. Instead we use file transfers over the campus network (UD mail or Sakai).

R. Hodson
2-1-2012