Molecular Biology –BIMM 100

Spring 2010

Lecture: Tuesday/Thursday: 5:00-6:20 PM @ Peterson 110
Sections: It is not a requirement for attending sections but highly recommended.

Midterm Exam: May 4, 2010, 5:00-6:20 PM (Peterson 110)
Final Exam: Jun 10, 2010, 7:00-10:00 PM

Professor: Maho Niwa

Class web site: http://www.biology.ucsd.edu/classes/bimm100.SP10
Username: bimm100sp10
Password: Sci3nce (Case sensitive)

Office hours: Wednesday 10:30pm-11:30 pm NSB#1, 5th floor Scholarly Activity Room

Project Assistant: Ria Vanessa O. del Rosario (NSB#1, Rm4119)
Tel: 822-0815 (8:00 am-4:00 pm)

Textbook:
Required-----Molecular Cell Biology, Lodish et al., 6th edition (2008) referred to below as MCB. Web site for test: http://www.whfreeman.com/lodish/index.htm
Note that this site includes animations, correction of errors in the text and other useful information. Copies of the textbook have been placed on course reserve in the Biomedical Science Library. You can also purchase one-year subscription of on-line version of the textbook.

Suggested----Molecular Biology of the Cell, Alberts et al.

Goals of the course:
Over the last half centuries, tremendous advances have been made in many areas of biology, including Molecular Biology. Researches in molecular biology deals with understanding basic principle of how cellular processes are carried out at a molecular level. This understanding comes from discoveries of the molecular pieces that contribute to given processes, and importantly, how these molecules work together to execute and regulate the processes. We are in the middle of very exciting era. For example, the complete sequences of the human and many other species, examination of gene regulation using “microarray” technology, discovery of microRNA has changed many biologists’ approaches and views to questions in biology. This has also led tremendous growth in biotechnology industry over the past decade. Research in molecular biology has advanced and will continue to advance our understanding for human health and diseases, which ultimately contribute to development of effective treatments.

The goals for BIMM100 are to cover the fundamental principles of molecular biology. As such, we will discuss the principle in the context of both the concepts they reveal and the experimental science that allowed the articulation of these concepts.

BIMM100 consists of Lectures, Sections, Reading and Problem Solving. The expectation is that by having multiple formats for communicating and working with the information, each student will develop approaches to learning and studying that are individually most effective.

Lectures: are given twice a week and will cover the major concepts indicated on the schedule. Reading from MCB is noted and any additional reading will be announced in lecture. Any changes will also be announced during the lecture. Lecture notes will be posted on the class website, hosted by the University WebCT server.
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Problem sets and Practice Exams: will be posted on the web site. Answer keys to the weekly problem set and practice exam will be posted on the web site a few days prior to either mid-term or final exams. Each student is encouraged to work on the questions on the problem sets and to discuss with your TA in sections.

Sections: are important parts of the course and will be given weekly by a team of smart, dedicated and accomplished scientists-in-training. Sections serve to clarify and emphasize points that have been introduced in lecture. In addition, you will be given a problem set weekly and your TA will discuss answers for the questions as well as reviewing the material we have covered in the class. Note that attendance for problem solving is required for optimal performance in the course.

There will be no sections the first week of class. Section will begin the second week of classes at the location indicated in the Schedule of classes. In addition, section leaders will announce their office hours during the first meeting of the sections. Each TA will have an one-hour office hour every week in addition to sections. Office hour will be a very good chance to ask TA any further questions

about material as it is normally attended by smaller group of students. Their names and email addresses are:

Lorenzana, Ariana:	alorenza@ucsd.edu
Salcedo, Michelle:	mpsalcedo@ucsd.edu
Hong, Kwan Pyo:	kphong@ucsd.edu
Khuong, Mai:	mai.cherryblossom@gmail.com
Li, Shiqian:	s7li@ucsd.edu
Shlykov, Maksim:	mshlykov@ucsd.edu
Strelitz, Jean:	jstrelit@ucsd.edu

Reading and Problem Solving: Reading assignments are noted on the schedule. Any additional reading will be announced in lecture. Note that the website for the text has supplemental material, including animations and figures from the test. Textbook also has problem sets at the end of each chapter. Solving those questions will help towards understanding the material as well. You are encouraged to prepare by reading and solving the problems before the lectures and sections. These may be discussed in section and may be supplemented by your teaching assistants.

The learning Environment:
In lectures and sections, refrain from eating, newspaper reading and conversation. Turn off cell telephones and messaging devices.

Your preparation and prerequisites:
A key factor in doing well in BIMM100 is being prepared for the course. This means that you have successfully completed Genetics (BICD100), Biochemistry (BIBC100[02]) and their pre-requisites (including BILD1 and organic chemistry). You may also wish to review MCB chapters 1-3.

Exams and Evaluations:
Your performance in the course will be evaluated by one midterm exam and the final exam. The midterm will be worth 40% and the final exam 60% of your course grade. These exams will consist of short answer, multiple choice and short essay questions. A review session will be offered before each exam, in addition to the normal weekly sections. Exams should be completed in ink. You can bring only pens in the exam room and the rest of the personal things have to be left in front of the room including cell phones. Requests for any reconsideration or re-grading must be submitted as type written forms and must be sent by campus mail to Professor Maho Niwa, Mail code 0377, UCSD within one week of the date the exam returned. (I will announce the specific deadline). No e-mail or phone call requests will be accepted. Only exams written in ink can be considered for re-grading. Exams taken in pencil will not be reconsidered. There will be no schedule make-up exams for the midterm or the final. Extraordinary personal circumstances preventing a student from taking an exam

should be submitted, in writings and in advance, with the Student Affairs Office (1128 Pacific Hall) or Professor Niwa.

Grades are established only at the end of the course and are based on the exam scores. In the true borderline cases, input from Section leaders regarding student performance may be meaningful. Grades are given based on the distribution of total exam scores, (T=0.4[midterm] + 0.6[final]). Plus and minus grades are given and natural breakpoints in the score distribution are used in the final grade assignment as much as possible.

You are encouraged to study with other students in the course and especially to use your sections as collaborative leaning environments. However, you work on exams must be solely your own. Please review UCSD's policy on Academic Integrity:http://www-irps.ucsd.edu/itps/student/discipline.htm