

BIMM 101 Recombinant DNA Techniques Spring 2014 Syllabus

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Office hours: Mondays at 3 PM
Humanities & Social Sciences (HSS) 1145 LB

Lecture: Tues-Thurs 8:00- 9:20 AM Cognitive Science Building (CSB) 002
Lab: Tues-Thurs 9:30 AM- 12:30 PM or 2:30- 6:30 PM York 4318 or 4332

Learning goals and outcomes – please see detailed document on TED

Required texts:

1. BIMM 101 Lab Manual from University Readers
2. *From Genes to Genomes* by Dale (1st, 2nd, or 3rd edition)
electronic versions of 3rd and 1st editions are available on Roger
3. Readings on TED

Required Materials – needed by second day of class:

Labcoat (the bookstore has cheap ones)
UV blocking safety glasses (also at bookstore)
Lab notebook with carbon copies (bookstore or Grove general store)
Fine point Sharpie for labeling – get a dark color
Calculator – you cannot use a cell phone in lab!
Long pants and close-toed shoes

Remember that lab attendance is required – if you miss two labs, you will be asked to drop the course. If you are ill, you must leave a message with your instructor, not your TA, and make up the lab in a way that we will determine. You must be on time for lab; the TAs go over the experiments at the beginning of lab, and quizzes are administered then. If you are habitually late to lab, you will lose 5% from your final grade.

Grading:

1. Quizzes: 40% Starting on April 8, there will be a quiz once a week on Tuesdays at the beginning of lab each week for weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (see calendar on TED). Each quiz is worth 5% of your final grade, except for the quiz in week 6 which will be worth 10%. The quizzes will cover the lectures, readings, and lab experiments from the previous week, and the purpose of that day's lab. I will post a study guide for each quiz on TED.

Note: If you come into lab late and miss the quiz, you will receive a zero for that quiz.

2. Assignments: 30% There will be both carbon submissions and homeworks varying in worth and format that will make up 30% of the final grade. Guidelines for each of the submissions will be posted on TED and due dates will be on the TED calendar. The homeworks must be submitted to Turnitin on TED before the start of lab, and all assignments must be handed within 10 minutes of the start of your lab. Any assignments that are handed in late that day will be penalized by deducting 5% of the total grade; for each additional day a report is late, another 5% will be deducted.

Although you will be doing the experiments and collecting data with a partner, you must hand in your own assignments, written in your own words. **Copying someone else's homework is cheating (see below). This also means copying from past quarters!**

3. Exam: 30% There will be a comprehensive exam on the last day of class, June 5, during the lab period.

4. Lab performance and experimental success: Your preparedness for lab, your participation in class, and the quality and success of your experiments will be all be considered when assigning your final grade. This will be especially important if you are on the borderline between grades.

Absences: If you miss one lab with no excuse, you will lose 5% from your final grade. If you miss two labs, you will receive an F for the course.

Final grade:

There are 500 total points possible for this course. Grades will be based on your total points as a percentage of 500. The following cutoffs are strictly adhered to.

97+ = A+	80 up to 83 = B-
93 up to 97 = A	76 up to 79 = C+
90 up to 93 = A-	72 up to 75 = C
87 up to 90 = B+	67 up to 71 = C-
83 up to 87 = B	60 up to 66 = D
	Below 60 = F

Policy on cheating: anyone caught cheating (includes plagiarizing lab reports, cheating on a test, or changing an answer for a re-grade) will be reported to the Academic Integrity Office.

Note: Just coming to lab does not ensure that you will get a passing grade in the class. You must hand in all assignments and get passing scores on those assignments (an average of 67) to get a C- in the class.

Letters of recommendation: Letters of recommendation will only be written for students who receive an A or an A+, have good academic records and realistic goals, and who have been active participants in the in the course (this means that I need to know who you are because you have come to office hours, or that you have asked and answered questions in class, etc.). If I think I don't know you that well or don't have too much to say about you, don't take it personally but I will probably decline your request to write a letter. If you think you may want a letter of recommendation at some point in the future, please save your graded quizzes and assignments.