

Course Assessment/Methods of Evaluation:

Please note that this is NOT a didactic-type class. In order for you to get something out of it you need to participate, and in order to do that you need to actually read each paper carefully before the class. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE HOUR BEFORE CLASS TO LOOK AT THE PAPER FOR THE FIRST TIME! If you do this, it will be obvious during class and it will be a very boring class as nobody will be speaking. The idea is for you to learn how to present and discuss the paper, not for me to present it to you. Don't be shy, the first paper will be difficult but it will get easier as you learn how to do it and gain confidence.

Grading is done on every class. Scores for each class are out of a total 31 points and are broken down as follows:

- *Attendance*: 1 pt / class for a total of 12 (not including intro and final).
- *Reading the paper*: Scale of 1 to 10 for each paper (i.e. 6 papers would be a total of 60 pts maximum for this category. This will vary depending on how many papers we get through).
- *Participation*: Scale of 1 to 10 for each class (120 pts max).
- *Comprehension*: Scale of 1 to 10 for each paper (60 pts for 6 papers. Again this will vary depending on the number of papers we discuss).
 - Scientific method is primary concern in this class.
 - Actual science is important, but secondary in this class.

In the following example, for 12 classes with 6 papers discussed, the total score possible would be:

Attendance	=	12
Reading the paper	=	60
Participation	=	120
Comprehension	=	<u>60</u>
Total	=	252

Each person's total score will be divided into the maximum possible, multiplied by 100 and then rounded to obtain a percentage: i.e. $240/252 = 0.9523 = 95\% = A$

The following scale will be used to convert to a letter grade:

C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+
70-73%	74-76%	77-79%	80-83%	84-86%	87-89%	90-93%	94-96%	97-100%

Linked Program Learning Outcomes:

The student learning outcomes listed above address the following Biotechnology Program PLOs:

- PLO-1. The student will demonstrate English communication skills in both oral and written forms.
- PLO-4. The student will demonstrate independent and critical thinking skills integrated with the ability to utilize multiple informational resources.
- PLO-5. The student will explain the principles, mechanisms and interrelatedness of both in vivo and in vitro biochemical, molecular biological and genetic processes.

Textbook:

Papers will be from the primary literature and will be as assigned.

Course Content:

Discuss and critique papers as assigned.

Other Class Policies:

Attendance:

Regular or punctual attendance is expected and essential for this class. If a student misses a class, the student is responsible for obtaining any information distributed during those times. Make-ups are possible only under certain instances. Arrangements for any make-ups and/or missed labs should be discussed directly with me.

Academic Honesty:

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Cheating

Dishonesty of any kind involving examinations, assignments, alteration of records, wrongful possession of examinations, and unpermitted submission of duplicate papers for multiple classes or unauthorized use of keys to examinations is considered cheating. Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class.
- Falsifying or inventing any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise.
- Helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Materials, even ideas, borrowed from others necessitate full and complete acknowledgment of the original authors. Offering the work of another as one's own is plagiarism and is unacceptable in the academic community. A lack of adequate recognition constitutes plagiarism, whether it utilizes a few sentences, whole paragraphs, articles, books, audio-visual materials, or even the writing of a fellow student. In addition, the presentation of material gathered, assembled or formatted by others as one's own is also plagiarism. Because the university takes such misconduct very seriously, the student is urged to carefully read university policies on Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activity 05.00. Examples of plagiarism are:

- Submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another.
- Submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source.
- Incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Adding/Dropping:

The official deadline for adding and dropping courses is as published in the academic calendar and Graduate Bulletin (typically the day before Census Day). However, students are strongly encouraged to meet with their graduate advisor or the Program Coordinator prior to adding/dropping courses. Movement into and out of classes after the 4th class day requires approval of the Program Director. Students can drop until mid-semester without a WP or WF. Drops after mid-semester require approval of the Dean. Each student is responsible for their own enrollment status with the university.

Disability Accommodations:

UTHSCT abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, which mandate reasonable accommodations be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability and may require some type of instructional and/or examination accommodations, please contact me early in the semester so that I can provide or facilitate provision of accommodations you may need. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with the Student Services Office (located on the UT Tyler Campus). You may call 903-566-7079 for more information.