

Bio181H Syllabus F09 (Click triangles to expand)

▼ I> Course description and goals

- A] Biology 181H is the honors addition to the Bio 181R lecture course. If accepted into Bio181H, you will be enrolled in a 4-credit Honors course; your performance in the Honors aspect will be reflected in the single grade you receive: Your participation in the Honors course constitutes up to 10% of the total points in the 181R course.
- B] This course is designed to deepen your acquaintance with scientific thinking and to offer you an early exposure to actual scientific practice and practitioners
- C] Specific topics include problem solving, evaluating claims in scientific literature and public media, and using the concepts introduced in Bio181R to address "real-world" questions and problems.

▼ D] Heightened expectations

- 1] Earning honors credit is not about ingesting a greater quantity of material. Instead, you will be expected to be a vigorous and self-directed participant in discussion and in your own learning. This is not a suitable forum if you are looking for external motivation.
- E] Basic mathematics and chemistry knowledge, or the personal motivation to review the material if required, is assumed.

▼ II> Instructors and staff

- A] Lisa Elfring elfring@email.arizona.edu
- B] Chris Goforth chrisgof@Ag.arizona.edu
- C] Vince Guerriero guerrier@email.arizona.edu
- D] Bruce Patterson patterso@u.arizona.edu
- ▼ E] Asya Roberts 181 Administrator BSE109
621-9267 introbio@email.arizona.edu

- 1] Hours: Mon & Tue Noon-2:00 Wed & Thu 9-11:00 Fri by appt.

▼ III> Required Resources

- **A]** access to a current 181R lecture textbook (Biological Science, 3d edition by Scott Freeman)
- **B]** Course website: <http://blc.arizona.edu/courses/181h/>
- **C]** You will be directed to a variety of web-accessible papers and media
- ▼ **IV> Absences and late work**
 - ▼ **A] Attendance is required.**
 - **1]** Arrival more than 10 minutes late without a formal excuse constitutes missing the meeting
 - **2]** All holidays or special events observed by organized religions will be honored for those students who show affiliation with that particular religion
 - ▼ **B] Absences** will be excused for exceptional and verifiable reasons, but arrangements need to be made well in advance. When feasible, excused absences are made-up by attending another section
 - **1]** Two unexcused absences will result in a drop of a single letter grade for the entire course.
 - ▼ **C] Assignments handed in late** (except due to an excused absence)
 - **1]** Your instructor may choose not to accept late assignments at all
 - **2]** If accepted, are subject to a 10% credit deduction per school day; this penalty is assessed prior to grading. It is your responsibility to ensure that your instructor receives any work that is not handed in during class.
- ▼ **V> Assignments and Grading Policy** (see also cheating; absences and late work)
 - **A]** Ignorance of the existence of an assignment is no excuse. Even with an excused absence, it is your responsibility to be caught up as soon as possible. This may require you to make contact with your instructor instead of waiting until your next meeting.
 - ▼ **B] Assignment values:**
 - **1]** In-class work and homework 50%
 - **2]** Work with your faculty/postdoctoral mentor 50%

● **C] Re-grade Policy**

You may return assignments for a re-grade within one week of having them returned to you. Re-grade requests must be accompanied by a typed clarification of what was overlooked or in error the first time. Your instructor will re-examine the entire work, not just the area in question. The purpose of re-grades is to correct errors in your instructor's understanding or scoring of your work, not to debate scoring policies. Note that a regrade constitutes new work on your part; an egregious mis-understanding demonstrated in your regrade request may cost you points.

- **D]** We reserve the right to adjust your scores upward based on exceptional participation and/or mastery of the course material as judged by your instructor.

▼ **VI> Academic Integrity**

- **A] General:** Integrity is expected of every student in all academic work. The guiding principle of academic integrity is that a student's submitted work must be the student's own. This principle is furthered by the Student Code of Conduct and disciplinary procedures established by ABOR Policies 5-308 - 5-403, all provisions of which apply to all University of Arizona students. For further information, please see: <http://dos.web.arizona.edu/uapolicies/>.
- **B]** Cheating/Plagiarism is an extremely serious matter and will be treated as such. Please note that possible responses to even a first instance of plagiarism include an 'E' for the course or expulsion from the university.
- **C]** See the contract on page vii of your lab manual for some guidance.

● **D]** Reports that are highly similar or that lack proper credit for sources of information, will be considered as cases of cheating and/or plagiarism. We strictly adhere to the University's Code of Academic Integrity and Code of Student Conduct as presented in the University catalog and the Student Handbook (<http://web.arizona.edu/~dos/uapolicies/caii.html>). Therefore, any case of cheating or plagiarism will, at the very least, receive zero points for that assignment, and could result in your expulsion from the university. If you have any questions regarding how to properly cite a source for a scientific paper, resolve them with your instructor before you hand the assignment in.

▼ **E]** Turnitin.com

● **1]** If you decide to take and continue in this course, you are agreeing to submit your papers online, when so instructed, to a plagiarism-prevention program called TurnItIn.com. When you set up your individual account with TurnItIn.com for this class, make sure you understand and consent to all the terms that the program provides you at that point. You should note that TurnItIn.com – always without your name and any personal information – will retain your paper as part of their database so that students who plagiarize your work can be detected. Because of this program, you will not have to compete with students who commit undetected plagiarism. Anyone who has questions or problems with TurnItIn.com may talk privately about these with the instructor.

● **VII>** **Decorum**

Your instructor is the authority in the room. Simple courtesy is expected of everyone in the room--there's never cause to yell or interrupt your peers or your instructor. Phones, mp3 players, etc. should be turned off throughout. During presentations, you're expected to listen attentively unless called on or participating in discussion. Computers are present for specific exercises which don't include checking e-mail, downloading the study guide for another course, or viewing human anatomy.

● **VIII>** **Policy Regarding Threatening Behavior**

<http://policy.web.arizona.edu/~policy/threaten.shtml>.

▼ **IX>** **Special Accommodations**

- **A]** If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodations to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the Disability Resource Center

<http://drc.arizona.edu/>

and request that the DRC send your instructor official notification of your accommodations needs as soon as possible. Please plan to bring documentation to Course Coordinator and meet with your instructor by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

▼ **X> Challenging topics**

- **A]** This course may deal with concepts regarding biological evolution. This underlying principle is the foundation for the understanding of biology. It is critical for biologists, health care workers and an informed citizenry to understand what evolutionary biology does and does not say about the current and historical life on earth, and such content will be included in this course. 'Belief' in evolution will not be assessed, but the theory's explanatory power and supporting evidence may be.