

How to use slack for BIOL 102

What is slack?

Slack is a **communication** platform. It is easy to use and has a lot of features that make it ideal for communicating as a class

Some things that you can do in slack:

- Write in discussion boards
- Send direct messages
- Share files
- Make one on one video calls
- Screen share in video calls

Slack can be used on an internet browser, a desktop client, or a mobile app.

Resources

- [Downloading slack](#)
- [Quick start guide](#)
- [detailed help files](#)

How to use slack in BIOL 102

The primary uses of slack in BIOL 102 are discussion board assignments and asking questions about the class or content.

Examples of things you can do on slack:

- Ask the class where to find an assignment in a channel
- Ask a classmate how they got an answer to a question
- Let the instructor know you will be absent from class due to an illness in a DM
- Post discussion assignments
- Share a link to an interesting article that you think would interest the class

Things you should not do on slack:

- Ask students for answers to class assignments before it is due
- Post exam questions or answers
- Share confidential information. Do not share confidential information on slack. Slack is not FERPA compliant, so discussion of sensitive information, such as individual grades, should be done through email with Dr. Glover (mgllover@bowiestate.edu)

Channels

Slack uses channels to organize conversation.

You can use the DMs or channels to ask questions in slack. However, it is strongly recommended that you use the channels for questions. It is likely that other classmates have the same questions as you do, and therefore

will benefit from your question in the channel. Also, students can answer questions in the channels. This will mean that you may get a quicker response than if you DM'd your instructor instead. To direct a question in a channel to Dr. Glover, you can use the mention function. This will send a notification. To use mentions use the @, (@Dr. Glover)

Below are a list of the channels for BIOL 102 and what should be posted in each.

announcements

This channel will be used by Dr. Glover to send reminders or announcements. Any major class announcements will also be send via email.

discussion-assignments

Discussion questions and replies should be posted in this channel. Every module, Dr. Glover will post a list of discussion questions for students to answer here. Students can "reply" to specific discussion answers to engage with each other.

lab-questions

This channel should be used for questions about the lab. Students can add questions about the specific content (for example, I don't understand the role of a centrifuge, can someone help?) or about how to complete the lab assignment (for example, has anyone gotten DNA subway to work? I can't figure out how what to put for the DNA type?)

lecture-questions

This channel should be used for questions about the lecture material. Students can ask questions about the assignments or about the specific content. Examples of questions: The lecture video is looking grainy, does anyone know who to increase the resolution? I am having trouble understanding the role of lysosome, can anyone help?

office-hours

This channel will be used for virtual office hours. Every week, Dr. Glover will be available at a specific time to answer questions online in slack. To make this easier, any and all questions can be poster in this channel at that time.

welcome

This channel is reserved for introductions and fun topics to get to know the class.