ONLINE SUMMER 2020

BIOLOGY 1M03 - BIODIVERSITY, EVOLUTION, & HUMANITY

PROFESSOR

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Virtual office hours: to be posted on the Avenue online learning platform

COURSE / TUTORIAL COORDINATOR

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course covers fundamental evolutionary and ecological concepts with particular reference to biodiversity and human evolution. We examine the dynamics of species diversity and explore the evolution and impact of humans. Emphasis is placed on evolution, ecology, behaviour, and conservation as related to the gain and loss of biodiversity. The PBL (problem-based learning) and tutorial activities reinforce the lecture topics and develop skills facilitating the interpretation of scientific observations. The course is a prerequisite for many programs and most relevant to those focusing on evolution and ecology.

PREREQUISITES Grade 12 Biology U or Biology 1P03 (Introductory Biology).

ANTIREQUISITES Biology 1M03 is not open to students with credit or registration in ISCI 1A24 A/B

BIOLOGY 1M03 LECTURES - GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Biology 1M03 lectures are designed for students who intend to specialize in Science programs and is required for many upper level courses in the Faculty of Science. Upon completion of Biology 1M03, students will be able to:

1. Effectively discuss the fundamental concepts and underlying processes related to evolution, behaviour, ecology, and the conservation of biodiversity.

2. Work independently to compile, analyze, interpret, and present scientific data using written and online formats necessary for biological sciences.

The primary goal of the course is to prepare students academically for subsequent, specialized Biology courses and to ensure that students acquire skills essential for upper-level biology courses and biology-related fields of study.

BIOLOGY 1M03 LECTURE SECTIONS & FORMAT

Refer to the **2020 Spring/Summer Session Undergraduate Course Timetable**.

Online lectures will be available on Avenue to Learn (avenue.mcmaster.ca) at 9:00 am on **Tuesdays (up to 3 hours in duration) and Thursdays (up to 3 hours in duration) each week.**

Given the current situation, the online lectures will be presented asynchronously (pre-recorded) to provide greater flexibility in learning for students living in different time zones and those students with varied work schedules.

The Biology 1M03 lectures will be a synthesis of several sources of information (the required Biological Science textbook & Human Evolution supplement, primary scientific literature (journal publications), and current research).

Lecture podcasts, lecture Powerpoint slides, lecture notes, study questions, and supplementary resources will be posted on the Biology 1M03 Avenue to Learn website.

Please note that students are expected to watch all lecture podcasts and study all supplementary materials that are posted on the Biology 1M03 Avenue to Learn course website. Students will benefit most by including their own detailed written or typed notes into the provided Biology 1M03 lecture resources and slides posted with the online lecture podcasts.

IMPORTANT

The Biology 1M03 Midterm Test & the Final Exam will include some concepts and current experimental work, which are not discussed in the textbook. These topics will be discussed EXCLUSIVELY during online lectures. It is extremely important that students review ALL of the online lecture materials.
The use of supplementary lecture resources will demonstrate how the concepts covered in Biology 1M03 lead directly to recent work and to applied research.

ACADEMIC PROPERTY STATEMENT

NO part of the BIOLOGY 1M03 online lectures, lecture notes, online discussions, course-related information or resources may be reproduced or communicated, in any form or by any means, without permission in writing by the Biology 1M03 professor, Dr. Lovaye Kajiura.

NO photos, visual media, voice recordings, Powerpoint slides, MP3 media or lecture-related information may be reproduced or communicated by any means. Usage of cameras or video / camera-capable cellphones, smartphones or digital wireless media are not permitted to be used during online lectures.
Students who have access to authorized recorded lectures in this course may use these recordings only for personal study and must not reproduce, share, or upload the recording to any publicly accessible web environment. Similarly, lecture notes, slides, evaluations, midterm tests, and exams are for personal study use only and must not be shared with anyone outside of the Biology 1M03 course.

BIOLOGY 1M03 TUTORIALS

Tutorials are scheduled on Thursdays from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm, and 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Please check your Mosaic schedule for your tutorial section and scheduled tutorial time.

Tutorials will be offered as live online exercises during the Summer 2020 academic term. In-person tutorials will not occur. Online tutorials will begin the week of June 29th. Tutorial information will be posted on Avenue to Learn. Tutorial manuals will be posted weekly. Tutorials will include pre-tutorial quizzes, live online tutorials, and sample data sets that will be used during the completion of the post-tutorial assignments. There will be four pre-tutorial quizzes, five post-tutorial assignments, and one Problem Based Learning (PBL) project. Pre-tutorial quizzes, post-tutorial assignments, and the PBL project will be completed individually and submitted electronically via Avenue to Learn.

REQUIRED BIOLOGY 1M03 TEXTBOOKS & SUPPLEMENT

The required textbook is BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition by Freeman, Quillin, Allison, Black, Podjorski, Taylor, Carmichael, Harrington, and Sharp. The course also uses a **Human Evolution online supplement** by Joan Sharp that will be available on the Avenue Bio 1M03 course website.

Note: Students are advised to purchase the most recent edition of the textbooks.
Do not purchase old editions of the Biological Science textbook since they do not contain the updated concepts and figures. The missing information would put students at a disadvantage, so buy the most recent textbook edition.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition can be purchased online from McMaster's **Campus Store** https://campusstore.mcmaster.ca/ via one of the following purchase options:

Electronic Purchase Option

Mastering Biology & A Short Guide to Writing about Biology
This purchase option includes electronic access to Mastering Biology, **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition**, **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition Study Guide, and** A Short Guide to Writing about Biology.

You will receive an access code from The Campus Store that can be used to activate access to Mastering Biology, **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition**, and the **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition Study Guide.**
A second access code will be emailed to your McMaster email address by the Course Coordinator that can be used to activate access to A Short Guide to Writing about Biology.
Instructions for Mastering Biology registration are posted on **Biology 1M03 Avenue to Learn course website**.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition is contained within Mastering Biology.

Note: You cannot purchase electronic access to Mastering Biology and **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition** separately.

Softcover Textbook Purchase Option
(limited quantities, check with the McMaster Campus Store (https://campusstore.mcmaster.ca/))
This purchase option includes a softcover copy of **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition and A Short Guide to Writing about Biology. A Short Guide to Writing about Biology is an appendix at the back of the softcover Biological Science textbook.**

Free shipping of this purchase option is available from The Campus Store.
Enter promo code **TEXTFREESHIP to obtain free shipping.**

Note: This purchase option does not include Mastering Biology or the Biological Science Study Guide.

OPTIONAL softcover Biological Science 3rd Canadian Edition Study Guide
(limited quantities, check the McMaster Campus Store (https://campusstore.mcmaster.ca/)

This study guide is considered to be an "optional" resource, however, it is highly recommended as it contains summaries and practice questions related to the Biological Science textbook information.

This optional purchase option includes a softcover copy of **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition Student Study Guide.**

Free shipping of this purchase option is available from The Campus Store.
Enter promo code **TEXTFREESHIP to obtain free shipping.**

This purchase option is OPTIONAL and does not include Mastering Biology or **BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, 3rd Canadian Edition,** or A Short Guide to Writing about Biology.

Please note the course will also cover supplementary information, which students will be able to access via the Biology 1M03 Avenue course website.

HOW TO LOG INTO THE BIOLOGY 1M03 AVENUE WEBSITE

1. Start your web browser and go to: http://avenue.mcmaster.ca

2. USER ID: Type in the first part (in lower case letters) of your McMaster e-mail address (your MAC ID), For example: if your McMaster e-mail address is janedoe@mcmaster.ca, then your AVENUE User ID is janedoe.

3. PASSWORD: Type in your McMaster password.

4. Then click on the Login button. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader (this is freeware) to read the Biology 1M03 *pdf* files. Most computers have Adobe Acrobat Reader installed as standard software.

If your computer does not have it, you may download it from the Adobe website:
http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html

Note: In this course, we will be using AVENUE for assessments. Students should be aware that when they access the electronic components of this course, private information, including first and last names, usernames for the McMaster University e-mail accounts, and program affiliations may become apparent to others participating in the course.
Continuation in this course will be deemed as consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss them with the course coordinator and the professor.

BIOLOGY 1M03 ONLINE LECTURE SCHEDULE

DATE	ASSIGNED TEXTBOOK CHAPTERS (Please note that students are also responsible for related supplementary information) BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, Canadian 3rd Edition	
Tuesday, June 23rd	**Chapter 22**	Evolution by Natural Selection & Supplementary Information
	Chapter 23	Evolutionary Processes & Supplementary Information
Thursday, June 25th	**Chapter 24**	Speciation & Supplementary Information
	Chapter 25	Phylogenies and the History of Life & Supplementary Information
Tuesday, June 30th	**Chapter 50**	Behavioural Ecology & Supplementary Information
Thursday, July 2nd	**Chapter 55**	Primate Origins & Evolution (Human Evolution supplement)
	Chapter 56	Origins & Evolution of Hominins (Human Evolution supplement)
Tuesday, July 7th	**Chapter 57**	Origins of Cultural Evolution (Human Evolution supplement)
	Chapter 58	Natural Selection in Modern Humans (Human Evolution supplement)
Thursday, July 9th	**Chapter 49**	Introduction to Ecology & Supplementary Information

Tuesday, July 14th **Midterm Test Review Lecture** – Dr. Kajiura will review concepts requested by students in preparation for the Midterm Test.

Thursday, July 16th **ONLINE MIDTERM TEST 9:00-10:30am to be completed on the Bio 1M03 Avenue website**

The Midterm Test is worth 30%, covers Biological Science textbook Chapters 22, 23, 24, 25, 50, Chapters 55 & 56 (Human Evolution supplement), online lectures, Avenue postings, study questions, and supplementary information. The format of the midterm test is 30 multiple choices questions (worth 30 marks), and 15 marks worth of written answer questions, for a total of 45 marks. The test will be 90 minutes in duration.

Tuesday, July 21st	**Chapter 51**	Population Ecology & Supplementary Information
Thursday, July 23rd	**Chapter 52**	Community Ecology & Supplementary Information
Tuesday, July 28th	**Chapter 53**	Ecosystems & Global Ecology & Supplementary Information
Thursday, July 30th	**Chapter 54**	Biodiversity & Conservation Biology & Supplementary Information

Tuesday, Aug 4th **FINAL EXAM REVIEW SESSION**

Thursday, Aug 6th **ONLINE FINAL EXAM 9:00-11:00 am to be completed on the Bio 1M03 Avenue website**

The Final Exam will consist of 80 multiple choice questions. The final exam is worth 40% and is cumulative, 2 hours in duration, and covers all online lectures with a slight emphasis on the material covered after the midterm test, online lectures, online discussions, online activities, all assigned e-book chapters in Biological Science & the online Human Evolution supplement, Avenue postings, and supplementary resources.

GRADING

Final Biology1M03 grades will be determined by the following evaluations:

DATE		VALUE
MIDTERM TEST	**Thursday**, **July 16th**, 9:00-10:30 am (ONLINE via Avenue to Learn)	**30%**
PRE-TUTORIAL QUIZZES (4 in total, 1% each)		**4 %**
TUTORIAL ASSIGNMENTS (5 in total, 2% each)		**10%**
PBL PROJECT		**16%**
Annotated Bibliography	**0.5%**	
PBL Individual Written Draft Report	**0.5%**	
PBL Individual Written Final Report	**15%**	
FINAL EXAM	**Thursday, August 6th**, 9:00am-11:00am (ONLINE via Avenue to Learn)	**40%**

Final marks for the course are based on a total assessment of each student's record.
It is a student's responsibility to make sure that his/her marks are complete and correct.
If there are any discrepancies, students must contact the Biology 1M03 Course Coordinator, Dr. Mahalingam, via email at bio1m03@mcmaster.ca

Grade adjustment techniques may be used. However, marks will NOT be bell-curved at any point in the term.
The Professor and the Course Coordinator reserve the right to change or revise information contained in this course outline.
The professor and university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term.
The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, students will be given reasonable notice with an explanation and an opportunity to comment on changes.

It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course website daily during the term and to note any changes. Marks will be calculated according to the above grading scheme in order to be consistent with previous years. The Biology Department does not approve of altering marks arbitrarily at a student's request.

BIOLOGY 1M03 MIDTERM TEST & FINAL EXAMINATION FORMATS

The Biology 1M03 Midterm Test will consist of 30 multiple choice questions worth 30 marks and 15 marks worth of written answers for a total of 45 marks completed in 90 minutes. For multiple choice questions, each question is worth 1 mark, no partial marks will be awarded.

The Biology 1M03 Final Exam will consist of 80 multiple choice questions completed in 2 hours. For multiple choice questions, each question is worth 1 mark, no partial marks will be awarded. The 1M03 Final Exam is cumulative and will evaluate course information covered during the entire academic term. There will be a slight emphasis on material covered after the midterm test, online lecture-related resources, online discussions, online activities, all assigned e-book chapters in Biological Science & the online Human Evolution supplement, Avenue postings, and supplementary resources.

For the Biology 1M03 Midterm Test and the Final Exam, the questions may evaluate factual, conceptual, and application knowledge.

This course may use proctoring software (TBD) for tests/exams. This software may require you to turn on your video camera, present identification, monitor and record your computer activities, and lockdown your browser during the exam. This software may be required to be installed before the exam begins. If you have questions about whether this software will be used, or concerns about the use of this software, please contact the Biology 1M03 Course Coordinator Dr. Sajeni Mahalingam.

BIOLOGY 1M03 POLICIES

1. The last day for enrollment and course changes during the Summer 2020 academic term is **Monday, June 29th 2020.**

2. Students will be submitting their post-tutorial assignments and PBL projects to electronic dropboxes that will be available within the Biology 1M03 AVENUE course site. Late submissions will be penalised 10% per day.

3. To receive credit for Biology 1M03, students must complete a majority (75%) of the tutorials and other term assignments. A MSAF or other note(s) from the Associate Dean of Studies office does NOT exempt students from completing the course term requirements. If a student misses more than 75% of the tutorial and/or term components, credit in Biology 1M03 will NOT be given. This applies even if the absences from the tutorials or tests are validated by MSAF's or other Dean's notes AND the student has a passing grade the portion of the course the student has completed.

4. Any marked term work (assignments, midterm test, etc.) may be submitted for re-grading within 5 business days of the work being returned to the student. The work must be accompanied by a re-grade request form which is available on the Biology 1M03 AVENUE website and the reason for the regrade request must be completely justified on the form. Regrade requests made for frivolous reasons will be denied. Regrade forms and course work should be submitted to the Course Coordinator, Dr. Sajeni Mahalingam via email bio1m03@mcmaster.ca

5. Any term mark corrections must be made before the Biology 1M03 Final Exam is written. Contact the Course Coordinator regarding test/assignment grades corrections.

6. Because this course has compulsory tutorial activities, students must complete all tutorial activities so that they have the appropriate academic skills necessary to succeed in upper level biology courses. If a student does not complete the majority of the mandatory tutorial activities, the Biology 1M03 Professor & Biology 1M03 Course Coordinator reserve the right to withhold a student's grade until the student has completed the required activities during a future semester. A passing grade in the tutorial component is required to pass Biology 1M03. This policy applies even if the student has notes from their Associate Dean of Studies office excusing him or her from the missed activities, tests, or assignments.

7. Tests and assignments must be completed and submitted individually, unless other instructions to work as a group are specifically defined. All reports and assignments which are submitted must be unique. It is considered academic dishonesty to submit work that is not originally yours or that has been previously submitted. All cases of academic dishonesty will be dealt with through the office of Academic Integrity at McMaster University.

8. The instructors and the university reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster e-mail and course websites regularly (at least every other day) during the term and to note changes.

9. Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work

For absences from classes lasting up to three calendar days:
Using the McMaster student absence form (MSAF) on-line, self-reporting tool, undergraduate students may report absences lasting up to three calendar days and may also request relief for missed academic work. The submission of medical or other types of supporting documentation is not required. Students may use this tool to submit a maximum of one request for relief of missed academic work per term. Students must immediately follow up with the course coordinator & course instructor regarding the nature of the relief. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief. It is the prerogative of the instructor of the course to determine the appropriate relief for missed term work in His/her course.

For absences from classes lasting more than three calendar days:
Students who are absent more than three calendar days cannot use the on-line, self-reporting tool to request relief. They MUST report to their Faculty Office to discuss their situation and may be required to provide appropriate supporting documentation. If warranted, students will be approved to use a discretionary version of the MSAF on-line, self-reporting tool.

For the reporting of more than one request for relief per term:

Students who wish to submit more than one request for relief of missed academic work per term cannot use the on-line, self-reporting tool to request relief. They MUST contact their Faculty Office to discuss their situation and may be required to provide supporting documentation. If warranted, students will be approved to use a discretionary version of the MSAF on-line, self-reporting tool.

For absences from classes lasting more than three calendar days or for the reporting of more than one request for relief per term: if the reason was medical, the approved McMaster University Medical Form covering the relevant dates must be submitted. The student must be seen by a doctor at the earliest possible date, normally on or before the date of the missed work and the doctor must verify the duration of the illness. Relief will not be considered for minor illnesses. If the reason is non-medical, appropriate documentation with verifiable origin covering the relevant dates must be submitted, normally within five working days.

In some circumstances, students may be advised to submit a Petition for Special Consideration (Form A) seeking relief for missed academic work. In deciding whether or not to grant a petition, adequacy of the supporting documentation, including the timing in relation to the due date of the missed work and the degree of the student's incapacitation, may be taken into account. If the petition is approved the Faculty Office will notify the instructor(s) recommending relief. The student must contact the instructor promptly to discuss the appropriate relief. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief. It is the prerogative of the instructor of the course to determine the appropriate relief for missed term work in his/her course.

The MSAF on-line, self-reporting tool cannot be used to apply for any course work that is valued at 25% or greater than the final grade, or any final examination or its equivalent. See *Petitions for Special Consideration* in this section of the calendar. Students should expect to have academic commitments Monday through Saturday but not on Sunday or statutory holidays. Students who require accommodations to meet a religious obligation or to celebrate an important religious holiday should make their requests within three weeks of the start of term to their Faculty office.

There will be no discretionary approvals given by the Biology 1M03 instructional team.

BIOLOGY 1M03 MSAF POLICY

Course component not completed (MSAF submitted)	**Result**
Pre-tutorial quiz (each worth 1% of final grade)	1% added to the value of Final Exam, now 41% of final grade.
Post-tutorial assignment (each worth 2% of final grade)	2% added to the value of Final Exam, now 42% of final grade.
Annotated bibliography (0.5% of final grade)	0.5% added to the value of Final Exam, now 40.5% of final grade.
PBL individual written Draft Report (0.5% of final grade)	0.5% added to the value of Final Exam, now 40.5% of final grade.
PBL individual written Final Report (15% of final grade)	The value of the PBL individual written Final Report will not be added to the value of the Final Exam. An extension will be provided.
MSAF submitted for Midterm Test (30% of final grade)	30% added to the value of Final Exam, now 70% of final grade. Final Exam composed of 80 multiple choice questions and 15 marks of short answer questions, 2.5 hours in duration.
No MSAF submitted for Midterm Test	Final Exam valued at 40% of final grade and composed solely of 80 multiple choice questions, 2 hours in duration.

13.

As a student enrolled in this course you have been granted permission to access an online learning management system, Avenue to Learn. Avenue to Learn course pages are considered an extension of the

classroom and usage is provided as a privilege subject to the same code of conduct expected in a lecture hall (see relevant section of the student code of conduct below). This privilege allows participation in course discussion forums and access to supplementary course materials. Please be advised that all areas of Avenue to Learn, including discussion forums, are owned and operated by McMaster University. Any content or communications deemed inappropriate by the course instructor (or designated individual) may be removed at his/her discretion. Per the University Technology Services Code of Conduct, all members of the McMaster community are obligated to use computing resources in ways that are responsible, ethical and professional. Avenue to Learn Terms of Use are available at http://avenue.mcmaster.ca.

Student Code of Conduct - Appendix D
Major Offences include, but are not limited to:

(h) engaging in disruptive behaviour. Disruptive behaviour is behaviour in class or out of class which involves substantial disorder and/or disrupts the operation of the University

(j) engaging in verbal or non-verbal behaviour or communication toward an individual or group which is considered to be intimidating, harassing and/or discriminatory

ONLINE COURSE BEHAVIOUR

McMaster is committed to an inclusive and respectful community. These principles and expectations extend to online activities including electronic chat groups, video calls and other learning platforms. If you are concerned about your virtual classroom experiences, the Equity and Inclusion Office (EIO) is available to advise and assist students who may be experiencing any equity, accessibility, inclusion, harassment, discrimination or sexual violence concerns. You can reach the EIO at equity@mcmaster.ca. Thank you for joining us in ensuring that our McMaster online communities are spaces where no one feels excluded and everyone is able to enjoy learning together."
https://equity.mcmaster.ca/contact-us

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials students earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

The students are responsible to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty, please refer to the *Academic Integrity Policy,* located at www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:
• Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained
• Improper collaboration in group work
• Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations

Any student who infringes one of these resolutions will be treated according to published policy.
To deter acts of academic dishonesty in Biology 1M03, there will be multiple versions of tests & final exams.
In addition, marked student course work will be randomly scanned and photocopied.

By submitting this work, a student certifies that the work represents solely her/his own independent efforts. The students confirm that they are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. The student confirms that is her/his responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty under the Academic Integrity Policy."
https://secretariat.mcmaster.ca/app/uploads/Academic-Integrity-Policy-1-1.pdf

AUTHENTICITY / PLAGIARISM DETECTION

Students who do not wish to submit their work through Avenue to Learn and/or Turnitin.com must still submit an electronic and/or hardcopy to the instructor. No penalty will be assigned to a student who does not submit work to Turnitin.com or Avenue to Learn. All submitted work is subject to normal verification that standards of academic integrity have been upheld (e.g. on-line search, other software, etc.). To see the Turnitin.com Policy, please go to www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who require academic accommodation must contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) to make arrangements with a Program Coordinator. Academic accommodations must be arranged for each term of study. Student Accessibility Services can be contacted by phone 905-525-9140 ext. 28652 or e-mail sas@mcmaster.ca. For further information, consult McMaster University's Policy for Academic Accommodation of Students with Disabilities. http://www.mcmaster.ca/policy/Students-AcademicStudies/AcademicAccommodation-StudentsWithDisabilities.pdf
Students who are registered with SAS should contact the Course Coordinator in order to discuss their academic accommodations.

ACADEMIC ACCOMODATION FOR RELIGIOUS, INDIGENOUS, OR SPIRITUAL OBSERVANCES (RISO)

Students requiring academic accommodation based on religious, indigenous or spiritual observances should follow the procedures set out in the RISO policy. Students requiring a RISO accommodation should submit their request to their Faculty Office normally within 10 working days of the beginning of term in which they anticipate a need for accommodation or to the Registrar's Office prior to their examinations. Students should also contact their instructors as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements for classes, assignments and tests.

McMASTER UNIVERSITY GRADING SCHEME

Grades obtained for Biology 1M03 will be converted according to the following scheme, which is the one in general use at McMaster University.

90 - 100%	A+	12
85 - 89%	A	11
80 - 84%	A-	10
77 - 79%	B+	9
73 - 76%	B	8
70 - 72%	B-	7
67 - 69%	C+	6
63 - 66%	C	5
60 - 62%	C-	4
57 - 59%	D+	3
53 - 56%	D	2
50 - 52%	D-	1
0 - 49%	F	0

THE BIOLOGY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Department of Biology recognizes the importance of superior undergraduate academic performance in Biology 1M03 among our students. Biology Academic Achievement Awards are conferred to Science I students, who obtain the highest standings in Biology 1M03. No applications are necessary as the awards are based solely on course grades.

STUDY SKILLS

The academic transition from high school to university is often very challenging for many students. For students who wish to improve their academic skills, study habits, time management, or for students who require specialized services [learning challenged students and ESL (English as a second language students)], assistance is available at both the Student Success Centre located in Gilmour Hall 110, SSC website https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/ and the Student Accessibility Services located the lower level (basement) of the McMaster University Student Centre B107, website https://sas.mcmaster.ca/

MISSED FINAL EXAM

Students who miss the Biology 1M03 Final Exam for a valid reason may apply to the Office of their Associate Dean of their respective faculty for permission to write a Deferred Final Exam. The student must submit a completed McMaster University Medical Certificate and the completed application for the deferred Final Exam to the Office of the Associate Dean within one week of the Final Examination period.

EXTREME CIRCUMSTANCES

The University reserves the right to change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances (e.g. severe weather, labour disruptions, etc.). Changes will be communicated through regular McMaster communication channels, such as McMaster University Daily News website, Avenue (A2L), and/or McMaster email.

Updated May 19th 2020