

**BIOL 141 - Foundations of Biology: Cells, Energy and Organisms**  
**Syllabus, Summer 2016**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Textbook Chapter(s)</b>
Tues, May 31	Introduction	1
Wed, June 1	Cell Theory & Evolution	1
Thurs, June 2	Protein Structure and Function	3
Mon, June 6	Nucleic Acids & Carbohydrates	4 & 5
Tues, June 7	Lipids & Membranes	6
Wed, June 8	Cells	7
Thurs, June 9	Energy and Enzymes	8
<b>Mon, June 13</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	
Tues, June 14	Cellular Respiration	9
Wed, June 15	Photosynthesis	10
Thurs, June 16	Cell-Cell Interactions	11
Mon, June 20	Cell Cycle	12
Tues, June 21	Meiosis	13
Wed, June 22	DNA and the Gene	15
<b>Thurs, June 23</b>	<b>Exam 2</b>	
Mon, June 27	How Genes Work	16
Tues, June 28	Transcription and RNA Processing	17
Wed, June 29	Translation	17
Thurs, June 30	Nervous System	46
Tues, July 5	Digestive & Endocrine Systems	44 & 49
Wed, July 6	Techniques	20
<b>Thurs, July 7</b>	<b>Cumulative Final Exam</b>	

*Specific reading assignments and deadlines will be posted on Mastering Biology.*

**Class Meetings**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30-11:50 a.m.

**Instructor:** Dr. Elizabeth Feeser

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Office hours are by appointment. E-mails will usually be answered by the next school day.

**Teaching Assistant:** Skylar Dewees Fisher sdewees1@umbc.edu

**Course Description** (from the UMBC Catalog): This course for majors provides a broad overview of contemporary biological concepts. Major topics include structure and synthesis of nucleic acids and proteins, molecular genetics, prokaryotic and eukaryotic cell structure and function, biochemistry of energy transformation, and animal and plant development and physiology. This course is designed to prepare students for upper level biology core and elective courses. It is one of two introductory courses (BIOL 141 & 142) designed exclusively for BIOL, BIOC and BINF majors.

**Prerequisites:** You must have completed MATH 150 or MATH 151 or MATH 155 or equivalent with a 'C' or better, or have Math test placement into MATH 151.

## Required Materials

- Textbook: *Biological Science*. Freeman, Quillin, & Allison. (Pearson) 5th edition. You may choose the print or e-book version of the text. However, you will only be allowed to use the print version as a reference during class.
- Mastering Biology Access Code: You must purchase an access code for the Mastering Biology website either through the bookstore or online. You will likely pay less if you purchase your access code in combination with your textbook.
- Clicker: Turning Technologies Response Card RF: Clickers must be registered on Blackboard, which requires a license code through the TurningPoint Cloud subscription service. Students who have used a clicker in an earlier UMBC course should have received an e-mail containing a license code. Please contact DoIT if you need assistance with TurningPoint Cloud.
- Paper and Writing Implement. You will need paper and a pen or pencil for taking notes and completing in-class assignments.

## Grading

Mastering Biology Quizzes	7.5%
Participation, including Clicker Questions	7.5%
Active Learning Assignments	5 %
Exam 1	25 %
Exam 2	25 %
Comprehensive Final Exam	30 %

**Grading scheme, class schedule, and class policies subject to change. Any changes will be announced on Blackboard.**

## Assignments

- Online Course Content: Blackboard and the Mastering Biology website are essential components of this course. Students should check their UMBC e-mail and Blackboard before and after each class meeting for course announcements and assignments. The lowest Mastering Biology quiz grade will be dropped at the end of the term to allow for technical problems or illness. All quizzes must be completed by the stated deadline. Students may consult the textbook while taking a quiz, but sharing quiz questions or answers with other students is cheating.
- Exams: Students must arrive on time for exams; a student will not be allowed to begin an exam late if any student has completed the exam and left the exam room. Seats will be assigned on exam days, and students may not leave their assigned seats until they turn in their completed exam. If you are ill on the day of an exam, you must notify Dr. Feeser before the start of the exam AND provide a doctor's note excusing you from class due to an acute illness. If there is a death in your immediate family (parents, siblings, spouses, or children) in the 3 days before an exam, you must notify Dr. Feeser before the start of the exam AND provide documentation of the death and your relationship to the decedent. Make-up exams may be essay format and must be completed within three days of the scheduled exam.

- Active Learning Assignments: Assignments must be submitted in the format and at the time specified by the instructor or TA. All written assignments must include the student's legal name and team name; assignments without these will not be graded. Students should always write out answers in their own words. Copying another student's answers is plagiarism.
- Clickers: Students should bring their clickers to every class and answer all clicker questions. Some clicker questions will be graded for accuracy, while others will be graded for participation. The lowest 10% of your clicker grades will be dropped at the end of the term, so forgetting your clicker once during the semester will not adversely affect your grade. Students may only enter clicker responses on their own clicker. Entering clicker responses for another student is cheating. Both the student entering the responses and the student whose clicker is being used improperly will receive a grade of '0' for all clicker questions on the day of the infraction, and the incident will be reported to UMBC's Academic Conduct Committee.
- Participation: To earn participation points, students must participate in clicker polls and be active participants in class discussions. Students are expected to engage in conversation with their teammates when instructed to do so and should be prepared to explain their answers to the class if called upon. Distractions, such as cell phones, are detrimental to both the student using them and those around that student; use of a cell phone in class may result in loss of participation points for the day.
- Study Questions: Study Questions are provided on Blackboard to help students prepare for exams. These assignments will not be graded, but students should write out answers to study questions in their own words. Exam questions will draw from one or more study question.
- Re-grade Requests: Any requests for an assignment to be re-evaluated must be submitted in writing with the original assignment attached within two days of the graded assignment being returned. No re-grade requests will be considered after final grades are posted.

## **Classroom Policies**

- Cell Phones: Students are expected to turn off their cell phones and all other electronic devices 5 minutes before class begins. All electronic devices must be put in a backpack or purse during class. A student who has a phone out during class or whose phone rings, vibrates, or otherwise disrupts class will lose their participation points for the day and may be asked to leave the classroom and not return. A student whose phone disrupts an exam will lose 2 points on the exam. Any student in possession of an electronic device during an exam or in-class quiz will receive a '0' on that exam or quiz.
- Laptops and Tablets: Students may not use laptops, tablets, or other electronic devices during class, except when specifically instructed to do so by an instructor or TA. A student requiring a laptop as an academic accommodation must provide the instructor with a letter of accommodation from Student Disability Services. Any student with an academic accommodation who uses a laptop for any purpose other than taking notes during class will lose the privilege of using a laptop during class.

- Respectful Behavior: In order to create a positive learning environment, students must show respect for each other, the instructor, TAs, and UMBC staff. Examples of respectful behavior include arriving to class on time, staying in class until the end, being attentive, listening and using appropriate language.
- Taping Lectures: Students who wish to make an audio recording of the class must obtain the instructor's permission via e-mail. No part of a class meeting or conversation may be recorded (audio or video) without the instructor's written permission. A student requiring recorded lectures as an academic accommodation must provide the instructor with a letter of accommodation from Student Support Services.

### **Academic Integrity**

“By enrolling in this course, each student assumes the responsibilities of an active participant in UMBC's scholarly community in which everyone's academic work and behavior are held to the highest standards of honesty. Cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and helping others to commit these acts are all forms of academic dishonesty, and they are wrong. Academic misconduct could result in disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, suspension or dismissal. To read the full Student Academic Conduct Policy, consult [UMBC policies](#), or the [Faculty Handbook](#) (Section 14.3).”

“Student academic misconduct may take numerous forms such as, but not limited to, those listed below:

1. Fabrication: The intentional and unauthorized generation or augmentation of data, information, citation or result in an academic exercise.
2. Falsification: The intentional and unauthorized altering of any information, citation or result in an academic exercise.
3. Plagiarism: The intentional or knowing representation of the words, ideas or work of others as one's own in an academic exercise. The appropriation of the language, ideas or thoughts of another and representation of them as one's own original work.
4. Cheating: The intentional use or attempted use of unauthorized material in an academic exercise.
5. Improprieties of Authorship: Improper assignment of credit or misrepresentation of material as original without proper referencing of the original authors.
6. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty: The intentional or knowing assistance or attempted assistance of another student to commit an act of academic misconduct.”

### **CHEATING OR PLAGIARISM WILL RESULT IN A GRADE OF ‘0’ FOR THE ASSIGNMENT AND A REPORT TO THE UMBC ACADEMIC CONDUCT COMMITTEE.**

The ‘0’ grade will not be dropped. If the lowest grades in a category is dropped, the lowest grade other than the ‘0’ penalty for academic misconduct will be dropped.

### **Class Cancellation**

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, UMBC posts information about class cancellations on the UMBC homepage ([www.umbc.edu](http://www.umbc.edu)) and on the UMBC hotline (410-455-6789). Please check your e-mail 30 minutes before class begins for any class-specific cancellations. The instructor may require additional online coursework if a class is cancelled.

### **Accommodations and Support for Students with Disabilities**

UMBC is committed to eliminating discriminatory obstacles that may disadvantage students based on disability. Student Disability Services (SDS) is the UMBC department designated to receive and maintain *confidential* files of disability-related documentation, and serve as a liaison between faculty members and students regarding disability-related issues. If you have a disability and want to request accommodations, contact SDS in the Math/Psych Building, Room 213 or Sherman-B wing Room 345 (or call 410-455-2459 or 410-455-3250). SDS will require you to provide appropriate documentation of disability and complete a Request for Services form available at <http://sds.umbc.edu> . If you require accommodations for this class, make an appointment to meet with the instructor during the first week of the semester to discuss your SDS-approved accommodations.

***Students who require academic accommodations for exams must schedule to take their exams at SDS. No extra time or other accommodations will be offered in the regular classroom.***