Professor Jeffrey D. Rudolf

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Lectures Tuesday and Thursday, 4th–5th period (10:40 am – 12:35 pm), 109

Keene-Flint Hall

Office hours Monday, 10:40 am – 12:35 pm (Dr. Rudolf, JHH 302G)

Wednesday, 10:40 am – 12:35 pm Friday, 10:40 am – 12:35 pm

Course Objectives This class covers all of the material commonly found in undergraduate

biochemistry courses, with a special emphasis on using concepts from organic and physical chemistry to help students better understand biological chemistry. Topics will include amino acids and proteins, enzyme structure, mechanisms and kinetics, primary metabolism, and

nucleic acid structure and metabolism.

Prerequisites CHM 3217 or CHM 2211, or permission of the instructor.

Required Textbook *Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry*, Sixth or Seventh Edition, Nelson,

D. L. and Cox, M. M. Additional materials will be made available on

the CANVAS course portal.

Lecture Schedule A tentative schedule of lectures is available at the course e-Learning site

(http://elearning.ufl.edu).

Grading Three examinations (100 points each) will be scheduled during the

semester (during class on Sept. 11, Oct. 4, and Nov. 1). The final examination (100 points) will be comprehensive, although it will emphasize the material presented after the third in-class examination (Dec. 13, 5:30–7:30 pm). No make-up exams will be offered. After each exam, approximate letter grade distributions will be posted so that you will have a feel for your performance relative to others in the class as the semester progresses. The lowest grade from exams 1 - 3 will be dropped before calculating your final grade (you may not drop the final

exam score). Your final letter grade will be calculated in two ways:

- 1) Points method. After dropping the exam score (from tests 1, 2 or 3) with the lowest number of points, the remaining two scores will be added together with the final exam score and compared to the distribution of total points for the class in order to assign a final letter grade. The classwide mean of grades assigned by this method will be at the B-/C+ border.
- 2) Letter grade method. After dropping the lowest exam letter grade (from tests 1, 2 or 3), the remaining two letter grades will be averaged with that from the final exam by assigning points in the following manner: A = 4.00, A = 3.67, B + = 3.33, B = 3.00, B = 2.67, C + =

2.33, C = 2.00, C - = 1.67, D + = 1.33, D = 1.00, D - = 0.67, E = 0.00.

The three best values will be averaged, then the following scheme will be used to convert this to the final course grade:

$$3.85 - 4.00 = A$$

$$3.51 - 3.84 = A -$$

$$3.18 - 3.50 = B +$$

$$2.85 - 3.17 = B$$

$$2.51 - 2.84 = B -$$

$$2.18 - 2.50 = C +$$

$$1.85 - 2.17 = C$$

$$1.51 - 1.84 = C -$$

$$1.17 - 1.50 = D +$$

$$0.84 - 1.16 = D$$

$$0.51 - 0.83 = D -$$

$$<0.51 = E$$

For example, if your three best exam letter grades are A, A and A-, your average would be (4.00 + 4.00 + 3.67) / 3 = 3.89, which is an A.

Whichever method (#1 or #2) gives you a higher grade will be used to calculate the letter grade reported to the Registrar.

Current UF grading policies can be found at https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx.

Class Attendance

While attendance is voluntary, the lectures are an essential component of the experience for this class. Readings from the textbook serve as a starting point and the classroom lectures will explain and expand upon this material. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog

(https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx) and require appropriate documentation.

Make-Up Work

Since students are allowed to drop an exam score, no make-up exams will be scheduled.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing two online evaluations at

https://evaluations.ufl.edu. One informal mid-semester evaluation will give me an opportunity to improve during the semester and you a chance to benefit from your own evaluations. Final evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

Class Demeanor

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all.

Academic Honesty

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Students with Disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Additional Information

Your well-being is important to the University of Florida. The *U Matter*, *We Care* initiative is committed to creating a culture of care on our campus by encouraging members of our community to look out for one another and to reach out for help if a member of our community is in need. If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu so that the *U Matter*, *We Care* Team can reach out to the student in distress. A nighttime and weekend crisis counselor is available by phone at 352.392.1575. The *U Matter*, *We Care* Team can help connect students to the many other helping resources available including, but not limited to, Victim Advocates, Housing staff, and the Counseling and Wellness Center. Please remember that asking for help is a sign of strength. In case of emergency, call 9-1-1.