

CHM3218 – Organic Chemistry/Biochemistry 2

Instructor

Dr. Alix Rexford
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Office Hours

Zoom ID: 277 621 8481
Mon 3:00 – 4:00 pm
Wed 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Teaching Assistant

Alix Chamberlain achamberlain@chem.ufl.edu
Office Hours: Wednesday 1:00 – 2:00 pm
Zoom ID: 814 815 8104

Learning Assistants

Audrey Dubose	Office hours: Thursday 8:30 – 9:20 am	Zoom ID: 972 244 1385
Maria Meneses	Office hours: Tuesday 10:00 – 11:00 am	Zoom ID: 957 0651 9143
Khanh Nguyen	Office hours: Wednesday 9:30 – 10:30 am	Zoom ID: 974 4279 9148
Mo Kazmouz	Office hours: Thursday 2:00 -3:00 pm	Zoom ID: 847 259 5207
Saahas Rajendran	Office hours: Monday 9:30 – 10: 30 am	Zoom ID: 386 906 1815
Rachel Keller		
Kristin Thorne		
Samantha Valazquez		

Recommended Texts

Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry
Garrett & Grisham Biochemistry

Prerequisites

CHM 3217 or CHM2211 or permission of the instructor.

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, mechanism, and kinetics, primary metabolism, nucleic acid structure, and metabolism.

Class Meetings

Class meets Tuesday and Thursday 11:45 – 1:40pm in Flint 50. Attendance and participation is required. The course will make use of hyflex technology to allow for student participation when they are unable to attend class in person. Additionally, class may be moved online for up to a period of two weeks if the instructor or any member of her family is quarantined due to COVID exposure.

There will be no in person meeting on March 25; the synchronous lecture will be held via Zoom.

Each classes will consist of a combination of lecture, small group discussions in breakout sessions, and main group discussions. Your breakout group will include the same 4-5 people every day and course assistants and instructors will be available to encourage discussion and assist you in active learning. The goal of these breakout sessions is for students to work through applications of newly acquired knowledge to develop a deep understanding of essential concepts in biochemistry.

Assistants will be joining the class via Zoom, and in order to enable group discussions while social distancing, you will need a **Zoom-enabled device and headset with speaker** to participate in the classroom during breakout sessions.

Grading

The final course grade will be based upon post/pre-lecture assignments, participation during class, and four exams.

Post/pre-lecture assignments (PLAs) will be available on Canvas at least one week before they are due and will consist of 2 – 10 questions related to the prior lecture and/or the reading assignment for that day’s lecture. Prior to completing the assignment, you should review your lecture notes from the previous lecture and read/watch the recommended text/videos to get an introduction to the next day’s topic. Problems will be due the 5 minutes prior to the start of lecture at 11:40 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. PLA’s will be graded on **completeness** of all questions and **correctness of one** randomly selected question.

Students will have **roles in the breakout sessions** that will help to foster a team dynamic. Roles will rotate throughout the course of the semester. Your participation in the group as a whole and performance in your group role will be evaluated by the instructor, assistants, and your group mates to determine your participation score. Participation in the main group (including asking/answering questions and presenting group discussions) will also contribute to your overall participation score.

Exams will be take-home, open note and will be due on or around the following dates*:

Exam 1: February 5

Exam 2: March 5

Exam 3: March 26

Exam 4: April 20

Cumulative Final Exam: April 27

*Exam dates are subject to change

The lowest exam score will be dropped so that final course grades will be calculated by the point distribution outlined below:

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Points (1000 total)</i>
Post/pre-lecture assignment	180 (7 pts each)
Exams	720 (180 pts each)
Participation	100 pts

Letter grades will be assigned based on the lowest letter grade earned from the table below:

Letter Grade	Minimum Total Points	Participation Percentage	Homework Percentage	Exam Total Percentage	Minimum exam score on at least 1 exam
A	900	90.00	90.00	90.00	---
A-	900	85.00	88.00	88.00	162
B+	870	85.00	85.00	85.00	---
B	800	80.00	80.00	80.00	---
B-	800	75.00	75.00	78.00	144
C+	770	75.00	60.00	70.00	---
C	700	50.00	50.00	65.00	126
C-	700	40.00	40.00	60.00	126
D	600	---	---	---	---
F	<600	---	---	---	---

For example:

Student X earns an **A-**: 900 total points; 86 participation points (86.00 %), 176 homework points (97.78 %) and 638 exam points (88.61 %), highest exam score: 162

Student Y earns a **B+**: Same as Student X except highest exam score is 161

Makeup Policy

No makeup assignments or exams will be given. However, there is a policy of at least one dropped score per component (eg PLA, exams, attendance), so missed assignments will count as the dropped assignment.

If an exam or assignment will be missed due to active military duty, religious holy days, or official University activities, the student is required to provide documentation of such absences at least **two weeks in advance** to schedule an early exam in advance of the regularly scheduled exam. Assignments that are missed due to pre-excused absences will not be counted against the student in the final grade.

Regrades and Grading Errors

Mistakes happen and grading errors can be especially frustrating. I will do my best to make sure that you are always kept up to date with your performance in the course and post your grades in a timely manner. It is your responsibility to make sure that your grade on Canvas reflects the scores you receive on assignments and bring it to my attention ASAP when you notice a discrepancy. If you feel that a grading error was made on a particular assignment you have **one week from the date the grade was posted to Canvas** to request a regrade. Regrades will include a rescore of the entire assignment and may result in a lower score. To request a regrade you should post a comment on the assignment in Canvas including the question that was graded incorrectly and **why you think your answer is correct.**

Student Responsibilities & Zoom Etiquette

You are expected to come to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at a minimum.

In response to COVID-19, the following policies and requirements are in place to maintain your learning environment and to enhance the safety of our in-classroom interactions.

- You are required to wear approved face coverings at all times during class and within buildings. Following and enforcing these policies and requirements are all of our responsibility. Failure to do so will lead to a report to the Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution. There will be ***no eating or drinking in the classroom***. As this class meets for 2 hours during normal lunch times, please make sure that you have eaten prior to coming to class!
- This course has been assigned classrooms with enough capacity to maintain physical distancing (6 feet between individuals) requirements. Please utilize designated stations and maintain appropriate spacing between students. Do not move from the station you are assigned.
- Sanitizing supplies are available at the front of the room to wipe down your area at the start and end of each class.
- Practice physical distancing to the extent possible when entering and exiting the classroom.
- If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms ([Click here for guidance from the CDC on symptoms of coronavirus](#)), please use the UF Health screening system and follow the instructions on whether you are able to attend class. [Click here for UF Health guidance on what to do if you have been exposed to or are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms.](#)

Course materials will be provided to you with an excused absence, and you will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work. [Find more information in the university attendance policies.](#)

As a student enrolled in face-to-face course you are included in the routine COVID testing plan and will get **tested every 2 weeks**. To allow for the inevitability that some students will be sick and/or quarantined, this class will be delivered as hyflex. Therefore, if you are feeling sick, STAY HOME! You won't miss anything by joining virtually and your classmates and instructor will thank you for helping to keep them safe.

To add a profile picture go to: ufl.zoom.us/profile

To ask a question in Zoom: Click on the "Chat" button on the bottom of the screen and a chat window will appear

To raise your hand in Zoom: Click on the "Participants" button on the bottom of the screen and a window will appear. On the lower right of the window there is an option to raise your hand.

Privacy Statement

Our class sessions will be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited. Recordings will not normally be made during breakout sessions, however those that are made are for the sole use of the instructor and will not be made available to students or others.

Lecture Schedule

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

Study Methods

Students should be keeping up with suggested readings/videos each day for each day of class. Typical study time to be successful in a course is ~2-3 hours outside of the classroom per hour in the classroom, although some students may require more while others require less. This class meets 4 hours per week, so you should be able to dedicate ~10 hours per week outside of class meetings to this course. I will be posting recordings of each day's lectures and the lecture slides that are created during lecture to the Canvas site. To keep you on track and engaged in the material, I have designed primer questions for each lecture, as well as review questions from the previous lecture material. After reviewing lecture notes and doing the pre-class reading/videos, pre-lecture assignments should take about 1 hour.

If you are spending considerably more time on PLAs you need to *evaluate your study habits* to be more effective. Try taking notes during your pre-class reading/videos and make sure that you are seeing the big picture and not getting bogged down in the details. You can make bullet points of the key concepts and check that you are on the right track using the PLAs as a guide. Notes should not be copied directly from the text or video, but should be re-stated in your own words, and again, condensed to only include key concepts.

There is no required textbook, but I would recommend finding ANY college biochemistry textbook as those will have additional conceptual questions at the end of each chapter. PLAs and breakout session assignments will be the only practice problems that I will assign. *Exams* will be open response questions that are similar in scope to breakout session assignments and the review questions in the PLAs.

Each breakout session group has their own Canvas page, where your session recorder can upload the session's video. You can also use the group page to post announcements or engage in discussions with just your group members. The main Canvas page discussion board will also be utilized for discussions with the entire class.

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."

Use of websites such as Chegg and CourseHero, among others, to complete graded assignments is in violation of both the University honor code and the websites' code of conduct and students who use such unauthorized resources will be investigated and earn a grade of zero for the assignment.

A note about online resources: There are dozens, if not hundreds, of really great resources that you can use to improve your understanding of the subject matter. In fact, I include AK lecture's YouTube series as

recommended viewing for students who would prefer videos over reading textbooks. A good resource is one that helps you to think through a problem, not just shows you the answer. A good tutor will never tell you the answer, they will *lead you to the answer*.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Students with Disabilities

Students requesting disability accommodations 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. Please provide this as soon as possible as accommodations may take longer to arrange for online courses.

U Matter, We Care

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 online 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 911.

Honorlock

This course uses Honorlock for proctoring of during-term exams. Honorlock is UF's designated online proctoring service for classroom exams and quizzes that were previously in person but have moved online as part of the COVID-19 response effort. In order for you to take exams in this course you will need a government issued photo ID (or your Gator-1 ID), a working camera and microphone on your computer, a stable internet connection, and the Google Chrome browser (<https://chrome.com>) on your computer. Before and during your exam you will need to follow the Honorlock proctor's instructions. Please familiarize yourself with the Honorlock student guide: <https://dce.ufl.edu/media/dceufledu/pdfs/Honorlock-Student-Guide-UF-Update.pdf> and the Honorlock Student Exam Preparation Information: <https://dce.ufl.edu/media/dceufledu/pdfs/Honorlock-Student-Exam-Preparation-Information.pdf>