

BIOLOGY 150A – MODERN BIOLOGY

Fall 2020

Department of Biology, University of Victoria

Structure and scheduling of the course

The course has three elements:

Asynchronous Lectures The lectures will be delivered in the form of narrated PowerPoint presentations that we will post on the course website on Brightspace. You will be able to watch them according to your own schedule. You will not need PowerPoint on your computer. We will convert the PowerPoints to mp4 files that you can watch just by clicking on the title of the lecture.

Our plan is to post three lectures every Friday, each approximately 30 minutes.

Q-and-A with the lecturers

There are three ways we will be able to answer your questions. Each lecturer will let you know which format they prefer.

- First, the Brightspace site has a forum allowing students to post questions that the lecturer can read and answer. Both the questions and the answers will be publicly available to the whole class at any time, a valuable feature, because several students might be wondering about the same issue.
- Second, we can have synchronous Zoom Q-and-A sessions. These sessions will take place on Zoom at times the university has scheduled for synchronous delivery:
Section A01: Tuesday, Wednesday* and Friday*, 9:30

Evaluation

The exams will be open on Brightspace for several hours on the days stated, but you will be timed when you make your attempt, and you must finish the exam in a certain specified time. If you must stop in the middle of your exam attempt, due to internet problems or for some other reason, your clock will stop, and you can continue later without incurring a time penalty.

The exams will be open book. However, you may not consult anyone else, either in the course or outside it, to help you with your attempt. We ask on the honours system that you observe this rule.

The exams will not be cumulative.

- Friday, October 16
Dr. topics 33.3% of course grade
50 multiple choice questions; 2 hours

- Friday, November 20
Dr. topics 33.3% of course grade
50 multiple choice questions ; 2 hours

- December final exam period
Dr. topics 33.3% of course grade
50 multiple choice questions; 2 hours

Exam and Grading Policy

If you must miss an exam due to illness, notify the course coordinator (Dr. Beaulieu, gregoryb@uvic.ca) to arrange a deferred writing.

In order to pass this course, you must score 50% or better in aggregate; you do not need to pass every exam.

