

# BIOLOGY 400 ±History of Biology

Spring 2023

Department of Biology, University of Victoria

## A. Basic Course Information

### Course Description

The historical development of the major techniques and ideas of biology, including the significance of the important contributors to biology. The treatment will be part chronological, part topical.

### Meetings

A01 ±Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 12:30-2:00 PM, Bob Wright B150

### Instructor

Dr. Greg Beaulieu

Email: [gregoryb@uvic.ca](mailto:gregoryb@uvic.ca). If you send an email, please put "Biology 400" in the message line.

Phone: 7247140

Office hours Thursdays 1:00 ±2:00

### Prerequisite

Third year standing.

### Readings

I will post pdfs of selected readings on the Brightspace site when they become relevant as we progress through the course. There is no text or course pack to buy.

### Brightspace website

Biology 400 has a Brightspace website. As a registered student in the course, you will automatically be enrolled in this site.

On the site you will find course business notices, lecture PowerPoints and pdfs,

Course Topics (tentative)

- Ø Introduction
- Ø The roots of biology
- Ø Biology in the ancient world
- Ø The Islamic world and medieval Europe
- Ø Hidden and mythical organisms
- Ø The human body: the Scientific Revolution and after
- Ø The early days of microscopy
- Ø Biology and the emerging physical sciences: chemistry
- Ø Describing and arranging organisms
- Ø Biology and the emerging physical sciences: geology
- Ø Evolution before Darwin
- Ø Darwin
- Ø Cells, the units of life
- Ø Heredity
- Ø Evolution and genetics come together
- Ø The hereditary material
- Ø TD Lysenko and Soviet biology

B. Evaluation

Components of your course grade

Packback participation

25% (See C below)

Midterm exam (Friday, March 3)

30%

The final exam will be mixed format with two parts

Part 1 ±There will be a noncumulative multiple choice section worth half of the exam points; these questions will be concerned with material we have covered since the midterm.

Part 2 ±The exam will also have an essay question that will require a written answer of 500 to 600 words or so; you will be asked to integrate various parts of the entire course in your answer to this question. This essay will be worth the other half of the final exam points.

### Exam Policy

No electronic devices will be permitted during the exam or final exam.

If you must miss the midterm for a valid reason (illness, accident, personal or family affliction, participation in an important cultural, community or sporting event), your final mark will be calculated on the basis of the other components of the course, and you will not incur any penalty.

If you expect to miss the midterm for any of the above reasons, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. You will not need supporting documentation if you miss the midterm for a medical reason.

The final exam can be missed and deferred for the same reasons listed above for missing the midterm (illness, accident, personal or family affliction, participation in an important cultural, community or sporting event).

- If you expect to miss the final exam in April, please notify me as soon as possible, either by phone, email or in person.
- To make your deferred status official in the eyes of the university, you must fill out a Request for Academic Concession (RAC) form, available from Undergraduate Admissions and Records in the University Center or online. The link below gives information on types of concessions and accommodations available to UVic students. For a link to the RAC form, VFU ROO GRZQ WR ZKHUH LW VD\ V ³ \$E D G W R O E R N S P O H W S H W H P H Q G R I W H U P ´

<https://www.uvic.ca/registrar/students/appeals/academicconcession/index.php>

- A writing of the deferred final exam will be offered to you on Friday, May 5, 2023, 10:00 AM ±1:00 PM, in a room to be announced later. If you cannot make this date and time, your deferred final exam will be written in the last three days of July, at a time to be asked to integrate various

You will receive an F in the course if your aggregate grade is less than 50% (rounded to the nearest whole number). It is not necessary to pass the midterm exam or the final exam order to pass the course.

You will receive an N in the course if you miss the final exam in April and do not write a



## D. University Statements and Policies

### Cheating and Plagiarism

The University and the Biology Department deal with cheating and plagiarism as a serious

professional career. Therefore, not excused. Please read the policy carefully to avoid unpleasant misunderstandings.

The policy can be found on the online UVic calendar:

<https://web.uvic.ca/calendar2021/undergrad/info/regulations/academicintegrity.html>

The University of Victoria Department of Biology reserves the right to use plagiarism detection

