

Fall 2013

MCB 3617/5621 Genetics and Molecular Biology of Prokaryotes

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You may schedule to meet with me, or communicate by email or telephone. When communicating by email please include "MCB3617 or MCB561" in the subject line to help distinguish your message from junk mail. I will try to answer email questions promptly, but the questions must be short and to-the-point. Also, don't count on getting really useful last minute advice before an exam; contact me well before the examination if you need help.

Web Site: The class web site can be found at: <http://web2.uconn.edu/gage/courses.html> (enter exactly as written--the address is case sensitive!). You'll find the syllabus there, class info, problem sets and their answers, assignments, etc.

Textbooks: • "The *lac* operon" by Benno Muller-Hill, ISBN-10: 3110148307
Available at the UConn Co-op and on line.

Lecture: Tues. and Thurs. 8:00 - 9:15 a.m. in Atwater A001, discussion for MCB3617
is in TLS 301 on Wed. 3:35 - 5:35 p.m.

Exams: Three exams, each will cover the material since the last exam, but will also be comprehensive in the sense that I can ask questions that require you remember any material from the earlier parts of the course.

Mini projects: There will be 2-3 mini-projects due throughout the course and these will be added in to the grading calculations

Problems As a study aid, problem sets will be posted on the website. These will not be graded, and only some will be answered. The majority of the exam questions will come from the problem set--so help yourself and do the problems!

Grades: Grades will be based on the percentages achieved on exams and projects:
A: 89-100
B: 77-88
C: 65-76
D & F: to be decided if needed--hopefully it won't be needed.

Readings: Reading assignments will be given out in class as we go through the material

Student Honor Code and Academic Misconduct

All cases of academic misconduct, both during examinations and in the laboratory, will be handled in accordance with the policies set forth by the University of Connecticut. Misconduct includes, but is not limited to: cheating on exams, plagiarism, turning in laboratory reports for labs not actually done, copying the lab reports of others, making up, or copying another student's data, and using that data as a basis for a lab report. The text below outlines the University of Connecticut's policy on academic misconduct. The full text of the student code can be found at: <http://www.dosa.uconn.edu>.

A. Academic Integrity

A fundamental tenet of all educational institutions is academic honesty; academic work depends upon respect for and acknowledgement of the research and ideas of others. Misrepresenting someone else's work as one's own is a serious offense in any academic setting and it will not be condoned. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, providing or receiving assistance in a manner not authorized by the instructor in the creation of work to be submitted for academic evaluation (e.g. papers, projects, and examinations); any attempt to influence improperly (e.g. bribery, threats) any member of the faculty, staff, or administration of the University in any matter pertaining to academics or research; presenting, as one's own, the ideas or words of another for academic evaluation; doing unauthorized academic work for which another person will receive credit or be evaluated; and presenting the same or substantially the same papers or projects in two or more courses without the explicit permission of the instructors involved. A student who knowingly assists another student in committing an act of academic misconduct shall be equally accountable for the violation, and shall be subject to the sanctions and other remedies described in *The Student Code*.

B. Instructor's Role

1. Instructors shall take all reasonable steps to prevent academic misconduct by students in their courses. During the course of an examination, an instructor or proctor who observes suspicious behavior should warn the individuals involved regarding the appearance of their actions and request them to cease the suspicious actions immediately. Continuation of such behavior may be considered evidence of academic misconduct. A remarkable similarity between or among two or more supposedly independent works submitted for individual evaluation also may be considered evidence of academic misconduct.

2. When an instructor believes there is sufficient information to demonstrate a clear case of academic misconduct, the instructor shall notify the accused student in writing (and orally if possible) that unless the student requests a hearing to contest the instructor's belief, the instructor shall impose the appropriate academic consequences warranted by the circumstances. Normally, written notification shall occur within thirty (30) days of the discovery of the alleged misconduct. A copy of this notice is sent to the dean of the college or a designee and to the department head. **The appropriate academic consequence for serious offenses is generally considered to be failure in the course. For less serious offenses regarding small portions of the course work, failure for that portion is suggested with the requirement that the student repeat the work for no credit.** The faculty member is responsible for saving the information of academic misconduct in its original form and need not return any of the papers or other materials to the student. Copies of the student's work and information about other evidence shall be provided to the student upon request.