

I. Introductory material:

Name: Arndt F. Laemmerzahl
office: DK 3035
phone: 993-4040
e-mail: alaemmer@gmu.edu

Office hours: Monday/Wednesdays 11:15 - 11:45; 2:30 - 3:00 (may change)
and as available.

Biology 103 web page:

<http://mason.gmu.edu/~alaemmer/bio103/main.html>

Stuff you need:

Campbell, Reece, Mitchell & Taylor: Biology: Concepts and Connections, 6th ed.

(The 4th & 5th editions will do fine, and earlier ones are probably okay).

Lab Manual: Cressey and Pratt, 2007. Introductory Biology I: Laboratory Manual.
Kendall/Hunt Publ. Co., Dubuque, IA.

Please note - the bookstore may tell you about other books being “required” (e.g., study guide). This books are NOT required, but you may purchase them if you wish. Some may be helpful.

I-clickers are not required.

Grading:

Three lecture exams. There are no make-up opportunities for the exams. We drop the lowest one.

- each exam is worth 100 points and will be multiple choice. You will need a scantron (form 882-E). Since we drop the lowest exam, the exams count for 200 points.

- scantrons will not be returned, but you are free to come look at yours at any time.

- You may keep the exams. I will post your exam scores on a password protected web page within 24 hours (you can opt out, if you wish). You will be given a random number during the first exam with which you can look up your exam scores.

- each exam will take place at the beginning of lecture. You'll have 55 minutes before I start lecturing again.

Final exam is worth 120 points. It is cumulative, multiple choice. You'll have one hour and twenty minutes, and you'll need the same scantron form as for the other exams.

Three unannounced quizzes. Each is worth 15 points, we drop the lowest one (so quizzes are 30 points).

- these are designed to be easy. BUT, you need to be in class in order to take it.

- no make up opportunity for any quizzes.

Lab is worth 150 points.

- read through the laboratory information carefully. Some highlights:
 - dissections are required for Biology 103 / 104.
 - three or more unexcused absences => 0 in lab.
 - no food/drink in labs, covered shoes & clothes.

Anyway, the total is 500 points, and your grade will be assigned out of 500 points (see syllabus). (90 - 100 = A, 80 - 89 = B, etc.; 450 pts. = 90%, 400 pts. = 80%, etc.)

Other stuff:

Canceled class - any exams, etc. will take place the class following.

Honor code - don't cheat, or I'll report you to the honor committee (they can expel you).

Old exams:

There are old exams posted on the web page. I recommend "taking" the exam to see how you're doing before looking at the answers. You'll have a better idea of how well you're prepared.

Some general comments:

Attendance: I post notes:

Causes some problems - many folks think they do not need to attend class, just read the notes.

- people do much better when they attend class.
- notes are there to help you. You can listen to me instead of madly writing everything down.
- this helps students who are trying to learn.
- if I notice attendance problems, I will add "extra" material which will not be posted. This will be worth about 10% (it will cost you roughly one grade if you don't have it).

If you're having problems, please:

See me to talk about them.

Please! DON'T wait until the final exam (or after!) to do something about them. That will be too late to help you.

Any time you have questions, please ask (questions are encouraged!).

Any questions??