

## Introductory material:

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<http://mason.gmu.edu/~alaemmer/bio104/main.html>

## Stuff you need:

**Lecture text:** Campbell, Reece, Taylor, Simon and Dickey: *Biology: Concepts and Connections*, 9th ed. (The 8<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> edition will do fine, and earlier ones are probably okay).

*Caution:* you may need to purchase access to the Mastering Biology web site separately if you have an older edition, or if you purchased your text more than a year ago.

I-clickers will **NOT** be needed. The details will be provided in class.

## Grading:

Two lecture exams.

Each exam is worth 130 points (=13%) and will be multiple choice. You will need a scantron (form **SC882-E**, it's a **blue** form (**not** green!)).

You will have 55 minutes for each exam.

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 blackboard within 24 hours.

Each exam will take place at the beginning of lecture. Since this is a two hour and 40 minute class, we will need to have lecture after the exam.

The final exam is worth 250 points. *It is cumulative.* Same format as a regular exam, but more questions.

There will also be on-line homework assignments through the Mastering Biology system (see the syllabus for details):

These will be worth a total of 140 points (**not** 200), divided up into a number of different assignments.

The number of assignments will most likely be about 10.

Not all assignments will be worth the same amount, but shouldn't vary too much (between 14 and 20 points each).

***I don't accept late assignments*** - please watch the deadlines. You'll have plenty of time to work on any assignment.

You will need to follow the instructions on my web page to register for the Mastering Biology system.

*Please follow the instructions carefully!*

Finally, 60 points will come from in-class participation/quizzes:

Quizzes will be fairly easy (all you need is a piece of paper), but you will need to be in class to take the quiz!

This is a good opportunity for you to help your grade (they really will be easy!)

*Quizzes will be unannounced and can take place at any time during the class.*

We will have 4 quizzes, each worth 20 points. The lowest quiz will get dropped.

Anyway, the total is 710 points, and your grade will be assigned out of 710 points (see the official syllabus for the details).

**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.

Review sheets are posted - they many not match up with the material on the exams exactly but you should be able to figure it out.

**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.

And remember that 60 points (that's 8.5%) of your grade come from class participation. If you're not in class, you don't get the points.

**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

Any questions?

(Questions are encouraged!!!)

***Summary of changes from the official syllabus:***

- 1) Mastering Biology is worth 140 points instead of 200. ***Late assignments will not be accepted.***
- 2) Unannounced quizzes are worth 60 points