

Introductory material (a brief overview of the syllabus):

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Office hours: see the course web page (the link for contact information is near the top):

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

Stuff you need:

Lecture text (or e-text): Shuster, Vigna, and Tontono. 2018. Scientific American Biology for a Changing World. 4th edition. Macmillian Learning, New York.

Online Homework: Achieve from Macmillian.

Grading:

Two lecture exams.

Each exam is worth 100 points (=20%) and will be multiple choice. You will need a scantron (form **SC882-E** (blue) preferred, but the green scantrons work).

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.

The final exam is worth 150 points (=30%). *It is cumulative*. It will be the same format as a regular exam but have more questions.

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

These will be worth a total 120 points (=24%) of your grade, divided up into about 10 assignments.

Not all assignments will be worth the same amount, but shouldn't vary too much (about 10 questions each).

The number of points on Achieve may not add to 120 - I will mathematically adjust this to make sure Achieve is worth 24% of your grade.

I do not accept late assignments - please watch the deadlines. You'll have at least three days for any assignment.

A link to Achieve should be available on our Canvas page under "Modules".
Finally we will have two short in-class quizzes covering the last two topics (viruses and CRISPR).

These will be worth 15 points each (=3%) and will be short and given at the end of class.

Old exams & review sheets.

A few sample questions are posted on the course web page.

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

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).
Unfortunately cheating has exploded recently. |
| Covid comment: | Please follow all university rules while on campus. If required, use masks, and make sure you fill out the health check every day. |
| E-mail comment: | Only GMU emails will be answered. Please make sure your GMU email is working properly - that's what I'll be using. |

Some general comments:

Attendance: People do much better when they attend class.

I post my lecture notes - they are there to help you. You can listen to me instead of madly writing everything down.

Summer classes: Please take the warning at the top of the syllabus seriously. Summer classes are very fast and intense. You probably won't do well if you're taking another class or have a heavy workload.

Finally, 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!!!)