

Course: CHMB62H3 (January – April, 2015)

Title: Introduction to Biochemistry

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Course Summary

Biochemistry refers to the study of chemical processes in living systems. The rules of Biochemistry govern the flow of information and the flow of chemical energy in all organisms. Most biochemical experiments attempt to elucidate the structures and functions of the different components of the cell including proteins, nucleic acids, carbohydrates, and lipids. This course will provide an overview of Biochemistry at the introductory level. Topics covered will include protein structure, enzyme kinetics, metabolism, DNA/RNA structure, protein synthesis.

Course Time

The course will be held every Thursday from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm with a tutorial from 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm. There will be 12 two-hour lectures and 12 one-hour tutorials. Tutorials will be used to allow for an open discussion of the material covered in the lectures and to go over problem sets. The lectures and tutorials will be held in MW120.

Evaluation Scheme

- In-class quiz on lectures 1-5 and 7-11. The quizzes will take place at the end of the lectures 2-6 and 8-12. Each quiz is worth 1%.
- Two assignments with each assignment worth 10% - total 20%.
Students will be asked to read a landmark paper related to one of the topics being covered and to answer questions based on that paper.
- Midterm: lectures 1 – 6, 35% of grade
- Final: lectures 7 – 12, 35% of grade

Required Textbook

Biochemistry: A Short Course (second edition) by John L. Tymoczko, Jeremy M. Berg, and Lubert Stryer, W. H. Freeman and Company.

Lecture notes will be provided in class and/or on the web.