

BIOSC 1865 - Microbial Physiology

Dr. Jeffrey Lawrence

Syllabus Fall 2012

T/H 4:00 p – 5:20 p

352A Crawford Hall

A214 Langley Hall

jlawrenc@pitt.edu

http://cobamide2.bio.pitt.edu/

Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday 9:30 - 10:30 am, and by appointment

Quizzes: At the beginning of about half of the classes (**60% of course grade**)

<i>Date</i>		<i>Topics & Notes</i>
T	28 Aug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Microbial Physiology
H	30 Aug	
T	04 Sep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fermentation
H	06 Sep	
T	11 Sep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiration
H	13 Sep	
T	18 Sep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulation
H	20 Sep	
T	25 Sep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulfur cycling
H	27 Sep	
T	02 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photosynthesis
H	08 Oct	
T	09 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nitrogen cycling
H	11 Oct	
T	16 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microbial Communities
H	18 Oct	
T	23 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physics and Microbiology
H	25 Oct	
T	30 Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exoenzymes
H	01 Nov	
T	06 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporulation and Development
H	09 Nov	
T	13 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme environments: Adaptation and Placticity
H	15 Nov	
T	20 Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cell Biology and Differentiation
H	22 Nov	
T	27 Nov	<p><i>Note that there is no class on Tuesday 9 October (Fall break) or on Thursday 22 November (Thanksgiving)</i></p>
H	29 Nov	
T	04 Dec	
H	06 Dec	
T	11 Dec	Final Exam (12:00 pm – 1:50 pm) : 30 % of course grade

See the other side of this page for stimulating and exciting information regarding course policies

Prerequisites

As noted in the course description, students enrolled in Biosc 1865 should have attained a grade of 'C' or better in Biosc 1850 (General Microbiology), and have taken, or be currently enrolled in, a Biochemistry course (Biosc 1000 or Biosc 1810/1820). The material covered in this class will rely upon your familiarity with the subject material of these classes. Transfer students and auditing students should consult with Dr. Lawrence to ensure that they have completed the appropriate preparatory courses.

Exams and quizzes

There are no mid-term examinations. Your course grade will be calculated from quizzes that will be offered at the beginning of class. Quizzes will be 10 – 20 minutes in duration and cover material from 1 or 2 lectures. The previous lecture's material **will not be covered** in a quiz. The lowest quiz grade obtained will be dropped from the calculation of final grades. The final exam will be offered at its appointed time.

Missed quizzes and exams

Quizzes are expected to be completed on the day they are given. Quizzes are given once every week. Reasons for missing a quiz must be submitted in writing before the next class period. Written documentation from a physician is required for quizzes missed due to a medical condition. Those missed due to interviews or other prior commitments must be made up **before** the quiz is missed. Make-ups will likely take the form of an oral exam (think of it as some questions and some answers, which doesn't sound so scary).

Office Hours and Review Sessions

Open office hours are noted above; all students – but especially those with poor performance on quizzes – are encouraged to arrange for individual appointments. Students who are confident in their grasp of course material should also try to meet with the instructor during office hours to ensure that their deductions and inferences are sound.

Textbook and readings

Because a single textbook does not really cover the material in this course, I do not recommend one. Useful books are available for consultation in Langley library include *The Physiology and Biochemistry of Prokaryotes*, by David White and *Bacterial Metabolism*, by Gerhard Gottschalk, an excellent reference for fermentations

Final grades

Final grades are calculated by combining points scored on the quizzes (60%), without considering the quiz with the lowest score (which is ignored), and the final exam (30%). The remaining 10% of your grade is earned by class participation throughout the semester. ***Extra-credit assignments cannot be employed to augment final grades.*** Petitions to regrade a quiz or exam, or to reconsider a final grade assignment, must be made in writing within one week of the availability of the scored quiz or exam. Students are encouraged to consult the class web site for my teaching philosophies and performance expectations that correspond to final letter grades.

G Grades

Students may submit a petition for a G grade in writing. If you have missed the final exam, a valid, documented excuse must accompany arrangements to fulfill the course requirements.

Disability Resources

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and the Office of Disability Resources and Services, 216 William Pitt Union, 4126487890/4123837355 (FTY), as early as possible in the term. Disability Resources and Services will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Email Communication

Each student is issued a University email address (username@pitt.edu) upon admittance. This email address may be used by the University for official communication with students. Students are expected to read email sent to this account on a regular basis. Failure to read and react to University communications in a timely manner does not absolve the student from knowing and complying with the content of the communications. The University provides an email forwarding service that allows students to read their email via other service providers (*e.g.*, Gmail, Hotmail, AOL, Yahoo). Students that choose to forward their email from their pitt.edu address 'to another address do so at their own risk. If email is lost as a result of forwarding, it does not absolve the student from responding to official communications sent to their University email address. To forward email sent to your University account, go to <http://accounts.pitt.edu>, login to your account, click on Edit Forwarding Addresses, and follow the instructions on the page. Be sure to log out of your account when you have finished.

Academic Integrity

Academic Integrity Policy: Cheating/plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students suspected of violating the University of Pittsburgh Policy on Academic Integrity, noted below, will be required to participate in the outlined procedural process as initiated by the instructor. A minimum sanction of a zero score for the quiz, exam or paper will be imposed.