INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION
Mary Oswald, Ph.D.
moswald@uidaho.edu
Office: Life Sciences South 260
208-885-4095
Tentative Office Hours: Mon, 11:30-12:20; Tues, 10:30-11:30am; or by appointment

EMAIL:
I communicate with you by university-sponsored email. Please be sure to check your email account often, and ensure that my email address is not blocked.

CLASS TIME/LOCATION:
Biol115-01,02 (regular & Honors): MWF, 8:30-9:20am, JEB 104

COREQUISITE:
You must have passed or be currently registered in CHEM 101 or CHEM 111 to enroll in BIOL 115. If you drop CHEM 101 or CHEM 111, you will automatically be dropped from BIOL 115. No exceptions.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
In this course, you will be introduced to the cell, heredity, and related scientific research. Specific topics to be introduced include: the chemistry of life, cell structure and function, meiosis and mitosis, inheritance, and gene expression.

COURSE FORMAT:
This course uses a variety of active learning techniques to assist students in learning the complex material. As such, you are expected to come to class prepared to engage with the instructor and your peers on the day’s topics. You can expect individual quizzes, group and whole-class discussions, short videos, problem solving, short writing assignments, and other activities on any given day. Thus, your attendance is expected, and you should allot time in your regular schedule to adequately prepare for each class.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
The over-arching goal of Biol 115 is to prepare students for future coursework in biology-related sciences. Preparedness encompasses 3 general areas: 1) foundational knowledge & understanding of biology, 2) skill as a scientist, and 3) skill as a student. By the end of the semester, a successful student will have:
- a foundational vocabulary and understanding of the cellular processes vital to life on Earth, including the following core areas
  - Relevance of chemistry to biology
  - Large biological molecules (structure, function, & importance)
  - Cellular structure and function (membranes, metabolism, & division)
  - Inheritance of traits (Mendelian genetics & meiosis)
  - Protein synthesis (process, importance, & mutation effects)
- increased awareness of science as a process rather than simply a collection of facts to be memorized
- increased confidence in generating scientific hypotheses and interpreting scientific data
- increased ability to communicate scientific information
- a better understanding of how he/she learns
- increased awareness of study habits helpful in science
- knowledge of the learning resources available to help them succeed
LEARNING OUTCOMES: In accordance with the University’s Learning Outcomes -

Learn & Integrate: Students will synthesize previous biological knowledge with knowledge gained from lectures, assignments, and group work, to attain an understanding of the cell and heredity.

Think & Create: Students will synthesize and apply their knowledge of biological processes by forming hypotheses and discussing problems in class.

Communicate: Students will become conversant in the language used in biology, and will practice the language of biology in small groups and short writing assignments.

Clarify Purpose & Perspective: Students will gain an understanding of cellular processes that support life (including human life), and how the genetic code informs life.

Practice Citizenship: Students will attain basic biological knowledge, which will allow them to make informed contributions to discussions of issues that impact humans and the environment, for ex: health and medicine, genetic counseling, science education, etc…

COURSE MATERIALS

Required online material: Modified Mastering Biology for Freeman, Biological Science, 7th Ed (Pearson) – access code required, available at the bookstore, or through a link in Bblearn. Warning: purchasing the access code through other sources may result in an unusable code!

Required textbook: Freeman et al. 2020. Biological Science, 7th edition. Included as an e-book when you purchase the above Mastering access code through the Bookstore or BbLearn. May be purchased as a hard copy book separately through BbLearn when you enter your Access Code. Reading assignments will be listed on the course website and syllabus. These should be read ahead of time in preparation for the class time for which they are listed.

Clicker: i>Clicker remotes (or the i>Clicker app REEF Polling) are required and are available from the UI Bookstore or on-line. ‘Used’ remotes are acceptable.

Course website: https://bblearn.uidaho.edu/webapps/login/
The course website will include a copy of the syllabus; lecture materials; access to MasteringBiology; links to supplementary material; and grades. This will also be my primary form of communication with you outside of class. Check the website often!

ASSESSMENT:

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<th>Categories of Assessment</th>
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<td>Total Points</td>
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<td>580+</td>
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<td>516</td>
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I typically DO NOT curve individual exams or the course as a whole, so please don’t ask. I round to the nearest whole % for the final grade (example: a total percentage of 89.5 would be rounded up to a 90, while an 89.4 would be rounded down to an 89).
Lecture Participation

Biology, even at the 100-level, is a complex discipline and requires not only memorization of numerous terms, but a deep understanding of its underlying concepts and theories. This course is therefore designed to help you develop both an understanding of cellular biology and good study habits that will support you in future coursework. As it is difficult to learn complex material without showing up to class, attendance is required. I also expect that you will come to class prepared to discuss the material with me and your peers – there is a lot you can learn from each other.

Unfortunately, many students skip these important learning steps unless there are direct consequences/incentives. We will be using the i>clicker system during lecture as a way for you to attain attendance credit and engage with me, your classmates, and with the material. This will also be an opportunity for you to practice the types of questions that may show up on exams. Daily topics and recommended preparation activities will be provided in BbLearn and the course schedule. Attendance points are earned by a combination of participation (answering >50% of questions asked in a given day) and correctness (answering a subset of the questions correctly).

MasteringBiology

Lecture Preparation: You will take quizzes or complete tutorial activities in order to help you prepare for class. Questions will be similar to what may be found on exams. These assignments will be found online on the Mastering/Bblearn website. Preparation activities will open the week before the content is covered in class. The due date/time for each is the beginning of the class period for which the assignment is listed on the course schedule.

Homework Assignments: For every unit of the course, there will be a homework assignment posted to Mastering. These assignments are designed to reinforce the concepts that have been covered in lecture. Homework will range from multiple-choice style questions to guided activities. Homework assignments will be available for the entirety of a unit, and are due by the beginning of the unit’s exam.

It is your responsibility to finish the quiz/homework before each closes. Keep in mind that computer/internet issues can arise, so it is in your best interest to plan ahead and complete them early in the week. For Excused Absences that extend beyond the open period, refer to the Excused Absences section below.

Exams

There will be four ‘regular’ exams, plus one final exam, each worth the same amount of points. Your lowest exam score will be dropped at the end of the semester (only four will count towards your final grade). With the exception of Excused Absences (see self-titled section below), there are NO makeup exams!

Exams will cover material from lectures, assigned readings, assigned content on Mastering, and in-class exercises. The material we will cover builds upon itself. We will often refer back to concepts covered in previous lectures and units. For this reason, all exams are comprehensive, though the focus of each regular exam will be on the current unit. The final exam is comprehensive of the entire semester.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Only students with documented major medical/family issues or written official university excuses will be allowed accommodation on assignments. Accommodation make take the form of make-up work or dropping an assignment from the student’s grade. Makeup work may differ from the original assignment. Final acceptance of accommodation is at the discretion of the instructor. Arrangements must be made at least ONE WEEK PRIOR to your absence in the case of known schedule conflicts (ex: participation in official university sporting events, course field trips, etc…). In the case of an emergency/non-scheduled absence (major medical/family issues), accommodation must be requested immediately following the
absence (don’t expect to be granted make-up work if a month goes by between the emergency and your request). It is the student’s responsibility to document the extent of his/her issue and promptly make a written request for accommodation.

GRADE DISPUTES:
Keep every graded item handed back to you for the entire semester; this is useful for studying as well as insurance against typos when scores are entered into the gradebook. If you feel that an assignment has been graded incorrectly, you have one week after receiving the graded assignment to dispute your score. You must return the assignment to your instructor or TA, along with a written request for re-grading that includes a description of the dispute. Final grade assignment is at the discretion of the instructor or TA.

COMMUNICATION:
Spelling, grammar, punctuation, logic and legible handwriting are critical elements of communication. You may lose points on assignments and exams for misspelling, poor grammar or syntax, improper punctuation, flawed logic or illegible handwriting.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Refer to Article II of the UI Student Code of Conduct (http://www.uidaho.edu/DOS/judicialaffairs/studentcodeofconduct/articleii). Plagiarism or academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in any form. Offenses will lead to an F on the assignment or in the class, letters to your Department Chair and College Dean, and a formal complaint filed with the Dean of Students. Be aware than even one incident of academic dishonesty may result in expulsion from the university.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT; TUTORING & COLLEGE SUCCESS
TCS offers three distinct services dedicated to student success: tutoring, SI–PASS, and Academic Coaching. Vandal Tutoring provides drop-in style tutoring in person at the Library or online through uidaho.edu/tutoringonline at no cost to undergraduates. SI-PASS provides peer assisted study sessions for difficult courses. You can find the schedule of currently supported courses at uidaho.edu/si. Academic Coaching offers students an opportunity to work with a coach, one on one, to improve their academic skills such as: effective studying, test taking, time management, and note taking. Visit uidaho.edu/academic-coaching to schedule an appointment.

CENTER FOR DISABILITY ACCESS & RESOURCES
Students with disabilities needing accommodations to fully participate in this class should contact Center for Disability Access and Resources (CDAR). All accommodations must be approved through CDAR prior to being implemented. To learn more about the accommodation process, visit CDAR's website at www.uidaho.edu/cdar or call 208-885-6307.

Please notify the instructor during Week One of classes if accommodations are required.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR
The following behaviors are rude to the instructor and fellow students, and are considered unacceptable behavior for class and lab: ringing cell phones, use of cell phones for talking or texting, web surfing, sleeping, reading extraneous material, chatting with neighbors, etc… I reserve the right to dismiss students from class (with appropriate grade deduction for missed assignments) that display any of these behaviors. Repeated violations may result in an F on that day’s work, an F in the course, and/or removal from the course.
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO CLASSROOM LEARNING CIVILITY CLAUSE
In any environment in which people gather to learn, it is essential that all members feel as free and safe as possible in their participation. To this end, it is expected that everyone in this course will be treated with mutual respect and civility, with an understanding that all of us (students, instructors, professors, guests, and teaching assistants) will be respectful and civil to one another in discussion, in action, in teaching, and in learning. Should you feel our classroom interactions do not reflect an environment of civility and respect, you are encouraged to meet with your instructor during office hours to discuss your concern. Additional resources for expression of concern or requesting support include the Dean of Students office and staff (885-6757), the UI Counseling & Testing Center’s confidential services (885-6716), or the UI Office of Human Rights, Access & Inclusion (885-4285).

FIREARMS POLICY
"The University of Idaho bans firearms from its property with only limited exceptions. One exception applies to persons who hold a valid Idaho enhanced concealed carry license, provided those firearms remain concealed at all times. If an enhanced concealed carry license holder’s firearm is displayed, other than in necessary self-defense, it is a violation of University policy. Please contact local law enforcement (call 911) to report firearms on University property."
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<td>Conclusion/Review</td>
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'x' = Mastering assignment due by beginning of class time.