BIOL 407 – PRACTICUM IN BIOLOGY LABORATORY TEACHING
BIOL 114, Spring 2018

INSTRUCTOR
Mary Oswald, Ph.D
Life Sciences South 260
208-885-4095
moswald@uidaho.edu

CLASS TIME/LOCATION
Biol 115 Lecture: T/R 8:00-9:15am, JEB 104

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides undergraduate students the opportunity to experience the challenges of teaching in large enrollment classrooms, including assisting with in-class problem sets, review sessions, and grading.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
Learn and Integrate—Students will learn and apply new teaching methods.

Think and Create—Students will create review exercises based on their knowledge of the course material and objectives.

Communicate—Students will create and articulate a broad range of scientific concepts to primarily freshmen and sophomore students.

Clarifying Purpose and Perspective—Students will learn to manage information, time, people and their own work. They will be open to mentoring a diverse group of students. Students will gain a tremendous amount of confidence and expand their knowledge of self and others from teaching and mentoring.

Practice Citizenship—In this course, students will establish themselves as leaders within a group of their peers. They will make ethical decisions and use responsible behaviors in order to gain the respect of their classes. They will learn how to be firm and fair in dealing with the diverse groups of students they teach. They will collaborate with the instructor in order to successfully complete this job.

COURSE MATERIALS
Textbook. Freeman, 5th Ed. If you do not own a copy, one will be loaned to you.

Biol 114/115 BbLearn. This is the same BbLearn site that your students have access to. This is how you will keep up to date with what is happening in the overall course.

Biol 407 BbLearn. This is the BbLearn site just for TAs. Materials include a copy of the syllabus and TA basic information, as well as instructor versions of each lab.
EMAIL
Communication in this course (either with me or your students) will occur primarily by university-sponsored email. Please be sure to check your email account often (at least once per day during the school week), and ensure that my email address (and your students’) is not blocked.

GRADING
Your grade will be based on end-of-the-semester instructor evaluations. Please see the TA Assessment Form for more information.

GRADING SCALE
Total ≥ 90% = A
90% > Total ≥ 80% = B
80% > Total ≥ 70% = C
70% > Total ≥ 60% = D
Total < 60% = F

DUTIES
Biol 114/115 Lecture attendance. Attendance at lectures is recommended, schedule permitting. If you are unable to attend lectures regularly, it is expected you will keep up with course material using resources on BbLearn and the instructor.

Biol 115 problem set days. You will help prepare materials for in-class problem sets for each unit, and assist the instructor in class on those days.

Biol 115 review sessions. You will help prepare materials for exam review sessions for each unit, and work with the instructor to schedule a time to hold a review session for each unit.

Biol 115 Exam Proctoring. There are four lecture exams (held during regular class time) during the semester, as well as a final exam during finals week. You will attend class on those days, and assist with proctoring the exams.

Biol 114/115 Exam grading. There are four lecture exams (held during regular class time) during the semester, as well as a final exam during finals week. You will assist the instructor with grading those exams, with time slots to be scheduled in advance.

CONFIDENTIALITY
All student information and educational records are confidential. You are required to follow FERPA guidelines (http://www.uidaho.edu/registrar/faculty/ferpa). TAs with access to student records must pass a university FERPA quiz on VandalWeb.

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES
Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. Please notify the instructor during Week One of classes if accommodations are required. For more information, and for accommodation approval, please visit http://www.uidaho.edu/studentaffairs/asap/dss.