

Bio 280 DNA Science: A Hands-on Workshop
General Course Information (fall 2007)

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Class Schedule

The class will meet for lecture/discussion from 11:00 AM to 12 noon on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Lab will be Friday from 11 AM to 1 PM. In-class quizzes will be given every Friday. An optional review session will usually be available Thursday 7:30 PM in the NSLC. Attendance at lecture and lab is expected; class participation constitutes 10% of the grade. When available, lecture notes or PowerPoint presentations will be posted, but make-up sessions are not possible for discussion and lab. If you miss a class, you are responsible for obtaining notes and information from your lab partner, consulting the instructor and/or TA as necessary to gain an understanding of the material covered.

Meeting Site

All lectures will be held in Life Sciences 202 (behind the Biology Library); lab is in Rebstock 118.

Text

There is one required text, "Essential Genetics: A Genomics Perspective," by DL Hartl and EW Jones, 4th edition (available in the bookstore). You will also need a copy of the Bio 280 Lab Manual, which will be available in lab at the first session.

Web Site

All course information, announcements, reading assignments, etc. will be posted on the Bio 280 web site, maintained by the Biology Department through the NSLC. If lectures are presented using PowerPoint, copies of the presentation materials will be posted if possible. The latter portion of the web site is password protected.

Student Responsibilities, Grading

Students are responsible for attending class, participating in discussion, and submitting lab reports and papers on time. Grades will be assigned based on a number of components. There will be 9 lab reports (most short), 11 in-class quizzes (ca. 15 minutes each), and two papers. Papers should be submitted in electronic and printed form (2 copies), double spaced, with a minimum of 5 citations plus figures and tables as needed to explain the subject at hand. At least two of the references must be peer-reviewed. Each student will present one of their papers orally to the class. The first paper, of 5 –10 pages will concern using DNA in a problem of identity (presentations Oct. 16); the second paper, describing a human genetic disability (including cause, inheritance, biological consequences, treatment options, etc.) should be 10-15 pages (presentations Dec. 6 and 10). There will not be a separate final exam. Summary: class participation, 10%; lab reports (best 8 of 9), 20%; quizzes (best 10 of 11), 25%; first paper, 15%; second paper, 25%; oral presentation 5%.