



## **BIOL 2311.501 Introduction to Modern Biology I**

**FALL 2024 (AUGUST 19, 2024 – DECEMBER 13, 2024)**

**The University of Texas at Dallas**

**TEXTBOOK: Biology: The Dynamic Science by Russell 5/e**

**CLASS HOURS, LOCATION: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 05:00 – 05:50 PM (SLC 1.102)**

**WORKSHOP HOURS, LOCATION: Fridays 06:00-06:50 PM (SLC 1.102)**

### **Professor's contact information**

Ramesh Padmanabhan, MS, PhD

Office: FN 3.202

E-mail: [ramesh.padmanabhan@utdallas.edu](mailto:ramesh.padmanabhan@utdallas.edu)

Office Hours: By appointment only during weekdays. The students are encouraged to make appointments by e-mailing the professor ahead of time. MS Teams preferred.

E-mail Response times: Please allow at least 24 hours to respond to emails. E-mail responses during weekends are delayed or will be answered on the next business day in the order that they are received. Therefore, any technical difficulties with assignments must be resolved ideally by Friday.

### **Course Modality and Expectations**

**Instructional Mode-Lectures and Workshops:** Traditional classroom face-to-face.

**Exams:** Exams will be administered at UT Dallas testing center. Please refer to the exam section for more details.

**Quizzes and assignments:** Quizzes will be given during the workshop on e-learning. There will be weekly MindTap assignments for each chapter with due dates.

### **Course Policies**

The instructor will provide class & lecture materials that will be made available to all students registered for this class on e-learning as they are intended to supplement the classroom experience. These materials may be downloaded during the course. However, these materials are for registered students' use only. Classroom materials may not be reproduced or shared with those not in class or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student Accessibility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the student code of conduct.

### **Class Attendance**

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is **mandatory** for BIOL 2311.501. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. For BIOL 2311.501, attendance will be taken in each class during the semester (Details below on [Page 17](#)).

### Class Participation

Regular class participation is required regardless of course modality. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your participation in this class. It also includes attendance, activities such as workshop quizzes, homework assignments, readings or materials covered in the lectures. Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to university requirements, as presented in the syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

### Class Audio/Video Recordings

Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly **prohibited from recording/videographing** any part of this course and distributing or sharing. Those approved recordings may not be published, reproduced or shared with those in the class, or uploaded to other online environments such as social media except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

### Classroom Citizenship – Comet Creed

This creed was voted on by the UT Dallas student body in 2014. It is a standard that Comets choose to live by and encourage others to do the same:

**“As a comet, I pledge honesty, integrity, and service in all that I do”.**

### Academic Support Resources

The information contained in the following link lists the University’s academic support resources for all students.

Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

### UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University’s policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the catalog sections regarding the credit/no credit or pass/fail grading option and withdrawal from class. Please visit <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for more information.

### Course Description

Biology 2311 – This course presents some of the basic concepts of Modern Biology with an emphasis on the molecular and cellular basis of biological phenomena. Topics include Cell structure, Biological macromolecules, cell structure and function, cellular respiration, cell division, cell cycle, cell signaling, classical and molecular genetics, DNA discovery and replication, Gene expression – transcription and translation. Some landmark experiments that will provide an in-depth understanding of the concept will be discussed.

### Course Objectives

This course is organized to engage students to explore the fundamental concepts in Biology. The objective is to review the current concepts pertinent to introductory molecular and cellular aspects of biology, classical and microbial genetics, and gene expression. Scientific methodology and experimentation that contributes to our understanding of structural and functional aspects of biological

macromolecules and cell structure is stressed.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Students will be able to define the subcellular structures, macromolecules in prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells.
2. Students will be able to explain and describe the basic functions of cells including energy production and utilization (in animal and plant cells), cell division, the basic mechanisms of genetic inheritance, DNA discovery and structure, basic mechanisms and regulation of gene expression – transcription and translation, and some aspects of the molecular basis of cancer.
3. Students will be able to understand basic cell signal transduction pathways and their specific cellular and physiological responses.
4. Students will be able to develop hypotheses to interpret experimental observations and devise experiments to test these hypotheses.

### **Course Corequisites, Pre-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions**

**Co-requisites:** Concurrent enrollment in BIOL 2111.503, Introduction to Modern Biology I Workshop.

**Those who register for 2311.501, Make sure to register for 2311.503 workshop section only.**

### **Course Materials**

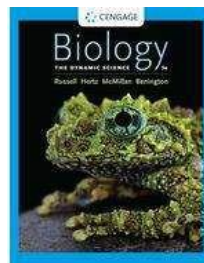
PowerPoint lectures and grades will be posted on eLearning. Please look for the Cengage/MindTap link in eLearning for homework and assignments for each chapter in respective folders.

### **Textbook and online tool for the course**

**Required:** Biology by Russell, 5th edition and the online access tool, MindTap v2.0. Please visit the UT Dallas bookstore at <https://www.bkstr.com/texasatdallasstore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials> If you want to purchase the textbook from the bookstore.

### ***Biology: The Dynamic Science, 5th Edition***

**Peter J. Russell; Paul E. Hertz; Beverly McMillan; Joel H. Benington**  
**ISBN-10: 0-357-13489-3**  
**ISBN-13: 978-0-357-13489-4**



Cengage Unlimited: <https://www.cengage.com/unlimited/> (do not create an account immediately)

1. The materials required for this class-and any other classes using Cengage products- are included in ONE Cengage Unlimited subscription. For \$119.99 per semester, you get access to all your Cengage e-textbooks and online homework in ONE place.
2. choose one of three levels of access:
  - I. \$119.99 per term (4 months) - If you are taking both BIOL 2311 and 2312 in Spring 2024, choose this option.
  - II. \$179.99 a year (12 months)- If you are taking BIOL2311 in Fall 2024 and BIOL2312 Spring 2024. choose this option to cover all materials for a FULL year.
  - III. \$239.99 for 2 years (24 months).

All three options include:

- Access an e-book to the edition shown above.
- Access MindTap software for Learn it exercises, homework and quizzes.
- Four FREE hardcopy textbook rentals for select titles, just pay \$7.99 S&H each text.

Depending on the option you choose, you will have access to the online tool and the e-book for either Fall 2024 only or for both Fall 2024 and Spring 2025. This will be good for students who register for BIOL2312 in Spring 2025 and who are planning to register for BIOL2311 in Fall 2024 as mentioned above. Prices may change as set by the publisher.

### **Instructions to register for MindTap (BIOL 2311.501 Fall 2024)**

This course requires an online learning platform called MindTap. Follow the instructions below to get started.

1. Register for your MindTap Course by clicking on one of the assignment links. These are linked to elearning. (Detailed instructions are provided in the syllabus folder on elearning as a PDF file). In case of any difficulties contact the Cengage Tech support team for help.
2. Follow the instructions on screen to create your Cengage account and register for this MindTap course.
3. Begin your temporary access period.

Need help? Visit the Cengage Start Strong Website for step-by-step instructions:

<https://startstrong.cengage.com>

\*Temporary Access: You can access your MindTap course fourteen (14) days for **free**. At the end of the temporary access period, you will be prompted to purchase access. Your work will be saved and will be available to you again once you have completed your purchase.

NOTE: If the cost of your course materials is included in your tuition, you will not need to purchase access.

MindTap Tips & Training Tools

Learn more about navigating your MindTap course:

<https://help.cengage.com/mindtap/mt-student/introduction.html>).

### **Technical Support & Troubleshooting**

Our US-based support team delivers answers and advice via 24/7 online chat, Twitter, live phone support (1-800-354-9706) and through support.cengage.com, which includes helpful articles, and tutorials.

If you are having trouble loading MindTap, run the MindTap browser check to make sure your browser is compatible or refer to the MindTap System Requirements (link below).

<https://ng.cengage.com/static/browsercheck/index.html>

If MindTap isn't loading, be sure to visit Techcheck to see if there is an outage (link below).

<https://techcheck.cengage.com>

### **Cengage Unlimited Subscription**

With Cengage Unlimited subscription, you will have access to ALL Cengage eBooks and digital learning products. Cengage Unlimited has a 4-month subscription, or a 12-month Unlimited subscription from

the UT Dallas bookstore. Please visit UT Dallas bookstore for more information - <https://www.bkstr.com/texasatdallasstore/shop/textbooks-and-course-materials>.

Cengage Unlimited subscriptions are also available at Cengage.com.

All Students enrolled in BIOL 2311.501 must also enroll in BIOL 2112.502 Intro to Modern Biology II workshop. Questions pertaining to the class materials may be discussed and addressed during the workshop. Students are advised to attend the workshops regularly. Workshop assignments will be posted on eLearning in the Workshop section under assignments folder. Workshops are conducted by the undergraduate teaching assistants supervised by graduate teaching assistants. More information about workshop assignments will be provided in the Workshop section. There is no separate grade for the workshop. The same grade will be assigned for both BIOL 2311.501 and BIOL 2111.503. If you wish to drop the course, you must drop both BIOL 2311.501 and BIOL 2111.503.

**ALL STUDENTS ENROLLED IN BIOL 2311.501 MUST ALSO ENROLL IN BIOL 2111.503 WORKSHOP. IF FOR ANY REASON YOU DECIDE TO DROP BIOL 2311.501, YOU MUST ALSO DROP BIOL 2111.503!**

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## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

BIOL 2311.501 FALL 2024 Tentative Schedule					
Week	Lecture #	Days	Dates	Reading from Textbook	Lecture topic
1	1	M	8/19/2024	Chapter 3	Introduction & Biological Molecules
	2	W	8/21/2024	Chapter 3	Biological Molecules
	3	F	8/23/2024	Chapter 3	Biological Molecules
2	4	M	8/26/2024	Chapter 3	Biological Molecules
	5	W	8/28/2024	Chapter 3	Biological Molecules
	6	F	8/20/2024	Chapter 3/chapter 4	Biological Molecules/Cells
3		M	9/2/2024	LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	NO CLASS
	7	W	9/4/2024	Chapter 4	Cells
	8	F	9/6/2024	Chapter 4	Cells
4	9	M	9/9/2024	Chapter 4/Chapter 5	Cells/Membranes and Transport
	10	W	9/11/2024	Chapter 5	Membranes and Transport
	11	F	9/13/2024	Chapter 5	Membranes and Transport
5	12	M	9/16/2024	Chapter 5	Membranes and Transport
9/23/2024-9/26/2024 Exam 1 (UT Dallas Testing Center) Chapters 3,4,5					
5	13	W	9/18/2024	Chapter 6	Energy
	14	F	9/20/2024	Chapter 6	Energy
6	15	M	9/23/2024	Chapter 7	Cellular Respiration
	16	W	9/25/2024	Chapter 7	Cellular Respiration
	17	F	9/27/2024	Chapter 7	Cellular Respiration
7	18	M	9/30/2024	Chapter 10	Cell Cycle
	19	W	10/2/2024	Chapter 10	Cell Division-Mitosis
	20	F	10/4/2024	Chapter 11	Meiosis
8	21	M	10/7/2024	Chapters 11	Meiosis
10/14/2024-10/17/2024 Exam 2 (UT Dallas Testing Center) Chapters 6,7,10,11					
	22	W	10/9/2024	Chapter 9	Cell-Cell Communication
	23	F	10/11/2024	Chapter 9	Cell-Cell Communication
9	24	M	10/14/2024	Chapter 12	Mendelian Genetics

	25	W	10/16/2024	Chapter 12	Mendelian Genetics
	26	F	10/18/2024	Chapter 12	Mendelian Genetics
10	27	M	10/21/2024	Chapter 17	Bacterial and Viral Genetics
	28	W	10/23/2024	Chapter 17	Bacterial and Viral Genetics
	29	F	10/25/2024	Chapter 17	Bacterial and Viral Genetics
11	30	M	10/28/2024	Chapter 9,12,17	Bacterial and Viral Genetics
<b>11/4/2024-11/7/2024 Exam 3 (UT Dallas Testing Center) Chapters 9,12,17</b>					
11	31	W	10/30/2024	Chapter 14	DNA Discovery
	32	F	11/1/2024	Chapter 14	DNA Discovery/DNA Replication
12	33	M	11/4/2024	Chapter 14	DNA Replication
	34	W	11/6/2024	Chapter 14	DNA Replication
	35	F	11/8/2024	Chapter 15	DNA Replication/From DNA to Protein
13	36	M	11/11/2024	Chapter 15	From DNA to Protein
	37	W	11/13/2024	Chapter 15	From DNA to Protein
	38	F	11/15/2024	Chapter 15	From DNA to Protein
15	39	M	11/18/2024	Chapter 16	Regulation of Gene Expression
	40	W	11/20/2024	Chapter 16	Regulation of Gene Expression
	41	F	11/22/2024	Chapter 16	Regulation of Gene Expression
<b>11/25/2024-12/1/2024 Fall Break and Thanksgiving Break - No Classes</b>					
16	42	M	12/2/2024	Chapter 16	Regulation of Gene Expression
	43	W	12/4/2024	Chapter 16	Regulation of Gene Expression
<b>12/9/2024-12/12/2024 Finals (UTD Testing Center) Chapters 14,15,16</b>					

**Please Note:** Exams are not comprehensive. Only the chapters indicated in boxes with pink highlighting are included in each exam.

**NOTE: The professor holds the right to change the syllabus/schedule at any point during the semester**

## Learn it Schedule

Cengage MindTap Assignment Schedule			
3 Learn its per chapter (3 points each; total 9 points/chapter)			
Learn its	Chapter Name	Open Date (8:00AM)	Due date (Ends at 11:59PM)
Chapter 3	Biomolecules	8/19/2024	9/1/2024
Chapter 4	Cells	9/2/2024	9/15/2024
Chapter 5	Membranes and Transport	9/9/2024	9/22/2024
Chapter 6	Energy	9/16/2024	9/22/2024
Chapter 7	Cellular Respiration	9/23/2024	9/29/2024
Chapter 10	Cell Cycle/Mitosis	9/30/2024	10/7/2024
Chapter 11	Meiosis	9/30/2024	10/7/2024
Chapter 9	Cell-Cell Communication	10/7/2024	10/13/2024
Chapter 12	Mendelian Genetics	10/14/2024	10/20/2024
Chapter 17	Bacterial and Viral Genetics	10/21/2024	10/28/2024
Chapter 14	DNA Discovery/DNA Replication	11/4/2024	11/10/2024
Chapter 15	From DNA to Protein	11/11/2024	11/17/2024
Chapter 16	Regulation of Gene Expression	11/18/2024	12/5/2024

Please mark your calendars. No extensions are provided for missed assignments.

**NOTE: The professor holds the right to change the syllabus/schedule at any point during the semester.**

## Homework Schedule

Cengage MindTap Assignment Schedule			
1 Homework per chapter (10 points each)			
Homeworks	Chapter Name	Open Date (8:00AM)	Due date (Ends at 11:59PM)
Chapter 3	Biomolecules	8/19/2024	9/1/2024
Chapter 4	Cells	9/2/2024	9/15/2024
Chapter 5	Membranes and Transport	9/9/2024	9/22/2024
Chapter 6	Energy	9/16/2024	9/22/2024
Chapter 7	Cellular Respiration	9/23/2024	9/29/2024
Chapter 10	Cell Cycle/Mitosis	9/30/2024	10/7/2024
Chapter 11	Meiosis	9/30/2024	10/7/2024
Chapter 9	Cell-Cell Communication	10/7/2024	10/13/2024
Chapter 12	Mendelian Genetics	10/14/2024	10/20/2024
Chapter 17	Bacterial and Viral Genetics	10/21/2024	10/28/2024
Chapter 14	DNA Discovery/DNA Replication	11/4/2024	11/10/2024
Chapter 15	From DNA to Protein	11/11/2024	11/17/2024
Chapter 16	Regulation of Gene Expression	11/18/2024	12/5/2024

**Please mark your calendars. No extensions are provided for missed assignments.**

**NOTE: The professor holds the right to change the syllabus/schedule at any point during the semester.**

## Quiz Schedule

Cengage MindTap Assignment Schedule			
1 Quiz per chapter (10 points each)			
Quiz	Chapter Name	Open Date (8:00AM)	Due date (Ends at 11:59PM)
Chapter 3	Biomolecules	8/19/2024	9/1/2024
Chapter 4	Cells	9/2/2024	9/15/2024
Chapter 5	Membranes and Transport	9/9/2024	9/22/2024
Chapter 6	Energy	9/16/2024	9/22/2024
Chapter 7	Cellular Respiration	9/23/2024	9/29/2024
Chapter 10	Cell Cycle/Mitosis	9/30/2024	10/7/2024
Chapter 11	Meiosis	9/30/2024	10/7/2024
Chapter 9	Cell-Cell Communication	10/7/2024	10/13/2024
Chapter 12	Mendelian Genetics	10/14/2024	10/20/2024
Chapter 17	Bacterial and Viral Genetics	10/21/2024	10/28/2024
Chapter 14	DNA Discovery/DNA Replication	11/4/2024	11/10/2024
Chapter 15	From DNA to Protein	11/11/2024	11/17/2024
Chapter 16	Regulation of Gene Expression	11/18/2024	12/5/2024

**Please mark your calendars. No extensions are provided for missed assignments.**

**NOTE: The professor holds the right to change the syllabus/schedule at any point during the semester.**

## **Workshop Schedule**

### **BIOL 2311.503 FALL 2024 Workshop Schedule**

Week	Day	Date	Chapters Covered	Workshop Quiz
1	Friday	8/23/2024	No Workshop	None
2	Friday	8/30/2024	Chapter 3 Biomolecules	WSQ-1
3	Friday	9/6/2024	Chapter 4 Cells	WSQ-2
4	Friday	9/13/2024	Chapter 5 Membranes and Transport	WSQ-3
5	Friday	9/20/2024	Chapter 6 Energy	WSQ-4
6	Friday	9/27/2024	Chapter 7 Cellular Respiration	WSQ-5
7	Friday	10/4/2024	Chapters 10/11	WSQ-6
8	Friday	10/11/2024	Chapter 9 Cell-Cell Communication	WSQ-7
9	Friday	10/18/2024	Chapter 12 Mendelian Genetics	WSQ-8
10	Friday	10/25/2024	Chapter 17 Bacterial and Viral Genetics	WSQ-9
11	Friday	11/1/2024	Chapter 14 (DNA discovery, DNA structure)	WSQ-10
12	Friday	11/8/2024	Chapter 14 DNA Replication	WSQ-11
13	Friday	11/15/2024	Chapter 15 From DNA to Protein	WSQ-12
14	Friday	11/22/2024	Chapter 16 Regulation of Gene Expression	WSQ-13

**Please mark your calendars. No extensions are provided for missed assignments.**

**NOTE: The professor holds the right to change the syllabus/schedule at any point during the semester.**

## Lectures

1. Lectures will be in-person. [Refer to Tentative Schedule above. \(Pages 6,7\).](#)
2. Attending lectures punctually and regularly is a part of student responsibility.
3. A **complete silence** is required during the lecture. Students are expected to follow proper class etiquette with no disruption to lecture and learning or attention of other students in class.
4. All lecture slides will be provided and posted on eLearning under each unit. This will be discussed in detail at the beginning of the first class.
5. In case of university closures due to inclement weather, or if time is required to complete a chapter, a class recording will be posted on eLearning, the link for which can be found in the respective chapter folder within each unit folder.
6. These slides may be downloaded during the course and stored in personal computer for studying; however, these materials are for registered students only. Class materials **must not be reproduced or shared** in any form with those not in the class or with students in different sections. Refer to [Course policies](#) above for details.
7. Textbook is not required during the lecture but recommended.
8. Attendance will be taken for each lecture and class attendance is **mandatory**. Lecture attendances are graded and counted towards the final grade as a bonus. Attendance rules are described in the attendance section ([Pages 17](#)).
9. Missing a lecture requires a student to notify the professor at least 24 hours prior to missing class, but physical presence is necessary for attendance unless for sickness reasons (#10 below).
10. Missing a class due to extreme circumstances which may include personal health emergencies with proper documentation, university-related business/affairs such as participation in a basketball game or soccer game will not incur any loss of attendance credit.
11. Absence due to medical reasons such as sickness must be accompanied by proof of medical treatment from a registered medical practitioner/nurse indicating the date of resumption of normal duties.
12. Any other reason, attendance credit for that class will not be awarded. Students must be present in the class for the entire duration. Leaving early after signing in will count as absent.
13. The students who are intentionally absent during the class are responsible for the missing information presented in the class by discussing with their peers and the professor is not held responsible for a student missing a class or the information/instruction missed during the physical absence in class.
14. Students are encouraged to check course announcements/class emails regularly and stay up to date on course materials, and other important information.
15. Students are encouraged and requested to schedule their calendars to be in class on time or at least five minutes before. Coming late to the class makes a disruption to the attention span of the students attending the class as well as disrupts the focus of the faculty and students alike. Late coming (10 minutes and after) is not recommended and in case of repeat activity, the respective faculty can take steps that may adversely impact the overall grades.
16. Students are also encouraged to discuss any scholastic difficulty with the professor at the earliest opportunity without waiting until the end of the semester so the professor could help the student to succeed in the course.
17. Any academic issues related to this course must be first discussed with the professor and get them resolved without delay by either talking to the professor before or after the class or by emailing the professor with ample time to respond.
18. For successful completion of the course the students are encouraged and expected to stay up to date with lecture materials, reading the relevant textbook chapter that is covered for every chapter, and regular practice of the relevant materials daily.

## Workshops

1. Workshops run every week unless announced by the instructor.
2. Arriving at the workshops punctually and regularly is a part of student responsibility. Lateness or leaving the workshop early disrupts the orderly and efficient conduct of the class.
3. Students are highly encouraged to attend the in-person workshops every week to clarify any questions/doubts they may have. Regular participation in workshop/class activities are helpful for students' successful completion of the course.
4. Workshops begin the 2nd week – **August 30th, 2024. Refer to Workshop Schedule above (Page 11).**
5. Attendance is encouraged but not mandatory for workshops.
6. Workshop assignments will be uploaded to the workshop section on eLearning under assignments folder.
7. There are a total of 13 workshop assignments. Each workshop assignment is worth 10 points, and contains multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, fill in multiple blank questions. The assignment is set for multiple attempts.
8. The workshop assignment can be completed during the workshop hour. That is Friday's 6:00-6:50PM. The assignment can be found in the workshop eLearning site under the assignments folder.
9. The assignments open at 6:00PM on Fridays and close at 11:59PM Saturdays. That means you have 30 hours to complete and submit your workshop assignments. Although it is advised that the students complete it during the workshop section itself to get any questions cleared by the instructor or the teaching assistants.
10. No extensions whatsoever will be granted, unless prior permission from the professor is taken for the same reasons mentioned in bullet point 14 under **Exams. (NO EXCEPTIONS).**
11. The workshop assignments consist of questions related to the chapter covered that week.

## Learn it Exercises (on MindTap)

1. There are three "Learn It" exercises for each week. They are worth 3 points each and 9 points for each week's chapter. Learn it schedule can be found on **Page 8.**
2. There are 5 question-attempts. The best scoring attempt will be recorded.
3. There are 39 Learn it exercises. The **three (3) lowest** Learn it assignments will be dropped for the final grade calculation. A total of 108 points may be scored towards the final grade. The drops will be the lowest scores over the entire semester. It is possible to have drops from different weeks as each 3-point score is looked at individually.
4. Learn it exercises can be accessed via eLearning in the unit folder and submitted using the MindTap Cengage program.
5. Please make sure to access the Learn it exercises on eLearning and Do Not directly log in to Cengage MindTap as this might not record your grade properly.
6. There are due dates for all assignments. Start and due dates can be found in the assignment schedule. No extensions whatsoever will be granted. **(NO EXCEPTIONS).**
7. The Learn it exercises are not timed. You may work on it in parts and save it as you go. Estimated time to complete each Learn it exercise is 5-15 minutes.
8. If students encounter any conceptual difficulties, they are encouraged to contact the professor as soon as possible to resolve the issue if it is under the professor's control. Any technical difficulties pertaining to MindTap assignments should be resolved no later than Saturday of the respective week by 5:00PM.

9. If there are any technical issues pertaining to the MindTap program or account itself, the students are advised to contact the Cengage customer support team directly (contact number provided under **Technical Support & Troubleshooting** above).
10. This could resolve the issue much quicker. The professor is not responsible for students' internet issues or personal computer issues.
11. Do not wait until the final due date and time to finish these assignments. Any technical difficulty incurred on the final due date will not be fixed.

### **Homeworks (MindTap)**

1. One MindTap homework will be assigned for each chapter. The link for homework can be found in the current unit folder and within each chapter folder.
2. Each homework is worth 10 points. You will have **3 attempts** at the homework questions. The best scoring attempt will be recorded.
3. There are 13 homework assignments. The **one (1) lowest** Homework score will be dropped for the final grade calculation. A total of 120 points may be scored towards the final grade.
4. Homework assignments can be accessed via eLearning in the unit folder and submitted using the MindTap Cengage program.
5. Please make sure to access the homework assignments on eLearning and Do Not directly log in to Cengage MindTap as this might not record your grade properly.
6. There are due dates for homework assignments. Start and due dates can be found in the homework schedule on **Page 9**.
7. The homework assignments are not timed. You may work on it in parts and save it as you go. Estimated time to complete each homework is 35-45 minutes.
8. For technical issue-related information, refer to bullet point 8 and 9 in the Learn it section above.
9. No extensions whatsoever will be granted. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**.

### **Quizzes (MindTap)**

1. Links for all MindTap quizzes are provided on eLearning. The link for quizzes can be found in the current unit folder and within each chapter folder.
2. Each quiz is worth 10 points consisting of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, true/false, and matching type questions.
3. There are 13 quizzes. The **one (1) lowest** quiz will be dropped for the final grade calculation. A total of 120 points may be scored towards the final grade.
4. You will have only 15 minutes to complete the quiz, and there will be only **one attempt** to finish the quiz. So, make sure you review all the relevant materials before attempting the quiz.
5. There are no makeup quizzes. **NO EXCEPTIONS**. Any missed quiz will count as Zero (0).
6. Refer to the due dates and times provided in the quiz schedule for more details, **Page 10**.
7. For technical issue-related information, refer to bullet point 8 and 9 in the Learn it section above.
8. No extensions will be granted. **(NO EXCEPTIONS)**.

### **Exams**

1. There will be 4 exams, each worth **100** points. Exams count for a total of **400** points towards your final grade. All four exams are counted towards your final grades. No exam grades will be dropped. 75 minutes will be allotted for each exam.
2. Exams contain primarily multiple choice, True/False, fill in the blank, multiple blanks questions, although this may vary. The number of questions and the points per question may vary between

exams.

3. Everything in the textbook (materials and chapters included in the syllabus only) and the lecture slides is fair game for lecture exams, regardless of whether or not presented in class. The students are responsible for using the information contained in the entire chapters to prepare for exams.
4. The exams can be accessed from the “exams” folder on the course eLearning page only at the testing center.
5. Exams will be administered at the **University of Texas at Dallas testing center**. Students MUST reserve their seat for testing at least **48 hours** prior to the exam date. That means 48 hours of the first day of the exam mentioned in the tentative schedule and not the day the student wants to take the exam. For example, exam 1 is scheduled to be held from Monday, 9/23/2024-Thursday 9/26/2024. The students must finish registration by Friday, 9/20/2024. Refer to the testing center website for more information on exam appointments.
6. The exam schedule can be found in the tentative schedule table. Information regarding the exams will also be announced in the class.
7. Prior appointment at the testing center is required. The students are expected to show up at the testing center at least 15 minutes prior to their registered time.
8. **The students are responsible for the timely registration at the testing center for the exams and the students are advised to check and re-confirm their registration at least one week prior to the exam by visiting the testing center or by contacting the testing center by phone. No make up exams will be provided for not getting exam appointments at the testing center as per the testing center rules.**
9. It is mandatory to carry your **UTD comet card** to the testing center for identification purposes. Testing center will not allow any other forms of identification like a driver’s license. So, make sure you have a comet card. If you lost your comet card, you may obtain a replacement from the comet card center.
10. The professor is not responsible or held accountable for any missed exam appointments. There will be no make-up exams given except for the reasons mentioned in bullet point 14 below.
11. Proper testing center rules and regulations must be maintained during exams.
12. For exam purposes only, when there are conflicts between the information contained in textbook (or any other outside source) and the material presented in class, material presented by the professor in class will rule over what is written in textbook/outside source.
13. Do not miss exams! (If exams are missed, you must be able to verify your reason for missing).
14. **Make-up lecture exams are usually not given.** In extreme circumstances make-up exams may be given and will be different than those specified above. Legitimate Reasons to make-up missed lecture exams are as follows: death of an immediate family member and bonafide medical emergencies only, such as, lifesaving surgeries, hospitalizations, or admission into the emergency room due to a car accident with proper documentation from your healthcare provider/hospital/emergency department/law enforcement/insurance company. Any reason must be presented in written documentation from a doctor/Registered nurse prior to the exam start as is reasonably possible. Any other kinds of exhibits such as picture of thermometer readings, covid-19 home test kits or any other test kits (e.g. home pregnancy test kit) will not be accepted.
15. **It is the entire responsibility of the students to not to plan to travel/make flight reservations during the exam window and it is not the professor’s responsibility if the students miss exams.**
16. Any form of academic misconduct, cheating during exam, if detected, the student will be asked to leave the testing center, a case will be filed and forwarded to the professor, the biology department chair and the dean of students for appropriate disciplinary action.

### Checklist to complete before exams.

1. Figure out where the testing center is located. (Address and contact information, [Page 21](#))
2. Confirm your registration at the testing center by calling the testing center or by visiting in person. There have been instances in which the students make appointments, and they do not get registered properly due to technical reasons. In such cases the professor holds no responsibility to hold a make-up exam.
3. The testing center will not allow walk-in appointments.
4. Check for testing center timings. Make sure you give yourself enough time for you to reach the testing center at least 15 minutes prior to your appointment time.
5. Read over the testing center requirements including the dress code.
6. Check for your [UTD comet card](#). It is mandatory to carry your comet card to the testing center. No other form of identification is acceptable. A driver's license will not work as that does not carry your UTD student ID.

### Grading Policy.

1. There is no separate grade for workshop. You will receive the [same letter grade](#) for both BIOL 2311.501 and BIOL 2111.503.
2. Grades for the course will be calculated as tabulated below.

BIOL 2311.501 FALL 2024 GRADING CRITERIA				
Activity	Number/semester	Total Points/activity	Number of drops	Total Points Possible with Drops
Exams	4	100	0	400
Learn its	39	3	3	108
Homework	13	10	1	120
Quiz	13	10	1	120
Workshop Quiz	13	10	1	120
Total Points Possible				868
Attendance (BONUS):				Up to 43

3. Your score percentage will be the total points earned divided by the total points possible (total with drops) as shown above in the table.
4. Your final letter grade will be based on the percentage of total points as calculated in #3 and the grading scale given in the table below.
5. Grades are determined based only on the [performance in class activities such as exams and assignments, and class attendance](#). No points or fraction of a point will be awarded to increase the grade to the next letter grade. Any requests to improve grades at the end of the semester once the grades are posted will not be entertained. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
6. Students who struggle with learning due to any personal reasons such as family disputes are encouraged to utilize the services of the [University student counseling center](#).
7. Grades are not curved. **DO NOT ASK, BEG, CRY, OR PLEAD. It is the responsibility of students to communicate with the professor at the beginning of the semester itself about any difficulties in learning the course material itself so that the professor and the student can work together on a possible solution.**
8. Final letter grades will be posted on Orion. Once the grades are posted on Orion, it will be final.
9. Before the final grades are posted, the students are encouraged to check their grades on

eLearning and discuss with the professor if there are any changes the student notices.

10. In compliance with FERPA, grades and/or grade information will not be given to anyone other than the student and will not be discussed over the phone or emails.

Tentative Grading Scale			
Percentage Cut-off	Letter Grade	Percentage Cut-off	Letter Grade
95-100%	A+	68-72%	C+
90-94%	A	63-67%	C
86-89%	A-	60-62%	C-
81-85%	B+	56-59%	D+
77-80%	B	52-55%	D
73-76%	B-	48-51%	D-
		<48%	F

### Attendance

1. Attendance is mandatory. Students are encouraged and expected to attend class as per the schedule mentioned in the syllabus.
2. Students who leave after signing in the roster will be called and attendance will not be awarded if the student wishes to leave before the class ends.
3. Attendance will be recorded every day during the class. Attendance points should be earned by physical presence. Attendance points are a bonus. No begging/pleading for extra attendance points will be entertained at the end of the semester.
4. Make sure your attendance is properly recorded by entering your name in the register supplied during the class.
5. For issues with recording your attendance, contact your graduate TAs before you leave your class and if the TA is not available or if the issue remains unresolved, contact the professor.
6. A maximum of 43 points can be earned for attendance towards your final score.
7. Credit for attendance will be awarded at the end of the semester based on a **sliding scale** as summarized in the table provided below.

Attendance Sliding Scale	
Percentage Attendance	Points
90 -100%	43
80 - 89%	35
70-79%	30
60-69%	20
50-59%	10
<50%	0

### Use of electronic devices

Students are expected and required to adhere to the University of Texas at Dallas student conduct and discipline policies ([policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003](http://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5003)) established in accordance with The University of

Texas System. Each student is charged with notice and knowledge of and compliance with the contents and provisions thereof.

### **Intellectual Property and copyrighted materials**

It is the policy of The University of Texas at Dallas to adhere to the requirements of the United States Copyright and Intellectual Property Laws. Content of the course, including, but not limited to, course outlines, class notes, PowerPoint slides or lecture recordings, exams, and assignments may contain copyright-protected material and/or intellectual property, and therefore, they should not be distributed, shared in any public domain, posted on a third-party website, or sold. Intellectual property and copyright infringements are treated as civil – intellectual property disputes.

### **Class Recordings**

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, **students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings must not be published, reproduced, or shared with those, not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation.** Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

### **Academic integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrates a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work. See <https://conduct.utdallas.edu/integrity>.

### **Academic dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty can occur in relation to any type of work submitted for academic credit or as a requirement for a class. It can include individual work or a group project. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, and collaboration/collusion. In order to avoid academic dishonesty, it is important for students to fully understand the expectations of their professors. This is best accomplished through asking clarifying questions if an individual does not completely understand the requirements of an assignment.

Additional information related to academic dishonesty and tips on how to avoid dishonesty may be found here: <https://conduct.utdallas.edu/dishonesty>.

### **E-mail use**

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence to be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individuals corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T.

Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

### **Withdrawal from class**

The administration at UT Dallas has established deadlines for withdrawal from any course. These dates and times are published in the Comet Calendar (<http://www.utdallas.edu/calendar>) and in the Academic Calendar (<http://www.utdallas.edu/academiccalendar>). It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, a professor or another instructor cannot drop or withdraw any student unless there is an administrative drop such as the following:

- Not meeting the prerequisites for a specific course
- Not satisfying the academic probationary requirements, resulting in suspension
- An Office of Community Standards and Conduct request
- Not making appropriate tuition and fee payments
- Enrollment is in violation of academic policy
- Not admitted for the term in which they registered

It is the student's responsibility to complete and submit the appropriate forms to the Registrar's Office and ensure that he or she will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if he or she chooses not to attend the class after being enrolled. Undergraduate students: please review the Dropping and Withdrawing section in the catalog.

### **Student Grievance Procedures**

Procedures for student grievances are found in university policy UTDSP5005 (<https://policy.utdallas.edu/utdsp5005>). In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding disputes over grades, application of degree plan, graduation/degree program requirements, and thesis/and dissertation committee, adviser actions and/or decisions, evaluations, and/or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originated.

### **AccessAbility Resource Center**

Students who have registered and are eligible to receive accommodations will provide an accommodation letter on official letterhead to their course instructor. Only students who provide such a letter should be accommodated. As of September 1, 2022, The Office of Student AccessAbility will be changing its name to the AccessAbility Resource Center to better serve the UT Dallas community and will be under the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ODEI). Students who seek accommodation must furnish "signed OSA document, to each of the faculties, as early in the semester as possible"; accordingly, the relevant accommodations will be provided.

The center is located in the Administration Building (AD 2.224), and its personnel can be reached at (972) 883-2098 or via email at [studentaccess@utdallas.edu](mailto:studentaccess@utdallas.edu).

### **Social media use**

The **Student Code of Conduct** includes behaviors conducted via any digital platform. Students will not use any digital platform to seek or provide unauthorized assistance for any assignment done for academic credit. Students will not use any digital platform to impersonate or represent any person other than themselves. Please consult with your instructor regarding authorized assistance.

### **Copyright notice**

Materials presented and distributed in the class or outside (towards class/course material) are copyright

materials of the Faculty and the University and not to be shared in any online or offline platform (for example course hero, Chegg, etc.) without an explicit approval of the faculty in charge of this course.

### **Technical Requirements**

If you experience any issues with your UT Dallas account, contact the UT Dallas [Office of Information Technology Help Desk](#) via e-mail at [assist@utdallas.edu](mailto:assist@utdallas.edu) or via telephone at 972-883-2911.

UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The services include a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), email request service at [elearning@utdallas.edu](mailto:elearning@utdallas.edu), and an online chat service. Please use this link to access the UTD eLearning.

Helpdesk: <https://ets.utdallas.edu/elearning/helpdesk>

Due to the nature of this course, every student is required to arrange for their own electronic devices (laptop/computer, etc.) in the class and a hi- speed/stable internet connection (for the outside activity); to be able to complete the course.

### **Course access and navigation**

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage. UT Dallas provides eLearning technical support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The [eLearning Support Center](#) includes a toll-free telephone number for immediate assistance (1-866-588-3192), an email request service, and an online chat service.

### **Communication**

This course can be accessed using your UT Dallas NetID account on the [eLearning](#) website.

Please see the course access and navigation section of the [Getting Started with eLearning](#) webpage for more information.

To become familiar with the eLearning tool, please see the [Student eLearning Tutorials](#) webpage.

The student's email will be addressed within 24 hours (in normal circumstances, there could be delays during weekends and holidays), and the same is expected from the students as well.

### **Academic support resources**

Please visit the academic support resources website at the email address given below.

<https://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>

### **UT Dallas Testing center hours and location**

The table below provides the testing center hours for Fall 2024. **Please make sure you check the testing**

center website on a regular basis at the link given below for any changes or updated hours.

<https://ets.utdallas.edu/testing-center>

Follow the link below for more information for student guidelines to register for your exam at the testing center.

[Testing Center Student Guidelines | The University of Texas at Dallas \(utdallas.edu\)](#)

UT Dallas Testing Center Hours Fall 2024	
August 19,2024 - September 10, 2024	
Day	Time
Monday	8:30AM-5:30PM
Tuesday	8:30AM-5:30PM
Wednesday	1:00PM-5:30PM
Thursday	8:30AM-5:30PM
Friday	8:30AM-5:30PM
Saturday	Closed August 24,31, September 7
Sunday	Closed

UT Dallas Testing Center Hours Fall 2024	
September 11,2024 - December 13,2024	
Day	Time
Monday	8:30AM-9:00PM
Tuesday	8:30AM-9:00PM
Wednesday	3:00PM-9:00PM
Thursday	8:30AM-9:00PM
Friday	8:30AM-9:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM-1:00PM
Sunday	Closed

### **EXTENDED HOURS**

#### **(FINAL EXAMS: Saturday, December 7 – Friday, December 13)**

- Wednesday, October 2: 8:30am – 9:00pm
- Saturday, October 5: 9:00am – 5:00pm
- Wednesday, October 9: 8:30am – 9:00pm
- Wednesday, December 4: 8:30am-9pm
- Saturday, December 7: 9:00am – 5:00pm
- Wednesday, December 11: 8:30am – 9:00pm

### Testing center location

**Address:** 3020 Waterview Parkway  
SP2 First Floor, Suite 11.175  
Richardson, TX 75080.

### Testing center contact

**Phone:** (972) 883-2460  
**Fax:** (972) 883 – 3910  
**Email:** [infotestingcenter@utdallas.edu](mailto:infotestingcenter@utdallas.edu)

### Additional pointers

\*\*\*\*\* **11/25/2024-12/1/2024 Fall Break and Thanksgiving Break - No Classes** \*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* Some chapters may need more time to finish so the dates and times mentioned are subject to change, which will be announced. If required, a class recording for the required part will be posted on eLearning and an announcement will be posted. A class recording will also be made in case of university closures due to inclement weather and a course announcement will be posted on eLearning and a class email will also be sent. The students are required to stay up to date with course announcements\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*The students shall not compare or comment on the style of presentation of course material/lecture the materials presented in a different section to this course section\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* Proper class etiquette must be maintained by remaining silent throughout the lecture without disrupting the class in any manner\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*For sickness absences, proper documentation from a registered health practitioner should be submitted with prognosis and the date on which normal /attendance/duties/routine can be resumed. No pictures such as a thermometer reading will be accepted for absences\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*Make sure you register for your exams well in advance and call/visit the testing center to verify your registration well in advance\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*Check the testing center schedule and open timings\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*Confirm your testing center registration **at least one week** before the exam by calling the center or by visiting in person. Please keep the appointment confirmation email from the testing center with you as a proof of registration\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*All exams will be open the whole testing center open times\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*The professor is not responsible for confirming your registration. It is the responsibility of students to check it with the exam center as mentioned in the tentative academic calendar above. A make-up exam will not be provided if the student missed the registration window, and the professor will not be held accountable for this matter\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*Any kind of academic dishonesty/exam malpractices during exams would be reported to the dean of students and the department chair directly with an incidence report filed. It is therefore very

imperative to follow the testing center rules and guidelines and not to resort for any kind of cheating\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*For weather related emergencies, please follow University notifications and emergency procedures\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*It is the student's responsibility to check their internet connection at home/ on campus residence location. Any delay in submission of assignments due to internet issues will not get extensions on submission date and time. It is therefore important to mark your calendars and finish your assignments well ahead of the due date and time. This means, do not wait until the final moment\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*All assignments (MindTap and workshops) are due as indicated in the syllabus in the respective tables. No late assignments will be accepted, or assignments be reopened for any reason other than the reasons mentioned elsewhere such as emergency hospitalizations, death in near family etc. (clause 14., Under exams heading). Students are responsible for any course conflicts. Reasons such as exams in other courses, will not be entertained to get extensions for assignments in this course\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*It is the individual student's responsibility to keep track of their scores/grades and in case of any discrepancies follow up with the respective faculty and graduate TAs until it gets resolved and not wait until the end of the semester\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*Make-up lecture exams/make-up quizzes are not preferred. Students with only valid reasons and documentation may seek Professor's approval. At the discretion of the Professor make-up exam/ class quiz can be arranged, where the format and level of the questions may vary and may contain descriptive questions\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*Students who plan for a family trip, vacation, or personal travel, are responsible for completing the required weekly assignments before they leave for such purposes and no extensions will be granted for such reasons. It is those students' responsibility to check for any missing information the professor discussed during the class\*\*\*\*\*

To have the best outcome in this course, the following steps/guidelines are recommended:

1. Read the syllabus completely and carefully paying full attention. Ask your professor if you have any questions on the syllabus at the beginning of the semester itself.
2. Regularly attend the lectures on time and pay full attention during the lectures. Ask and clarify any immediate questions/concerns during the lectures (by raising a hand and asking specific questions). Follow the deadlines for MindTap/workshop assignments and submit them without fail.
3. Regularly attend the workshops on time and pay full attention during the workshops. Ask and clarify any questions during the workshops (by raising a hand and asking specific questions).
4. Study the lecture materials and practice daily and have a clear understanding of the study materials and concepts before attempting the lecture exams, MindTap quizzes and the workshop quizzes. A regular daily study time should be maintained for successful completion of the course.
5. If necessary, refer to the recommended textbook, other relevant study materials, scientific articles, etc.

If still a topic or concept is lacking clarity, please clarify during the workshop.

6. In addition, students can reach out to the respective workshop TAs via email, with specific questions.
7. Grade issues should only be discussed with Graduate TAs or the Professor. Never discuss your grades with undergraduate TAs. They will not be able to help you.
8. If students have any questions or concerns after following through with previous steps, can schedule a meeting with the Professor at the end of the class or request office hours and get clarification on the specific topic.
9. Follow basic class etiquette including being on time, not having food inside the class during the lecture, being respectful to classmates/TAs/faculty, following up regarding any issue (including missing grades, class absences, etc.) as soon as possible, clarifying any questions with TAs/Professor on time, have a respectful verbal/non-verbal communication (including emails), and actively participate in the class discussion. **Complete silence is required during the class.** If students have anything to discuss, they may step out of the class, finish discussion, and then return to class, without disrupting the lecture/learning of other students attending the class. It is those students' responsibility to sign in the roster if they missed during the time they stepped out of the class for any reason. Once the attendance roster is carried out of the class no more changes in the attendance will be made.

**The descriptions and timelines indicated in this syllabus (Pages 1-24) are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.**

**It is mandatory that the students read the syllabus entirely and carefully from the beginning to the end. This syllabus serves as a “contract” between students and the teaching team (TAs/Faculty), for BIOL 2311.501/BIOL 2111.503; to ensure that the students will go through the syllabus carefully and will adhere to the syllabus guidelines. The professor will not be held responsible for students not going over the syllabus or understanding every clause in the syllabus. Students are expected to talk to the professor should any clarity is needed with the schedules prescribed for assignments and exams.**