



UT Tyler

MEDICINE

BIOT 5211

Advanced Biotechniques

Credit Hours: 2

Semester: Fall **Year:** 2025
Class Day/Time: Wednesday 9 – 11 AM **Class Location:** BMR Room B12.1

Instructor of Record: Dr. Amy Tvinnereim and Dr. Osamu Sato

Office: BMR 314 (Dr. Tvinnereim) BMR Lab A2 (Dr. Sato)

Office Phone: 903-877-5189 (Dr. Tvinnereim)

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Office Hours: Any time by appointment

Course Description: An introduction to standard molecular biology techniques such as: isolation and purification of proteins and nucleic acids, cloning and expression of recombinant proteins with laboratory component.

Prerequisite: As per program entry.

Co-requisite: BIOT 5211L

Goals of Course & Course Objectives:

- To understand and apply practical techniques used in fundamental biotechnology.
- To understand the basic theory and background behind biotechnology techniques.
- To be able to apply problem solving techniques in biotechnology.
- To be able to find and process scientific information.
- To be able to communicate in scientific formats with both oral and written methods.

Student Learning Outcomes (Course Competencies):

1. The student will demonstrate an understanding of laboratory techniques used in biotechnology, including basic background information and theory, applications, limitations, advantages and disadvantages, common problems and troubleshooting.
2. The student will demonstrate a thorough understanding of fundamental biochemical calculations.
3. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the principles behind searching, finding and evaluating pertinent scientific information.
4. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the structure, format and principles of writing in a technical scientific format.

Course Assessment/Methods of Evaluation:

Student understanding will be evaluated with comprehensive examinations of a purely subjective nature covering each topic in detail and sets of basic laboratory calculations.

1. *Examinations:* There will be three exams. Two exams on the subject matter covered in the course will be given in class. One exam will be in a project format and will be a take home exam. Each exam is worth a total of 25% of the final lecture grade.
2. *Calculation problem sets:* Student understanding and ability to perform routine calculations required for laboratory activities. These assignments will be worth 25% of the total lecture grade.

Grade:

- A >90%
- B 89-80%
- C 79-70%
- D 69-60%
- F <59%

Assignments



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Students are expected to turn in assignments on time. Late assignments will be handled as follows:

1 day late	5% deducted from overall assignment grade
2 - 3 days late	10% deducted from overall assignment grade
4 -7 days late	20% deducted from overall assignment grade
7-14 days late	30% deducted from overall assignment grade
14+ days late	No credit will be given for the assignment

Linked Program Learning Outcomes:

The student learning outcomes listed above address the following Biotechnology Program PLOs:

- PLO-1. The student will demonstrate English communication skills in both oral and written forms.
- PLO-2. The student will demonstrate mastery of basic and advanced biotechnology methods
- PLO-3. The student will demonstrate the ability to safely operate basic and advanced laboratory equipment, analytic devices and computers.
- PLO-4. The student will demonstrate independent and critical thinking skills integrated with the ability to utilize multiple informational resources.
- PLO-5. The student will explain the principles, mechanisms and interrelatedness of both in vivo and in vitro biochemical, molecular biological and genetic processes.

Textbook:

Current Protocols Essential Laboratory Techniques second edition; Sean R. Gallagher & Emily A. Wiley; John Wiley & Sons, Inc.; 2012; ISBN 978-0-470-94241-3.

Course Content: All lecture slides and any supplemental material will be available on Canvas 1 week prior to each lecture.

1. Introduction and Review
 - a. Course description
 - b. Common conversion factors
 - c. Keeping a laboratory notebook
2. Concentration Measurement
3. Measuring the concentrations of nucleic acids and proteins
4. Reagent Preparation
5. Enzymatic Reactions I (Restriction enzyme digestion)
6. Enzymatic Reactions II (Ligations and PCR)
7. Purification of Nucleic Acids
8. Aseptic Technique
9. Recombinant DNA Technology
10. Bioinformatics
11. Protein Expression in Bacteria
12. Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis
13. Dot Blotting and Western Blotting

Other Class Policies:

Attendance:



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Regular and punctual attendance is expected. If a student misses a class or lab, the student is responsible for obtaining any information distributed during those times. Make-ups are possible only under certain instances (labs cannot be made up). Arrangements for any make-ups and/or missed labs should be discussed directly with the instructor for that day's class.

Students are expected to attend all classes. Students will be allowed to miss **1 class** without penalty.

Additional absences will be handled as follows:

2 absences	Lose 5% of overall grade in class
3 absences	Lose 10% of overall grade in class
4 absences	Lose 15% of overall grade in class
5+ absences	Student will have to remediate the course

Students will be considered absent if they arrive more than **30 minutes** after the start of class.

Emergencies

In the event of an emergency or sickness, the student **MUST** contact their PI and/or the Program Coordinator (Kim Tutt) by phone or email **THE DAY OF** the expected absence. Failure to do so will result in the absence being counted as 2 absences, resulting in a 10% decrease in the class grade.

Academic Honesty:

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts.

Cheating

Dishonesty of any kind involving examinations, assignments, alteration of records, wrongful possession of examinations, and unpermitted submission of duplicate papers for multiple classes or unauthorized use of keys to examinations is considered cheating. Cheating includes but is not limited to:

- Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class.
- Falsifying or inventing any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise.
- Helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Materials, even ideas, borrowed from others necessitate full and complete acknowledgment of the original authors. Offering the work of another as one's own is plagiarism and is unacceptable in the academic community. A lack of adequate recognition constitutes plagiarism, whether it utilizes a few sentences, whole paragraphs, articles, books, audio-visual materials, or even the writing of a fellow student. In addition, the presentation of material gathered, assembled or formatted by others as one's own is also plagiarism. Because the university takes such misconduct very seriously, the student is urged to carefully read university policies on Misconduct in Research and Other Scholarly Activity 05.00. Examples of plagiarism are:

- Submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another.
- Submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source.
- Incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Adding/Dropping:

The official deadline for adding and dropping courses is as published in the academic calendar and Graduate Bulletin (typically the day before Census Day). However, students are strongly encouraged to meet with their graduate advisor or the Program Coordinator prior to adding/dropping courses. Movement into and out of classes after the 4th class day requires approval of the Program Director. Students can drop



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until mid-semester without a WP or WF. Drops after mid-semester require approval of the Dean. Each student is responsible for their own enrollment status with the university.

Disability Accommodations:

UTHSCT abides by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, which mandate reasonable accommodations be provided for students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability and may require some type of instructional and/or examination accommodations, please contact me early in the semester so that I can provide or facilitate provision of accommodations you may need. If you have not already done so, you will need to register with the Student Services Office (located on the UT Tyler Campus). You may call 903-566-7079 for more information.

Use of Artificial Intelligence:

UT Tyler is committed to exploring and using artificial intelligence (AI) tools as appropriate for the discipline and task undertaken. We encourage discussing AI tools' ethical, societal, philosophical, and disciplinary implications. All uses of AI should be acknowledged as this aligns with our commitment to honor and integrity, as noted in UT Tyler's Honor Code. Faculty and students must not use protected information, data, or copyrighted materials when using any AI tool. Additionally, users should be aware that AI tools rely on predictive models to generate content that may appear correct but is sometimes shown to be incomplete, inaccurate, taken without attribution from other sources, and/or biased. Consequently, an AI tool should not be considered a substitute for traditional approaches to research. You are ultimately responsible for the quality and content of the information you submit. Misusing AI tools that violate the guidelines specified for this course (see below) is considered a breach of academic integrity. The student will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in UT Tyler's Academic Integrity Policy.

For this course, **AI is not permitted in this course at all.**

To best support your learning, you must complete all graded assignments by yourself to assist in your learning. Doing your own work, without human or artificial intelligence assistance, is best for your efforts in mastering course learning objectives. This exclusion of other resources to help complete assignments includes artificial intelligence (AI). Refrain from using AI tools to generate any course context (e.g., text, video, audio, images, code, etc.) for any assignment or classroom assignment.



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The University of Texas at
TYLER
HEALTH SCIENCE
CENTER

Program:	Master of Science in Biotechnology
Degree:	MS
Department:	Cellular and Molecular Biology
School:	Medical Biological Sciences
Course:	BIOT5211/5211L – Advanced Biotechniques (and associated lab)

Area	Marketable Skill*
TASKS	Maintain accurate laboratory records and data.
	Design molecular or cellular laboratory experiments, oversee their execution, and interpret results.
	Perform laboratory procedures following protocols including deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) sequencing, cloning and extraction, ribonucleic acid (RNA) purification, or gel electrophoresis.
TECHNOLOGY SKILLS	Analytical or scientific software; Graphics or photo imaging software - GraphPad, ImageJ, Adobe; Office suite software - Microsoft Office
SKILLS	Critical Thinking — Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems.
	Writing — Communicating effectively in writing as appropriate for the needs of the audience.
ABILITIES	Written Comprehension — The ability to read and understand information and ideas presented in writing.
	Written Expression — The ability to communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand.
WORK ACTIVITIES	Documenting/Recording Information — Entering, transcribing, recording, storing, or maintaining information in written or electronic/magnetic form.
	Getting Information — Observing, receiving, and otherwise obtaining information from all relevant sources.
	Processing Information — Compiling, coding, categorizing, calculating, tabulating, auditing, or verifying information or data.
	Updating and Using Relevant Knowledge — Keeping up-to-date technically and applying new knowledge to your job.
WORK CONTEXT	Wear Common Protective or Safety Equipment such as Safety Shoes, Glasses, Gloves, Hearing Protection, or PPE.
	Importance of Being Exact or Accurate

*All marketable skills listed for this course and program were drawn from the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities identified by the US Department of Labor and Statistics for “Biological Technicians” and “Molecular and Cellular Biologists” as published on O*Net Online (www.onetonline.org)