Syllabus
Cell 3334 Section 0001
Term: Spring 2023

Instructor: Brent Bill, Ph.D.
Office: HPR109          Phone: 903-565-5883      Email: Use the Canvas email system.

(The best way to contact me is to use the Canvas email system.)

Office Hours: Tuesday 11AM to Noon, Thursday 11AM to 1PM, and by appointment

Course Overview:
Essential processes of the cell. Emphasis on cell structure, metabolism, membranes transport, Cell Signaling, the Central Dogma, and intracellular trafficking

Cell Biology is designated as a “Real World Problem Solving” course. We would like to collect data on your performance so that we can make future classes better. Please see Canvas for more information on permissions.

Course Objectives:
Biology 3334 is an intensive course with a lot of material. It will be critical that you keep up with reading, studying, and understanding the material. It is equivalent to Cell Biology classes across the country that investigate the molecular basis for cellular function, and assume prior exposure to General Biology I (1306 or equivalent), and Organic Chemistry I. The course will build on the cellular concepts introduced in General Biology and complements the introductory course by providing a more thorough presentation of the major aspects of cellular functioning.

1) Our understanding of Cell Biology has grown rapidly fueled by evolving technologies including microscopy, cell culture, recombinant DNA technology, Nucleic Acid sequencing, antibody production, site-directed DNA Modification, and the incorporation of systems and synthetic biology. The first objective of this class is to recognize these advancements and understand their implications for cell biology.

2) The process of science requires the application of current knowledge. Therefore, we will discuss classical experiments that illustrate how researchers have approached these problems in the past. Through this analysis, you should start to develop strategies for developing your own scientific approaches.

3) Inherent within the scientific method is a constantly evolving knowledge base. Scientist routinely form hypotheses based on the existing knowledge base, and then proceed to strengthen the support for or negate the initial fact that was the focus of the study; therefore, the third goal of the class is to utilize the current knowledge base of Cell Biology to form a new hypothesis and evaluate its potential.

Student Learning Outcomes:
| 1) Describe the diversity of life (and viruses) and how it is separated at the cellular level. |
| 2) Describe Stem cells and how they are used. |
| 3) Compare and Contrast the 4 major macromolecules, and how they are studied with examples. |
| 4) Compare and Contrast the types of microscopes utilizes and their benefits or Caveats. |
| 5) Understand the processes by which molecules traverse the membrane and discuss these processes in reference to action potentials and the Electron Transport Chain. |
| 6) Describe mechanisms by which cells acquire information from the extracellular space and transduce these signals to change cell behavior and physiology. |
| 7) Describe the Central Dogma and discuss how a protein is made from DNA to secretion at the molecular level. |
| 8) Describe how the processes of the Central Dogma can be regulated - specifically focusing on the Lac Operon. |
| 9) Synthesize your acquired knowledge to develop a proposed novel experiment. |

**Required Textbooks and Readings:**

1) BASIC CELL AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY 4e: WHAT WE KNOW AND HOW WE FOUND OUT
Gerald Bergstrom, 2020, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, bergstrom@uwm.edu, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee UWM Digital Commons. This text is open source and is available for free in Canvas.

2) This course requires the use of The SimUText for Cell Biology. This is an external website/resources that is used to complete homework. You will be **required to purchase** access to this material - Licenses available at the bookstore or upon login.
   
   a. Please follow the instructions on Canvas to subscribe to SimUText for Cell Biology at University of Texas, Tyler.

   b. Upon completion of your module, please check the “My Work.” All questions that you have completed will show up in a darker color with a check box. If it remains white, it has not recorded your work. Please verify that your work has been recorded, as you are responsible for verifying that your work has been properly recorded.

   c. Problems or questions? Visit SimUText Support to search our Knowledge Base and view Video Tutorials.

   d. If you are not able to find the answer to your question, you can submit a support request from the support page (link from Canvas) or (http://simbio.com/support/simutext)
**Special Course Notes:**

1) Regular Canvas access is required. Carefully read all announcements. Canvas and student email should be checked **DAILY** for new announcements or messages. **All official communication should be through the Canvas email system.**

   a. On Canvas you will find lectures, assignments, and much more that will be essential for you as you complete this course. Dates are tentative and subject to change; therefore, it is critical to pay attention to The Canvas Announcement System and modifications given during lectures. Course grades will be maintained in Canvas. **Please note that the percentage at the end of the grade book display will not necessarily be a good indicator of your grade in the class (see below).**

2) The faculty recommends obtaining the downloadable version of Microsoft office from the University for all work. [https://www.uttyler.edu/it/office365/365-students.php](https://www.uttyler.edu/it/office365/365-students.php)

3) This course requires you to use external websites (i.e. Pubmed) and a citation manager to complete homework. These are free to use but require access to the internet. You can use any that work with your computer’s operating system, and the library provides support for several versions. SciWheel is the suggested citation manager.

**Assignments and point values:**

1. Pre-Test 10
2. Exams (3) 297
3. Comprehensive Final Exam 150
4. SimUText by SimBio (6) 180
   a. DNA Explored
   b. Action Potential Explored
   c. Cellular Respiration Explored
   d. Transcription and Translation Explored
   e. Gene Regulation Explored
   f. Mitosis Explored
5. Video Lecture/Canvas Quizzes (6) 60
   a. Stem Cells and Organ Transplantation
   b. Protein Folding and Disease
   c. Channelopathies
   d. Organellar Disorders
   e. Genomic Medicine
   f. Cancer
6. Multiple Choice Exam Study Questions (4) 20
7. Group Assignments and Worksheets (4) 20
   a. Synthetic Biology (Protein Domain Engineering)
   b. Signal Transduction
c. Central Dogma Walkthrough (individual)
d. Central Dogma Medicine

8. Final Essay (Mini-Grant) ........................................... 75
Total Points .......................................................... 812

**Grading Scale:**
A 750 or greater
B 650 to 749
C 560 to 649
D 500 to 559
F below 499

**Late Work: No late work will be accepted!** All assignment due dates are listed. Part of learning to be a scientist is learning time management. When you are in a job or working on grants - deadlines are final! If you miss the deadline, you cannot submit; therefore, this will be good practice for your future career. If for some reason you cannot attend class or turn in an assignment, please reach out to Dr. Bill to determine if a deadline extension can be granted.

**Make-Up Exams**
You must take the exams on the scheduled dates. Please check your calendars now, so that you do not have conflicts. If an absence cannot be avoided, the professor must be notified in advance. If a student is unable to take an exam when scheduled, following appropriate documentation of the absence, the professor will arrange a make-up exam or provide an oral version depending on the nature of the absence. Dr. Bill does not guarantee that the exam will be the same format or questions as the in-person exam.

**Acceptable Documentation:** University Note: Have your professor or coach email me a letter explaining the reason for the absence due to a prescheduled University excused absence or civil documentation: If there are other extenuating circumstances, please provide the obituary, police report, court documents, or other evidence explaining the absence.

If you are sick do not attend class or meet in person with other students. Email Dr. Bill, and we can make alternative arrangements. Zoom is available via Canvas, so that you could meet with your Dr. Bill or other students virtually.

**Attendance Policy:** UT Tyler attendance policy applies: see the Class Attendance policy in the catalog. Attendance will be assessed to meet with the Census policy, Canvas activity and class work will be utilized as a secondary measure of attendance.

**Graded Course Requirements Information** TEC 51.9705 (HB 2504):

**Pre-test:** This is a pretest that is designed to give me an idea of what you know, so I can better determine the material and the level at which it should be covered. There is no material to study - I just want to know what you remember from previous classes. Please answer truthfully with the best answer choice, and if you do not know select the "I do not know"
choice. At the end of the quiz, you will see the score that you obtained. After I have recorded
the data, everyone that takes the quiz will get their scores adjusted to the full 10 points.

**Group Worksheets:** The discussion assignments are to provide you a chance to apply the
knowledge learned during class. They focus on Synthetic Biology, Cell Signaling, and the
intersection of the Central Dogma with Medicine. Worksheets and materials will be provided,
and the group will turn in a combined worksheet for the grade.

**Video Lectures and Associated Quizzes:** There will be 6 online “quizzes.” These quizzes will
be based on previous lecture material and a video lecture. Each quiz will be 10 multiple choice
questions. You can take the quiz as many times as you like, and the scores are averaged for all
attempts. Whatever score is present as of the closure date will be recorded as the final grade.
Closure dates are listed on the calendar. Closure time in 11:59 PM.

Quiz 1: Stem Cells
Quiz 2: Protein Folding Diseases
Quiz 3: Channelopathies
Quiz 4: Organelle Disorders (Mitochondrial, Peroxisomal, and Lysosomal)
Quiz 5: Future of Genetics in Medicine
Quiz 6: Cancer and its treatments

**Multiple Choice Exam Questions:**
Prior to each exam, students should post 1 multiple-choice exam question to the multiple-
choice question discussion board on Canvas based on the material for the upcoming test. The
top questions will be placed on the exam. Each question posting is worth 5 points. You should
include the following information.

1) The Question
2) Five possible answers, only 1 of which can be “all of the above”, “none of the above”,
“both a and b”, etc.
3) Your choice for the correct answer
4) The Rationale of why this is the correct answer

Please note that all four components should be there to receive full credit.

An Example:
Who was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize (Physics) and the first person to win a second
Nobel Prize in a different discipline (Chemistry)? Hint: Her husband and daughter also have
been awarded Nobel Prizes!

A) Linus Pauling
B) Rosalind Franklin
C) Marie Curie
D) Gerty Cori
E) None of the above
The correct answer is C - Marie Curie.
Rationale: She won the Physics prize in 1903 for describing radiation and the Chemistry prize in 1911 for discovering the elements Radium and Polonium. Her husband shared her 1903 prize, and her daughter won in 1935 for the synthesis of new radioactive elements. Linus Pauling is the only other person to win two Nobel prizes in different fields (Chemistry 1954 and Peace 1962). Rosalind Franklin was involved in the description of the structure of DNA, unfortunately she died prior to the Nobel Prize for the structure of DNA, and prizes cannot be awarded posthumously; therefore, she did not win the Nobel. Gerty Cori was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in Medicine and Physiology for her work on the catalytic conversion of glycogen.

The purpose of this assignment is to make you critically think about the material prior to the exam. It will give me an idea of how well you are following the course material and let me know of any misconceptions that I might want to review prior to the exam. Lastly, since the top questions will be on the exam, it will give you the opportunity to know answers to some of the exam questions.

**Final Grant:**
The Final essay question requires you to apply all the knowledge you have acquired during the semester and apply it by proposing a novel experiment(s) based on the cell biological techniques and principles. The format will be similar to a grant that scientists are required to write to obtain funding for proposed research projects. It also serves as a good review of the material for your final exam. Formatting and Content will be discussed in class.

This is a difficult assignment, so you can use any resource that you can obtain: journal articles, websites, discussions with the professor, i.e. Dr. Bill, or any other friend/relative/scientific genius you can rope into helping you. You may work individually or in groups up to 4 people of you choosing; however, if you work with others, you must cite your coworkers on the document, and all will receive the same grade. Every student is required to turn in their own assignment. i.e. If the paper was written by Bob and Jane, I should receive a copy of the essay that says “Bob and Jane” from Bob, and a copy that says “Jane and Bob” from Jane. You will have to do outside research for this project.

One resource that you may find helpful is the University Writing Center. It is available free of charge and is in the Library. You should plan early, as you will have to make an appointment, although a limited number of walk-in (zoom) slots are available. Their website is: https://www.utttyler.edu/writingcenter

**Exam Policies:**
Exam questions will be drawn from the lectures, student written multiple choice questions, SimBio Modules, and assigned video lectures. They will be multiple choice. A 3-inch X 5-inch index card (piece of paper) will be allowed for each of the exams. You may fill the front and back with whatever you would like; however, they must be handwritten (no typed documents).
You are expected to follow the **University Honor Code**. All forms of cheating will be prosecuted harshly. Please note - cell phones are not allowed during any of the exams in this class. Phones should be kept on the table in front of you face down during the exam. The usage of a phone during the exam is grounds for an automatic 0. The professor may video the exams to validate any instances of cheating.

**Final Exam:**
The final exam will cover new material between exam 3 and the end of the class; as well as **comprehensive material**, meaning that it will cover all material from the class. It will be important for you to keep your previous exams/quizzes, notecards, and assignments as study guides. The Final Exam schedule and room will be scheduled by the registrar and will be announced closer to the exam date. You will be able to utilize a handwritten 4-inch X 6-inch index card for the final exam, front and back. All other information is identical to the above Exam Policies.

**Extra Credit:**
There will be an opportunity to receive up to 25 points extra credit by writing extra credit essays. For each presentation, video, or paper that you attend, watch, or read; you will write a short 2-paragraph essay.

The first paragraph should summarize the topic of the presentation, and the second paragraph should focus on something that you found interesting. The second paragraph should conclude with a question that you had based on or inspired by the presentation, video, or paper. Each Essay is worth 5 points, and you can upload up to 5 in the Extra Credit section on Canvas. Please note, it is my view that as a scientist, you will continually be formulating questions as you acquire new knowledge; therefore, “I did not have any questions, the speaker did a good job.” Is not an acceptable answer. That tells me that you only passively listed to the material, and points will be deducted from the 5 points total.

Options include:
- The Biology Department Seminar: Fridays, from 1-2 P.M.
- Darwin Day: (Feb) Lectures (TJC and UT Tyler) and Movies
- Papers: Found in the Extra Credit Section of Canvas.
- Video Seminars: Found in the Extra Credit Section of Canvas.

**Class Expectations**
- Be Courteous and on time for classes, with assignments, and when meeting with group members.
- Silence cell phones and other electronic devices, and do not answer your phone while in class.
- Discussion is welcomed during the lecture, so please feel free to ask/answer questions, seek clarification, etc. If you need extra help, or we are pressed for time during class, please see me during office hours or ask the question in the Q&A. If I do not get
questions - I will assume you understand, and I can move on - I know from experience this is not always the case and given the opportunity I will move fast.

- You are strongly urged to attend class, this is a fast-paced class, and we will be covering and large amount of material. It is your responsibility to keep up with the material. Staying on top of the material will be critical to success. Tradition dictates 3 hours of study time per hour of classroom time. Therefore, you should plan to spend at least 9 hours a week outside of class time on this course.

- Please do not hesitate to ask questions! Please realize, that if submitted via email, I may not receive the question and answer it immediately; however, I will try my best. For example, if you email me Monday night at 11:45 P.M. the night before the exam, you may not get an answer until the next day, which may not be prior to the exam.

- If I am meeting with someone, please wait your turn. Do not just walk in and sit down. In some instances, we are discussing grades or other private matters, and it is unprofessional to interrupt.

- Due to unforeseen circumstances, I may use zoom office hours instead of in-person, If working with a student I may turn on the waiting room feature, if so please hang out until I can bring you in.

- Participate: Staying actively engaged in the lectures will increase your retention. It also helps me to understand if the class is understanding the material. Therefore, throughout the lectures there are class questions. Please volunteer to answer if you think you know it. I will move around the room, so if the same people are answering do not be surprised if you get called on.

### Calendar of Topics, Readings, and Tentative Due Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week #</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Assignments Due</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>T 1/10</td>
<td>Introduction to Cell Biology.</td>
<td>Syllabus, Chapter 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R 1/12</td>
<td>Eukaryotes, Prokaryotes, and Viruses. Microscopes</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
<td>Pretest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>T 1/17</td>
<td>The Chemistry of Life - The Macromolecules: Carbohydrates, Lipids, and Nucleic Acids</td>
<td>Chapter 2</td>
<td>Video lecture quiz on stem cells.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R 1/19</td>
<td>The Chemistry of Life - The Macromolecules: Carbohydrates, Lipids, Nucleic Acids, and Proteins</td>
<td>Chapter 2, Chapter 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note: 1/23 is the Census Date. I will be required to report attendance at this point. Please see [https://www.uttler.edu/registrar/policies/census_date.php](https://www.uttler.edu/registrar/policies/census_date.php) for further details regarding Census.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chapter/Worksheet</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>T 1/24</td>
<td>Proteins</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td>SimUText: DNA Explored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R 1/26</td>
<td>Proteins</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>1/31</td>
<td>Protein Domain Worksheet; Thermodynamics, Enzymes, and Basic Metabolism</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>Synthetic Biology Worksheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R 2/2</td>
<td>Review for Exam 1 (Chapter 1-3, beginning of 6), Start Material for Exam 2: Regulating Glycolysis</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
<td>Multiple choice question for exam 1, video lecture quiz for protein folding and disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>T 2/7</td>
<td>Introduction to membranes, Movement through membranes</td>
<td>Chapters 16, 17.1-17.5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>R 2/9</td>
<td>Exam 1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6</td>
<td>T 2/14</td>
<td>The Action Potential: an example of ion flow through a membrane. Discuss the mini-grant assignment.</td>
<td>Chapters 16, 17.1-17.5</td>
<td>Video lecture quiz on channelopathies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R 2/16</td>
<td>The Electron Transport Chain: an example of ion flow through a membrane</td>
<td>Chapter 7.1-7.4</td>
<td>SimUText: Action Potential Explored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 7</td>
<td>T 2/21</td>
<td>Cell-Cell interactions</td>
<td>Chapter 17.10</td>
<td>SimUText: Cell Respiration Explored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R 2/23</td>
<td>Cell Signaling</td>
<td>Chapter 17.11-17.12</td>
<td>Video lecture quiz on organellar disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 8</td>
<td>T 2/28</td>
<td>Cell Signaling</td>
<td>Chapter 17.11-17.12</td>
<td>Cell signaling group worksheet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R 3/2</td>
<td>Review for Exam 2 (Chapters 6,16,17,7), Discuss Cell Signaling Worksheet, Start Material for Exam 3: The Gene, Genetics, and the genome</td>
<td>Chapter 8.1-8.3</td>
<td>Multiple choice for exam 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>T 3/7</td>
<td>The Gene, Genetics, and the genome</td>
<td>Chapter 8 to 8.3.2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>R 3/9</td>
<td>Exam 2</td>
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Please note: Tuesday, March 1 is the Last Day to Register for Spring Graduation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 10</th>
<th>T 3/21</th>
<th>Transcription</th>
<th>Chapter 10.1-10.3</th>
<th>Video lecture quiz over the genomic medicine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R 3/23</td>
<td>Transcription, Go over Exam 2</td>
<td>Chapter 10.1-10.3</td>
<td>SimUtext Transcription and Translation Explored.</td>
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</table>

Please note that Monday, March 23, is the last day to withdraw from classes (W).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>T 3/28</th>
<th>Transcript Modification and miRNA Regulation</th>
<th>Chapter 10.4, 13.2.3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R 3/30</td>
<td>Translation</td>
<td>Chapter 11.5-11.6</td>
<td>Central dogma walkthrough worksheet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 12</th>
<th>T 4/4</th>
<th>Endomembrane System</th>
<th>17.6.2-17.9.1</th>
<th>Group worksheet on the central dogma in medicine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R 4/6</td>
<td>Discussion of Central Dogma and Medicine Discussion. Review for Exam 3 ( Chapters 8,10,11,17)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Multiple choice for exam 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 13</th>
<th>T 4/11</th>
<th>Start New material for Final: Gene Expression and the Lac operon</th>
<th>Chapter 12.1,12.2,12.5,12.6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R 4/13</td>
<td>Exam 3</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 14</th>
<th>T 4/18</th>
<th>The Cell Cycle and Cancer</th>
<th>Chapter 19</th>
<th>SimUText Gene Regulation Explored, Mitosis Explored</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R 4/20</td>
<td>Discuss Lac Operon Worksheet, Review for Final (New Material Chapter 12 and 19 and Comprehensive Chapters 1,2,3,6,16,17,8,10,11)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Multiple choice question for the final, video lecture quiz over cancer, extra credit essays, final essay (mini-grants).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Week 15:** Finals Week: Monday April 24-29.

**Final:** April 27 9:30-11:30 AM, Final is comprehensive!

**Spring Commencement:** April 28-29.

**Final Grades Posted by May 2.**