

Bio 5280: Bioinformatics

Instructor

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Text book

Concepts in Bioinformatics and Genomics
by Alison McCurdy and Jamil Momand
(see cover on the right)



Lecture time: 2:30-3:45pm Tue and Thr; 0212 State Hall

Office hour: Thr 1:30-2:30pm

Purpose

This course is to introduce undergraduate and graduate biology students to the field of bioinformatics.

Course requirements

A familiarity with biology, basic biochemistry, genetics. It is assumed that students have basic training in computation and statistics. All students should be able to access computers and Internet. *Some homework assignments are in the form of classroom discussion/activities, therefore require physical presence.*

Prerequisite

Bio 3070 Genetics & Bio 3100 Cellular Biochemistry or equivalents.

Course objective

The course will familiarize students with computational methods of sequence analysis, which serves as the foundation of comparative genomics. By the end of the course, students will have understanding of the methods related to sequence and genomic analysis, and will be able to apply bioinformatic tools to carry out these analysis.

Grading (total: 1000)

Midterm 1: 300

Midterm 2: 300

Participation: 100 (>90% participation will be rounded to 100%)

Class presentation: 100

In-class/after-class assignments: 100

Group project and presentation: 100

The final letter grade will be determined as follows:

Percentage

90.00%- 100%

87.00%- <90%

85.00%- <87%

78.00%- <85%

75.00%- <78%

73.00%- <75%

65.00%- <73%

62.00%- <65%

60.00%- <62%

57.00%- <60%

55.00%- <57%

<55%

Final Grade

A

A-

B+

B

B-

C+

C

C-

D+

D

D-

F

Exam Grad Disputes/Challenge Option

- Students will have one (1) week after the return of an exam or a written assignment to challenge a grade for any question with a written note providing an explanation.
- Failure to challenge the grade within this period indicates a willingness to accept the grade as is. The challenge should consist of a written description of why the answer is correct based on other published material that you cite.

Cheating

- A strict zero-tolerance policy for cheating will be enforced.
- Anyone caught cheating on an exam will receive a score of 0 (zero) for that portion of the grade.
- Students found to be cheating during an exam (using a “cheat sheet”, looking at another’s paper, or allowing another to look at yours), will receive a zero for that test with no opportunity to drop or replace that score.
- A second episode of cheating will result in a grade of F for the course and may also result in initiation of university disciplinary action.

Posting of Exam Grades

Exam grades will be posted on Black Board by Student ID Number as soon as possible after the exam has been administered. The distribution of scores will also be provided in class.

Special Considerations for Individuals with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department. Once you have your accommodations in place, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours to discuss your special needs.

Religious Holiday Conflicts

- If you have a conflict with any of the scheduled class or exam times due to religious reasons, you must notify Dr. Hao in writing by class time on **Jan 23, 2018**.
- No make-up exams will be given unless s/he is notified in writing by this date.

Unexpected university closures

If the University is officially closed on an exam day, the exam will be held on the next regularly scheduled class day.

Others

- I am happy to write letters of recommendations for students who earn a grade of B+ and better.
- Please turn all cell phones off during class and during exams.
- Any specific issue not covered by this syllabus will be resolved using University policies.
- Disputes that cannot be resolved following the guidelines present in this syllabus will be resolved by following the guidelines of the University “Student Due Process”.

Add/Drop Policy

Add forms will not be signed after the second week of class.

- Drop forms must be signed before the end of “study day”, which is the day after the last day of classes.

Tentative Schedule

Week 1:

Lecture 1: Introduction and review of molecular biology (Jan 9)

Lecture 2: Information organization and sequence databases (Jan 11)

Week 2:

Lecture 3: Molecular evolution - **by group 1** (Jan 16)

Lecture 4: Molecular evolution - review/discussion (Jan 18)

Week3:

Lecture 5: Substitution matrices (Jan 23)

Lecture 6: Pairwise sequence alignment (Feb 1)

Week4:

Lecture 7: BLAST and multiple sequence alignment (Feb 6)

Computer session 1 (Feb 8)

Week5:

Computer session 2 (Feb 13)

Midterm 1 (Feb 15)

Week 6:

Computer session 3 (Feb 20)

Lecture 8: Protein structure prediction - **by group 2** (Feb 22)

Week 7:

Lecture 9: Protein structure prediction - review/discussion (Feb 27)

Lecture 10: Phylogenetics (March 1)

Week 8:

Lecture 11: Phylogenetics (March 6)

Lecture 12: Phylogenetics - review/discussion (March 8)

Week 9: (March 13, 15 spring break)

- no class

Week 10:

Lecture 13: Genomics - **by group 3** (March 20)

Lecture 14: Transcript and protein expression analysis - **by group 4** (March 22)

Week 11:

Lecture 15: Genomics, transcript and protein expression analysis - review/discussion (March 27)

Midterm 2 (March 29)

Week 12:

Computer session 4 (April 3)

Computer session 5 (April 5)

Week 13:

Computer session 6 (April 10)

Computer session 7 (April 12)

Week 14:

Lecture 16: Project presentation (April 17)

Lecture 17: Project presentation (April 19)

Week 15:

There is no Final Exam