

Biochemistry Lecture, Fall 2018 (CHE4610)

Purchase College

Course Meeting

Mondays and Thursdays, 12:30-2:10pm
Room: Humanities 2047

Professor Information

Professor Elizabeth Middleton
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Office: NS 3040
Office phone: 914-251-6692
Office hours: Mon and Thu 2:15-3:00pm, Wed 12:00-1:00pm, or by appointment

Learning Assistants

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Required Texts

Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 4th edition, by Voet, Voet, and Pratt
A 5th edition of the textbook is available but I will be teaching using the 4th edition to help keep costs down

Course Description

Prerequisite: Passing grade in Organic Chemistry I and either Organic Chemistry II, Bridge to Biochemistry, or Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry.

Biochemistry is the chemistry of life. In this course you will explore the molecules and processes that are necessary for life and the intricate relationships between them. At each step along the way, you will investigate the diseases that result from defects in these molecules and processes. In addition, you will learn how researchers are increasing our understanding of these processes and interactions and what happens when they go wrong.

Communication

The best way to get in touch with me is by stopping by my office hours or by email. I will respond to emails promptly during regular business hours. You can also call my office phone. You are always welcome at office hours without an appointment or can **set up an appointment** to meet at another time.

I expect you to **check your Purchase email daily** and the class Moodle site regularly for information or updates about the course.

Student Disabilities

Students with documented physical, learning, psychological and other disabilities are entitled to receive reasonable accommodations. If you need classroom or testing accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Resources at ORD@purchase.edu or in person in the Student Services Building, Room 317A. Students must also inform the professor **at the beginning of the semester** so arrangements can be made.

Classroom Expectations

- Please be on time, listen actively, and participate in class discussions and activities.
- Please turn off or silence cell phones at the start of class.
- Laptops, tablets, etc. may be used during class only for activities relevant for the class, such as looking at the online textbook, periodic table, or lecture slides; taking notes; or looking up an unknown term. Unauthorized use, including checking email, shopping, etc. is not permitted and will result in loss of this privilege.
- Recording devices of any kind are not permitted in class; however, I will record the slides and audio each class and post them online for your convenience.

Purchase College Academic Integrity Policy

The purchase college academic integrity policy (www.purchase.edu/policies/academicintegrity.aspx) explicitly forbids cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism is the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another person and the representation of them as one's own original work. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the definition of plagiarism and acceptable methods of attribution. The *minimum* recommended sanction for an academic integrity violation is a failing grade on the assignment.

Students who have any questions or doubts about whether any activity is academically permissible should check with the instructor.

Collaboration

You are encouraged to collaborate with your fellow classmates on homework and when studying. However, you should never copy homework responses from another student or share your answers with another student. Collaboration is not permitted on quizzes and exams. The policies for group assignments will be addressed in separate documents. **If you have any questions regarding this policy, please speak to Prof. Middleton.**

Attendance

Attendance in this course is **not required**, but is **highly recommended**. We will be covering large quantities of content from multiple sources, so coming to class is the best way to learn the material and ask questions. I will take attendance for my own records, but this will not factor into your grade. It is therefore not necessary to alert me when you will miss class unless there will be a conflict with a quiz, exam, or other due date.

Course Requirements

1) Quizzes: 30%

- This course will have periodic quizzes that will cover roughly 1-2 chapters.
- Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class. Late arrival on quiz days will result in less time to complete the quiz or a zero if the quiz is over.
- There will also be 1-2 quiz questions given at the beginning of class each day that we don't have a scheduled quiz or exam. These questions will be pooled and count for one additional "homework quiz," to encourage you to stay on top of the material, do homework questions regularly, and attend class.
- You may drop your lowest quiz grade of the semester—either a scheduled quiz or the aggregate "homework quiz."
- **Conflicts for scheduled quizzes must be discussed with Prof. Middleton at least two weeks in advance. There are no make-ups for "homework quiz" questions—NO EXCEPTIONS.**

2) Exams: 50%

- This course will have three exams that will each cover roughly 6 chapters.
- There will NOT be a separate, cumulative final exam (though the third exam will take place during the final exam time).
- **Conflicts for exams must be discussed with Prof. Middleton at least two weeks in advance.**

3) Research Project: 20%

- You will complete one research project on a biochemistry topic of interest
- You will read and analyze primary sources, synthesize information from multiple sources, and demonstrate your in-depth understanding of the content.
- The format of your project is up to you, as long as you present information clearly; you'll be graded primarily on the substance of your project.

Extra Credit

There will be opportunities for extra credit throughout the course as part of the quizzes, and exams. You should take advantage of these extra credit assignments when they come up, as **there will not be additional extra credit available at the end of the semester**. Extra credit for quizzes cannot be applied to exams and vice versa.

Ungraded Assignments

There will be many ungraded assignments and activities throughout this course. These include homework from the book, assigned readings, recorded slides, practice problems for quizzes and exams, and individual and group work during class. While these will not directly impact your grade, they are designed to help you engage with the material in order to better learn and apply it. When in class I expect you to fully participate in these activities, and you may be tested on the content of ungraded assignments on quizzes or exams.

Course Content

We will cover content from Chapters 1-18 during the semester, though we will not cover all content in each chapter. The full schedule for the semester, including estimated dates for covering each chapter, quiz and exam dates, and other important information, is found on the course Moodle site. All dates are subject to change at the discretion of the professor, so be sure to check Moodle frequently for the most up-to-date information.

Final Grades

Highest	Lowest	Letter Grade
100	93	A
92.99	90	A-
89.99	87	B+
86.99	83	B
82.99	80	B-
79.99	77	C+
76.99	73	C
72.99	70	C-
69.99	60	D
59.99	0	F

A grade of A+ will be given at the discretion of the professor for exceptional work in the course

Purchase College does not award grades of D+ or D-