

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS & BASIS OF GRADES

FYI BIOLOGY AT UF – Spring 2015

BSC1920 (section 016F)

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BASIS OF GRADES

As described below, a total of 100 points can be earned by successfully completing all assignments. Because this is an S/U class, your performance will be either S (satisfactory) or U (unsatisfactory). Under the UF grading scale, the equivalent of a “C” grade (minimum of 73% of class points) is needed to earn an “S” grade; a “C-” grade will yield a “U” grade. Thus, an “S” grade requires 73% – or 73 points – of the possible 100 points available in the class.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS – Assignments may be submitted via email or hard copy

1) Attendance and Participation (40 points)

You are expected to attend and participate in all classes. If you miss class due to an illness or family emergency, you need to provide documentation. You should contribute to class discussions and be courteous to others in the classroom. You are expected to have completed reading assignments before class and be prepared to discuss the material.

2) List of Potential Majors from “CHOMP” (7 points)

- After our session at the UF Career Resource Center, go to <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/> and click on “Students” then, under “Explore”, click on “CHOMP”
OR go directly to <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/students/studentchomp.html>
- After you read the information click on “Let’s Get Started!”
- Sign in on the UF Authentication page if it opens.
- An “Informed Consent” form may open. It is completely up to you whether you choose to participate in their research project. Click on the appropriate button and proceed.
- Work through the 3 steps. At the end of the program, a list of potential majors is produced. Print out the list and turn it in by the due date.
- **Due by the beginning of class on 27 January 2015**

3) Two Annotated Bibliographies (7 points each for a total of 14 points)

For each Annotated Bibliography (see 2 assigned topics below)

- Use the software that was explained during the Library Workshop on 27 January 2015 to conduct a literature search on the assigned topic.
- Create a bibliography of 10 citations published in peer-reviewed journals; most should be from the past 10 years.
- Format the citations in the style of the journal that is assigned for each bibliography. I have selected journals with different bibliographic styles.
- After each citation, write a two sentence summary of the major finding in the paper explaining its relevance to the topic of the annotated bibliography.

Topics for 2 Annotated Bibliographies

- i. Recent progress on curing a human disease. Select any disease for which recent research has made progress in treatments (for example, malaria).
Format the citations in the style of the journal *The New England Journal of Medicine*. This journal lists the references by numbers in the order in which they appear in the article. For your bibliography, list the articles in alphabetical order of the first author's last name and assign the numbers in that order.
Due by the beginning of class on 10 February 2015

- ii. Threats to endangered animal and plant species continue to increase. Select an endangered species and explore what are the most serious threats and what is being done to save the species.
Format the citations in the style of the journal *Conservation Biology*.
Due by the beginning of class on 17 February 2015

4) Certificate of Completion for "Working with the UF IACUC" (7 points)

- Complete the "Working with the UF IACUC" course and exam.
- Go to <<http://www.aalaslearninglibrary.org/>> and click on "Enroll now!"
- Select "Myself (I am purchasing an individual account or using an Access Code to join a group)" and click "continue"
- Select "Yes, I have an Access Code" and click "continue"
- Enter the access code "UFIACUC" (without the quote marks) and click "continue"
- Complete the information and click continue
- You should receive a message "Welcome! You have completed..." click "continue"
- Select "Animal Care and Use Courses" from the drop-down box under "Libraries" on the top bar
- Click on "University of Florida Tracks"
- Click on "UF Researchers – IACUC Training Modules"
- Click on "Compliance and IACUC Training" and select "Working with the IACUC: non-VA version."
- Click on "Course" near the bottom and read through the 25 lessons. Note that each lesson usually has several pages.
- When you have read through the lessons, take the final exam. If you do not pass the exam, review the material and take the exam until you receive a passing grade.
- Print out the Certificate of Completion and turn it in by the due date.
- **Due by the beginning of class on 24 February 2015**

5a) Academic Plan (7 points)

- Meet with one of the three Biology Advisor (Bobbi Knickerbocker or Christine Richmond or Mandi Santos) and develop an Academic Plan sometime **between 22 January and 27 February 2015**. Be sure to meet with one of the 3 Biology Advisors and obtain a full academic plan up to your graduation. A partial plan will not be acceptable.

- Do not procrastinate! No reservations are possible; meetings are on a walk-in basis with first-come-first-served policy.
- **Due by the beginning of class on 10 March 2015**
- **Contact information for the Biology Advisors**
 - Email: bioadvising@advising.ufl.edu
 - Telephone: 352-392-1521
 - CLAS Academic Advising Center
 - Farrior Hall (100 Fletcher Drive)
 - Monday: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday: 8:00 - 10:30 a.m.
 - Wednesday: 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
 - Thursday: 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
 - Friday: 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

****OR****

5b) Career Plan (7 points)

- If you are a more advanced student, it may not be of use to visit the Advising Center. If so, you should choose to complete this alternative assignment. The Career Resources Center, student organizations, and/or your department may be good resources to help you complete this assignment
- **Due by the beginning of class on 10 March 2015**
- **Career Plan:**
 - In a short essay (less than 2 pages double spaced) summarize 3 alternative careers that you might consider given your professional interests and training. For each career option describe the steps required for you to move forward.
 - For example, if you have becoming an evolutionary biologist on your list, then the first next step is to pursue graduate study in evolutionary biology. To do that you would need to 1) identify appropriate graduate programs, 2) identify and research prospective advisors and contact them about working with them, 3) check on application requirements for the programs you'll apply to, 4) take the GREs and Biology subject test (if required), 5) apply to programs.
 - This is the sort of detail you should include for each of your alternative career options.
 - Also, integrate what you learned through CHOMP into your essay. That is, how do your values, skills, and interests defined by CHOMP match the three alternative careers that you have described.

6) Graph Assignment #1 (7 points)

- Click on the [link here](#) to view the pdf describing the Graph Assignment #1.
- Be prepared to present and discuss your graphs in class.
- **Due by the beginning of class on 24 March 2015**

7) Graph Assignment #2 (18 points)

- Select a graph from an article in a peer-reviewed journal that illustrates data.
- Create a presentation for class (in Powerpoint or equivalent software) in which you
 - Present the graph
 - State the source of the graph
 - Explain why it is of interest
 - Interpret the data presented
 - Discuss the strong points of the graph
 - Discuss how it could be improved
- Each student will make a 5-10 minute presentation (depending on the number of students) in class on either **7, 14 or 21 April 2015**