

COURSE SYLLABUS FOR BIOLOGY 1B

Summer 2013

Announcement: You must attend your first lab session (Mon or Tues) of the first week. Failure to do so may result in being dropped from the course.

Course Description: General introduction to evolutionary biology, ecology, and botany. Intended for students majoring in the biological sciences, but open to all qualified students. Students must take both Biology 1A and 1B to complete the sequence.

Course Website: <http://ib.berkeley.edu/courses/bio1b/> This website contains all the information you will need for the course, including the lecture and lab schedules.

bSpace: Outlines of each lecture and other course related materials will be available on bSpace.

Lecture Time and Place: MTuWTh 1–230PM, 2050 VLSB

Instructor:

Dr. Alan Shabel

Email: shabel@berkeley.edu

Office: 3030 VLSB

Office hours: Monday–Thursday, 2:30–3:00 PM or by appointment.

Course Coordinator:

Dr. Tami Mau

Email: tmau@berkeley.edu

Office: 2013 VLSB

Phone: 2-8123

Enrollment Coordinator, Lab Manager & Webmaster:

Brett Boltz

Email: bboltz@berkeley.edu

Office: 2002 VLSB

Phone: 3-0448

Textbook: *Biology*, 9th ed., Campbell, Benjamin/Cummings.

Laboratory materials can be found online on the course website:

<http://ib.berkeley.edu/courses/bio1b/labschedsummer13/labexersum13.html>

Office Hours: GSIs will hold office hours once per week. These will be held in 2195 VLSB. Any student can attend any GSI office hours. Times will be posted on the office door and course website.

Lectures will be held in 2050 VLSB. The syllabus, lecture information, and readings are posted on our web page. There will be no published notes. The faculty want you to learn note-taking skills. Lectures are **not** webcast.

Exams: Three multiple-choice midterms will be given during lecture times on the following dates:

MIDTERM #1: Thursday, July 11

MIDTERM #2: Monday, July 29

MIDTERM #3: Thursday, Aug 15

There are no make-up midterms. If you miss one midterm due to illness, you must present a written, verifiable, medical excuse to the Enrollment Coordinator, Brett Boltz. Your midterm grade will be pro-rated at the end of the session. You will be able to review your exams but not keep them.

Grading: Your letter grade will be determined by the total number of points that you receive during the semester. The breakdown is as follows:

Midterms (3 exams at 150 pts each)	=450 pts
Lab	=300 pts
Total	=750 pts

Letter grades will be determined at the end of the semester. The cutoffs for letter grades are **A**- $\geq 90\%$, **B**- $\geq 80\%$, **C**- $\geq 70\%$, **D**- $\geq 60\%$, and **F**- $< 60\%$. There are 8 GSIs. To account for variance in grading among sections, the GSIs will adjust section means to 85% for the lab points only.

Do not take this class Pass/Not Pass if you might need a letter grade in the future.

Incomplete "I" Grades:

A student must complete half the course material with a passing grade of "C" or better and document evidence of the inability to complete the course. You have one semester to make up the work or the "I" becomes an "F". Students **currently** making up an "I" should see Tami Mau ASAP.

Students Repeating the Class:

If you passed the lab and discussion section of the class ($>80\%$) but not the lecture, you do not have to repeat the lab and discussion section. You can use your previous lab score and apply it to this semester. However, you must attend the first lab meeting and it is advised that you attend lab section regularly. If you intend to repeat, you must get approval from the Enrollment Coordinator, Brett Boltz before your first lab meeting.

Disabled Students:

Students with physical or learning disabilities please identify yourselves to the course Coordinator ASAP so we can meet your needs. Students needing extra time on exams must provide documentation from the D.S.P. office ASAP.

Course Tips

Working in groups:

This approach has been very successful in Biology 1B. In lab, you are randomly divided into groups of two to four students. In general, all the students in the group will get the same grade on a lab exercise. You will indicate on your worksheet how much you contributed to that assignment. Over the course of the semester, all students are expected to have done their fair share of the work. You are encouraged to exchange e-mail addresses and to get together outside of class to exchange notes and study for tests. If you have trouble with a group member or your group as a whole, please talk to your GSI and/or the Course Coordinator. All comments will be confidential.

Recommendations:

If you expect to ask for a letter of recommendation, even a year or two from now, see your GSI at the beginning of the semester. Your GSI is your primary contact in this course and will get to know you better than anyone else. The Professors in the course are usually willing to co-sign a letter of recommendation that is written by a GSI.

Attendance:

You are required to attend all labs and discussion sections. The GSIs are required to take attendance. If you miss a lab without a reasonable excuse, you will receive no credit for that assigned lab. If you have a reasonable excuse to miss a lab, you must speak with your GSI and the Course Coordinator as soon as possible to determine if you can attend another lab. In summer this is not always possible.

Cheating, Plagiarism, Keeping a Copy of a Midterm and Restroom Breaks:

Students are not allowed to keep the midterms. If you leave the room with your exam, you will be considered cheating. **Your GSI will explain what defines plagiarism, but the most common type of plagiarism is to copy from the web and not carefully cite the source. A “cut and paste” without quotation marks is plagiarism. BE CAREFUL.** Cheating is not only dishonest, it is stupid. If you are caught, you will be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Their standard procedure for dealing with first-time cheaters is: (1) An “F” in the class (2) A letter in your file which identifies you as a cheater (this letter, upon request, will be sent to medical and graduate schools, employers, etc.) (3) Many hours of campus service, and (4) Risk of suspension or dismissal. It just isn't worth it. Please read Warning to Cheaters in the Announcements on our web page. Due to a reported increase in cheating during restroom breaks, students who leave the room prior to the end of the exam period will be required to turn in their examinations and will not be permitted to return. If you have a medical issue that may require you to take a restroom break during the test, please see the Coordinator in advance of the test with medical documentation of this condition. No calculators, phones, or other electronic devices are allowed during exams.

We hope that you enjoy your Summer of Bio 1B!