

## Biochemistry: DNA, RNA, and Protein Synthesis

Chemistry XL-153B  
Registration number: U6280  
Number of units: 4

**Instructor:** Dr. Peter A. Doucette

**Dates:** 1/6/2009 - 3/24/2009

**Days/Time/Location:** Tuesdays, 7:00-10:00 pm, CS-76 (Young Hall)

### **Course Description:**

This is the second course in a three-quarter series that also includes XL-153A and XL-153C. This course covers nucleotide metabolism, DNA replication and repair, transcription machinery, regulation of transcription, RNA structure and processing, and protein synthesis and processing.

### **Course prerequisites:**

A background that includes general chemistry, general biology, and organic chemistry is important and very helpful for this course. I will review basic concepts, but you should be prepared to do extra work if you are deficient in any of these three areas. College level math skills are also requisite.

### **Required Materials:**

**Textbook:** Biochemistry, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Voet & Voet, ©2004 (ISBN 978-0-471-19350-0)  
(Stryer, *Biochemistry* 4<sup>th</sup> "red" edition, or Lehninger, *Biochemistry* 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> editions are also acceptable for this course and can be found online)

**Scientific Calculator:** should have logarithms and exponents

### **UCLA Extension Contact for this Course:**

Regina Marinas; Phone: (310) 825-7093, Fax: (310) 206-5066, Email: [rmarinas@uclaextension.edu](mailto:rmarinas@uclaextension.edu)

### **Student Records:**

Students can access and update student records online by visiting: [www.uclaextension.edu](http://www.uclaextension.edu) and clicking on My.Extension on the left navigation bar, selecting Student's Course Essentials, and following the directions to log in.

Student's Course Essentials lets you view your grades, request an official transcript, change credit status on a current course, obtain enrollment verification, update your personal information, and much more.

### **Student Conduct:**

By enrolling in this course, all students are expected to have reviewed the Student Conduct and Sexual Harassment information provided in the current Quarterly catalog (print or online) under "General Information."

## **Accommodations:**

If you need any accommodations for a disability, please contact the UCLA Extension Disabled Student Services at: (310) 825-7851 or via e-mail [access@uclaextension.edu](mailto:access@uclaextension.edu)

## **Grading:**

Course grades will be based on the following:

2 Midterms	(100 points each)	200
Final Exam	(150 points)	150
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Total Possible	(tentative)	350

Letter grades are given based on the percentage of total points.

A	100 - 90%
B	89 - 80%
C	79 - 65%
D	64 - 52%
F	51 - 0%

*All grades are final when filed by the instructor on the Final Grade Report.*

## **Lectures:**

Course material will be presented primarily on an overhead projector. The overheads will be available at the following website: [www.chem.ucla.edu/~pdoucett/153](http://www.chem.ucla.edu/~pdoucett/153). You can print these out and bring them to class so you can make additional notes in the margins. This will hopefully allow you to think and participate (not sleep!) during lectures. To print documents, first save them on your hard drive - *do not print from the web!*

## **Exams:**

Exams will be given on scheduled days in room CS76. The format of the exam depends on the content of the material being tested, but is usually made up of multiple choice, true/false and free response drawing questions. There will be no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, you will receive a zero unless you give a documented reason for missing the exam. Because your grade is based solely on the three exams, it is important to do your best on every exam.

## **Study Strategies:**

Study often. Studying one hour every day is much better than studying 7 hours on the weekend. In addition to understanding the lecture material, you should learn to draw the structures of every molecule we encounter (unless I specify that you don't have to). Learning to draw the structures of molecules in biochemistry is an essential part of the course and you should practice drawing structures whenever possible (periodically making sure that the structures are correct!).

**Tentative Lecture and Exam Schedule:**

Week	Date	Day	Topics
1	1/6	T	Introduction, DNA, RNA, nucleic acid structure
2	1/13	T	Nucleotide metabolism
3	1/20	T	DNA Replication
4	1/27	T	<b>Midterm 1</b>
5	2/3	T	DNA replication and repair
6	2/10	T	RNA, Transcription
7	2/17	T	Transcription II, RNA processing
8	2/24	T	<b>Midterm 2</b>
9	3/3	T	Ribosomes
10	3/10	T	Translation, regulation
11	3/17	T	Genetics
12	3/24	T	<b>Final Exam</b>

*It is estimated students will spend approximately 6 hours outside class each week completing class assignments, readings and studying for exams.*

***Course Syllabus Subject to Update by the Instructor***