Chemistry 430 H : Honors Introduction to Biological Chemistry

Fall

Prerequisites:  
General chemistry (101, 102), organic chemistry (261, 262), and general biology (101). Biology 202 is recommended.

Instructor:  
Brian P. Hogan, Ph.D.  
Office: Morehead Labs rm. 205  
Email: hoganb@email.unc.edu  
Phone: 962-4746 (please note that I only check my voice mail ~1/week)

Office hours:  
M/W: 2-3:30pm. Please email to make an appointment if you cannot make one of these times. I usually can accommodate.

Official Text: There is no assigned text for this course. I will explain your text options.

Online course access: You can access our course at “blackboard.unc.edu” and logging in with your ONYEN.

Classroom Resources: A variety of biochemistry textbooks and other books will be available for loan from the course's classroom library.

Grading: There will be one formal examination, the comprehensive final worth 30%. Individual and group assignments, attendance, writing assignments, and participation will constitute 60% of the final grade. Attendance, Preparation, Participation, and Attitude are worth 10%. Unexcused absences and tardiness will detract from your final grade. Consider attendance as mandatory. See me if you need to miss class. Grading will not be on a curve. Expect to have a minimum of one graded assignment per week. These will come in the form of papers, group work, quizzes, etc..

Important dates to remember:  
Visit the registrar’s website for a complete list of important dates (i.e. drop/add deadlines, final exam schedules, etc)

INTO ACTION….This is your chance to be a scholar!!!!  
This course is not for those who wish to sit back and passively absorb information. Here the dynamic is turned around. I am here to guide the ship, you are the ones driving. I have put
together a series of learning exercises that require you to develop your critical thinking skills. I have made available multiple biochemistry texts and given you my notes, now it’s time to see what it feels like to say, out loud, “I don’t know!” That’s OK. Not knowing will be the starting off point for us to understand the material in a way that you will never forget. YOU need to be active in this class. That means self motivation, hard work, and pushing past your intellectual comfort zone.

Dr. Hogan’s vision for you after this course:

My primary objective is to prepare you for higher level courses in the discipline, whether they be in biochemistry, medicine, graduate school, whatever. If we have all given our best effort, you will leave this class with a toolset of critical thinking skills that will serve you a lifetime. WILL WE GET IT PERFECT? BECAUSE THAT’S WHAT I NEED FOR THE MCAT/DAT/LSAT/GRE…….!!!!!! NO. We seek not perfection in the matter of education, but only progress towards greater understanding.

Policy adopted by the faculty of the Department of Chemistry on September 9, 1977:
"Since all graded work (including homework to be collected, quizzes, papers, mid-term examinations, final examinations, research proposals, laboratory results and reports, etc.) may be used in the determination of academic progress, no collaboration on this work is permitted unless the instructor explicitly indicates that some specific degree of collaboration is allowed. This statement is not intended to discourage students from studying together or working together on assignments which are not to be collected."

Chemistry 430 H

Some of following references MAY be used in chemistry 430 H. In some cases, only portions will be required. Only a subset of these articles will be read and most of them will prove difficult to understand at first. That’s OK… I have included them mostly for my benefit so I can choose which to assign based on the tenor of the class.


Add:

Haber and Anfinsen, June 1962

Baldwin, Robert L., nature 19 May 1994

Dougherty, Dennis, Current opinion in chemical biology 2000

How to fold graciously: Cyrus Levinthal, 1969

Mayo, Kevin H., Tibitech May 2000

The instructor of this course has the sole discretion of assigning grades. I reserve the right to arbitrate all academic matters relating to grades, exams, homework, etc. I do not accept, nor will I reply to, phone calls, emails, or letters from parents. I reserve the right to allow extra time on an exam for those in need based on language skills, etc. If you went to high school in the USA, you most likely will not qualify. If you have ever been assigned an “A” number by immigration you do qualify.