



BIOL 1615: Biology I Lab, Fall 2017

Course Description

Biology 1615 is a lab course designed to support BIOL 1610. The weekly labs will cover a range of topics, including the scientific method, statistics, biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, and plant biology.

Course Objectives

In this course, you will:

- gain **factual knowledge** (terminology, classifications, methods, and trends)
- learn **fundamental principles** (general mechanisms and theories)
- **learn to apply course materials** (to improve rational thinking, problem solving, and decision making)

Lab instructor: Grant Wilson

Contact information: grant.wilson@usu.edu

Office hours:

Mondays, 3:30–4:30 PM, and by appointment; Milton P. Miller Bldg. Room 173

Required materials

1. All lab assignments will be posted on Canvas (follow the “Lectures & Labs” link from the BIOL 1610 Canvas page or go directly to the BIOL 1615 Canvas page). It is your responsibility to print your lab assignments prior to class.

Lab fee

As part of your registration for this class you were required to pay a \$95.00 lab fee. This fee is used to buy the materials used by students in the weekly labs.

Evaluation method	# of points possible
Lab Assessments and Participation	55
Lab Tests	100
TOTAL	155

Lab Assessments and Participation

Each lab will have 5 points of credit associated with it; however, your lowest lab score will be dropped. To earn these points, you will be required to (1) complete a pre-lab assignment prior to coming to class or a quiz at the beginning of class, (2) participate fully in all lab activities and assessments, and (3) complete a lab assignment during class that will be handed in before you leave the lab session. **No make-up labs will be offered.** You will not receive credit for a pre-lab/quiz if you do not attend the entire lab session.

- For all labs (except Lab 12), you will have **1 full week** to contest your score in the grade book. For Lab 12, you will have until 12/9/16 at 5:00 PM to for questions about your score. **Submit all questions about lab grades to grant.wilson@usu.edu.** Once each deadline has passed, no adjustments will be considered.

You will receive a zero if you attend a lab section other than the one you are registered for, or if you fail to follow proper lab safety procedures. Points will be automatically deducted for phone use, surfing the internet, outside conversations, bringing food/drink/gum into the lab, arriving late/leaving early, and/or not following the lab instructor’s directions.

Lab Tests

- There will be two lab tests, worth 50 points each, given at the beginning of class on the dates listed in the schedule. **Make-up lab tests will be given only with prior approval from Grant Wilson. All make-ups will have 10% deducted from the score.**

Submit all questions to **Grant Wilson** via Canvas.

Grading scale:

Percentage	Grade
93-100%	A
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	B
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+
73-76%	C
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
60-66%	D
59% and below	F

Classroom Policies and USU Student Information

Unacceptable Classroom Behavior:

Behavior that disrupts the learning/teaching environment will be discouraged. If you engage in disruptive behavior, you will automatically lose participation points, and you may be asked to leave the room (and possibly the course) so that other students can benefit from the limited amount of class time available.

1. Once class has started, **all cell phones must be put away (not on your desk, in your hand, or on your lap)**. No outside conversations are permitted. Use of laptop computers is permitted only for purposes related to the class.
2. Only students registered for the course are allowed to attend class sessions. Children, spouses, friends, etc. of students will not be permitted in the classroom during class.

For a full description of USU's policy on classroom incivility, see <http://www.usu.edu/policies/pdf/Classroom-Incivility.pdf>.

Withdrawal Policy and "I" Grade Policy:

Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term 'extenuating' circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Student Athletes:

USU athletes who will miss class due to team travel must make arrangements with Grant Wilson through Canvas **at least 10 days prior to the travel date**. Written notification from USU regarding team travel is required before any accommodations will be considered.

Course Conflicts:

Students with a course conflict due to a University-sponsored event or another USU course must contact Grant Wilson through the Canvas inbox **at least 10 days prior to the date of the conflict** to request accommodations; otherwise, no accommodations will be considered. Documentation will be required before any accommodations will be considered.

Honor Code Policy:

As stated in The Student Code, "Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to reinforce the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University students." Upon admission to the university, you agreed to abide by this Honor Code by signing the Honor Pledge, which reads: "I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity." Complete academic honesty is expected in this course. Cheating on exams or plagiarism on written assignments will result in a failing grade and may result in further action according to University policy.

Accommodation for Disabilities:

Students with ADA-documented physical, sensory, emotional or medical impairments may be eligible for reasonable accommodations. Veterans may also be eligible for services. Brigham City/BATC students should contact Jill Rasmussen, Director of Students, Room 170B, (435) 919-1246. At other USU campuses, contact your advisor. All accommodations are coordinated through the Disability Resource Center (DRC) in Room 101 of the University Inn on the Logan Campus, (435)797-2444 voice, (435)797-0740 TTY, or toll free at 1-800-259-2966. Please contact the DRC as early in the semester as possible to ensure that your request can be considered. Alternate format materials (Braille, large print, or digital) are available with advance notice.

Grievance Process:

Students who feel they have been unfairly treated...may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code: <http://www.usu.edu/studentervices/pdf/StudentCode.pdf#page=3> (Article VII. Grievances, pp. 27-36).

Course communications:

Email is an official form of communication at USU. Any communication to you about this course will be sent to the email address you have listed in Canvas as your preferred address. **You are responsible for any information conveyed to you at that email address.**

To ensure that Canvas is using the email account you prefer, do the following:

- Log in to Canvas and click on the link "Profile" at the top right of the page.
- Click on "Notifications" at the left side of the screen.
- Verify your email address.
- You may also opt to receive course notifications via text on your cell phone. Click the downward arrowhead to the right of "Email me at" on the "Notifications Preferences" page to bring up the option "Text my Cell at."

It is your responsibility to check your Canvas account at least once a day so that you do not miss out on announcements or emails to the class. All questions regarding academic progress or grades must be sent via Canvas.

To log in to Canvas, go to: canvas.usu.edu (no "www"). Your username is your Banner username (your "A" number) and your password is your BANNER password. BIOL 1615 should appear under the heading "Courses."

- **For help with Canvas**, contact the IT service desk: **435-797-HELP (4357)** or 1-877-878-8325.

Diversity Statement:

Regardless of intent, careless or ill-informed remarks can be offensive and hurtful to others and detract from the learning climate. If you feel uncomfortable in a classroom due to offensive language or actions by an instructor or student(s) regarding ethnicity, gender, or sexual orientation, contact one of the following: at USU Brigham City, contact Jill Rasmussen, Room 170B, (435) 919-1246; at other regional campuses, contact your advisor, or; Moises Diaz, Director of Multicultural Student Services (435) 797-1733, moises.diaz@usu.edu; James Morales, Vice President of Student Services (435) 797-1712, james.morales@usu.edu; Ann Austin, Vice Provost for Faculty Development and Diversity, ann.austin@usu.edu; Maure Smith, GLBTA Services, maure.smith@usu.edu; Steven Russell, Student Advocate (435) 797-1720, s.r.@aggiemail.usu.edu. You can learn about your student rights by visiting: www.usu.edu/studentervices/studentcode.

Anticipated Weekly Schedule for BIOL 1615

Week	Date	Lab # / Topics
1	8/31	Lab 1 Lab safety / Scientific method / DNA extraction
2	9/7	Lab 2 Statistics in Biology
3	9/14	Lab 3 Microscopes / Cellular diversity / Onion root mitosis
4	9/21	Lab 4 Enzymes / Cheese production
5	9/28	Lab 5 Photosynthesis pigment analysis
6	10/5	Lab 6 Start fungi growing / Blood typing / Start plants for root nodules
7	10/12	LAB TEST #1 (Labs 1–6) / Start Fast Plants seed disks
8	10/19	Lab 7 Mendelian genetics (Fast Plants analysis) / Chi square test
9	10/26	Lab 8 DNA fingerprinting
10	11/2	Lab 9 Gram staining & microscopy / Video: “Hunting the Nightmare Bacteria”
11	11/9	Lab 10 Lizard Evolution Lab / Comparative analysis of fungi and invertebrates
12	11/16	Lab 11 Plant identification / Check plants for root nodules
13	11/23	☺ <i>No Class: Thanksgiving Holiday</i>
14	11/30	LAB TEST #2 (Labs 7–11)
15	12/7	Lab 12 Hominin evolution