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BIOL 223.01: Genetics and Evolution

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University of Montana - Missoula

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GENETICS AND EVOLUTION

Biology 223

Spring 2003

Instructor: Paul Spruell spruell@selway.umd.edu HS311 2433-6749
Office hours: by appointment

Teaching Assistants:

Laura Lundquist HS311	Laura.Lundquist@mso.umd.edu	x6749
Kristina Ramstad HS311	kristina@selway.umd.edu	x6749
Andrew Whiteley HS311	whiteley@selway.umd.edu	x6749

Office Hours

W 1:00-3:00 in HS204 and TH 3:30-5:00 in SB215

You are also always welcome to make an appointment with any of the TA's.

Question and Answer Sessions:

I will hold an optional weekly meeting on Wednesdays at 7:10PM in CP109. These sessions provide you the opportunity to ask me any questions you may have on the lectures, readings, problems, or any other topics of interest.

Text Books:

Snustad and Simmons, Principles of Genetics
Freeman and Heron, Evolutionary Analysis

Grades:

Grades will be assigned based on the following:

1) 2 Midterm Exams	(125 points each)	250 points
2) 12 Homework Assignments	(top 10 count)	100 points
3) Discussion sections		
5 In-class assignments	(top 4 count)	40 points
Discussion section participation		10 points
4) Comprehensive final Exam		200 points
	TOTAL	600 points

Exams

Each hourly exam will consist of a series of multiple choice questions worth 80 points. The remainder of the exam will be four short answer or problem-solving questions worth a total of 45 points. Exams will stress material covered in class and are designed to encourage synthesis of subject matter and concepts not to simply test your ability to recall details.

Homework

Homework Assignments are due Friday mornings before the end of lecture (see lecture schedule for dates). Answers to the homework will be posted each Friday at noon on our webpage.

Discussion Sections

Throughout the course of the semester five assignments will be given in discussion sections and will be turned in for credit. These are not "pop" quizzes, however your attendance is required to receive credit. Please tell your TA **PRIOR** to a class if you are not able to attend a meeting. In-class assignments cannot be made up unless your TA has given prior approval for your absence.

Note 1: Not all sections will receive a graded assignment during the same week so attending another section does not guarantee you will receive the appropriate participation points.

*Note 2: There is built in "forgiveness" for both homeworks and in class assignments since only 10/12 homeworks and 4/5 in class assignments count toward your final grade. Therefore, **NO LATE HOMEWORKS WILL BE ACCEPTED AND THERE IS NO OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE UP POINTS LOST DUE TO MISSING YOUR DISCUSSION SECTION WITHOUT PRIOR TA APPROVAL.***

Final Exam

The final exam will be cumulative and structured in a manner similar to the other three exams. Our final exam is scheduled for Weds, May 14 10:10 - 12:10 **DO NOT PLAN ON LEAVING TOWN BEFORE THIS TIME.**

MISCELLANEOUS GRADING POLICIES

IS THERE A CURVE?

Final letter grades will be based on the class distribution of total points (600 possible). However, students with at least 90% will receive an "A." Similarly, students with at least 80% will receive at least a "B" 70% a "C" etc. Decisions on borderline cases will be made largely on the basis of your participation in discussion sections.

QUESTIONS ON GRADED MATERIAL

You are entitled to request an explanation for the manner in which you were graded. However, you must do so in a timely manner. **After exams, homework, and in-class assignments have been returned, you have one week in which you may request that your grade be reconsidered. After that time, your grade is final.**