

BSC 2010 Laboratory Syllabus: Fall 2023

Lab Coordinator: Michele Yeargain

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Office Hours: Email with questions. A meeting can be arranged, if required.

The laboratories in BSC 2010 are designed to supplement student acquisition and retention of the biological concepts taught in the lecture component of this course. Laboratory pre- and post-quizzes, and experiment modules are held on our virtual campus using the Second Life platform. You are required to log in during your laboratory section as shown on your class schedule. Only during your scheduled lab time are you guaranteed access to the virtual environment.

“Failure to Launch/Complete” Penalty

Any student who has not purchased laboratory access and registered with CNDG by 11:59 pm on Friday, October 6th, will automatically receive a zero (0) grade for the laboratory portion of this course. In addition, failure to complete six (6) or more laboratory modules (a completed lab includes the pre-quiz, post-quiz, and experiment module) will automatically result in a zero (0) grade for the laboratory portion of this course. There will be no exceptions to this policy. Please note that the laboratory grade accounts for 22% of your overall semester grade in this course, receiving a zero (0) grade for the laboratory will likely result in an F grade for the entire course.

Background Material

Each lab has an accompanying background material file which will provide you with three things: 1) biology concepts associated with the laboratory, 2) pertinent information about the virtual laboratory module, and 3) virtual campus navigational information. You must read this background file prior to logging in to our virtual campus each week. You will be quizzed on this information in the pre-laboratory quiz, and your performance in the laboratory module will be affected by how well you read and comprehend this information. The background material file for each lab can be found in the Background Material for Second Life Labs module in Webcourses, and it will be attached to the weekly CNDG email. It is recommended that you have each background file handy when you take the pre-quiz and while completing the laboratory module.

Pre-Laboratory Quizzes

- 11 laboratory pre-quizzes
- Each pre-laboratory quiz is worth 5 points
 - 11 pre-quizzes X 5 points each = 55 points
- Each pre-laboratory quiz will test:
 - Your understanding of the concepts required to complete the virtual lab
 - Information contained in the supplied background material.
- **Only one attempt per pre-quiz.**

Laboratory Modules

- You are required to complete each laboratory module according to the schedule provided below.
- There are 11 laboratory modules plus Orientation
 - Orientation is worth 6 points
 - All other modules are worth 1 point each
 - total of 17 points
- To gain access to the laboratory module, you must score at least 40% on the pre-laboratory quiz.
- You must complete the entire laboratory module to gain access to the post-quiz.
- Each laboratory module must be completed during the week that it is open, according to your scheduled laboratory time
- **There are no make-up laboratories.**

Post-Laboratory Quizzes

- There is a post-quiz for each laboratory module except Measurements and Microscope.
 - 10 post-quizzes
 - Each post-quiz is worth 10 points
 - Measurements and Microscope activities are also worth 10 points each.
- The lowest scoring post-quiz will be dropped. Measurements and Microscope activities will be included in this since their completion requirements equal 10 points
- Post-laboratory quizzes (or requirements) will total 110 points (11 highest scoring post-quizzes/activities x 10 pts each).
- Some post-quizzes will contain a “Critical Thinking” question; if answered correctly it is worth 1 extra credit point.
- Post-quizzes will test your understanding and retention of the procedures and concepts in the associated laboratory module.
 - The quiz questions are application based; not merely factual recall.
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Grading Information

- **Semester Point Total: 182 points**
 - See schedule/assignments below.
 - The laboratory grade accounts for 22% of your overall semester grade.
- **How to view your grades:**
 - Grades will be uploaded bi-weekly to Webcourses
- **Avatar Display Name:**
 - Your avatar display name must be your registered first and last name. Your grades are linked to your display name. Failure to change display name to registered first and last name will result in zero points for all labs.
- Any grading discrepancies must be brought to the attention of the Michele Yeargain **within two weeks** of the grades being posted on Webcourses. **Semester-end grade review will not be permitted.**

Laboratory Hours of Operation

- **Scheduled laboratory times:**
 - Monday: 10:30 am – 5:30 pm
 - Tuesday: 12:30 pm – 5:30 pm
 - Wednesday: 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
 - Thursday: 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
 - Friday: 8:30 am – 2:30 pm
 - Can log in **ONLY** during **YOUR** scheduled laboratory time
 - Full TA and CNDG support
- **After Hours:**
 - Monday: 5:30 pm – Tuesday 8:30 am
 - Tuesday 5:30 pm - Wednesday 8:30 am
 - Wednesday 5:30 pm – Thursday 8:30 am
 - Thursday 5:30 pm – Friday 8:30 am
 - No TAs or CNDG staff present
 - If you choose to complete your lab during this time, **you are accepting full responsibility for any and all problems you may encounter during this time.**
- **Virtual Campus Closed:**
 - Tuesday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm for maintenance of environment
 - Friday 2:30 pm – Monday 10:30 am

Day/Time	10:30 am - 5:30 pm	
Monday	No Access to Laboratories	Scheduled Laboratory Times
Tuesday	No Access to Laboratories	12:30 pm - 5:30 pm
		Scheduled Laboratory Times
Wednesday	8:30 am - 5:30 pm	
	Scheduled Laboratory Times	
Thursday	8:30 am - 5:30 pm	
	Scheduled Laboratory Times	
Friday	8:30 am - 2:30 pm	After 2:30 pm until 10:30 am on Monday
	Scheduled Laboratory Times	No Access to Laboratories

Absence Policy

Laboratory modules, quizzes and assignments are available online and can be accessed from any location with sufficient internet connectivity. Since all students have access to the laboratory modules during Open Lab times Monday-Thursday, there will be no excused absences. All laboratory modules, quizzes and assignments must be completed by the due date. The only exceptions to the “no absence” policy are: hospitalization, jury duty, etc. extending longer than the opening period of the missed laboratory. In such a case, you must provide valid, official documentation to Michele Yeargain within 48 hours of the due date of the missed laboratory module. In the rare case of an excused absence, your grade for the semester will be calculated based on the labs you completed. We **DO NOT** accept excuse notes from family members (even if those family members are doctors, lawyers, etc.).

How to retrieve your username/password

- **Second Life:**
 - Go to www.secondlife.com and click “Log in” and then “Forgot your login information?” This will allow you to reset your Second Life Viewer password.

Student Responsibilities

You must own a PC or Mac computer or laptop. Tablets are incompatible with the SecondLife platform. You are responsible for sufficient internet connection (>10MB/second), computer function, time management, etc. Failure to complete laboratory assignments, modules or quizzes due to lack of/insufficient internet access, computer malfunction, proper planning, etc. will result in a zero for the missed work. Time will not be extended for any assignment. *Campus wifi is not strong enough to stream Second Life.*

Tech Commons Computer Labs

The Second Life viewer is installed on the computers in the following Tech Commons computer labs. Locations & hours of operation are:

- Tech Commons 2 room 117: Monday – Friday 8 am – 5 pm
- Classroom Building 1 room 101: Monday – Friday 8 am – 5 pm

Virtual Laboratory Code of Conduct

- The UCF Golden Rule applies to the UCF Virtual Campus
 - Cheating of any kind will result in a ZF grade and referral to the UCF Disciplinary Action Committee
 - Derogatory/Offensive/Abusive behavior will result in expulsion from the UCF Virtual Campus as well as the Second Life world. Students displaying such behavior will be referred to the UCF Disciplinary Action Committee
- Avatar display name must be your legal first and last name and match UCF registration
- Avatars must be human. Non-human avatars are not permitted on the UCF Virtual Campus

Technical Support:

- If you are logged into Second Life and are experiencing technical difficulties, you should send a help request through your HUD.
- If you are logged into Second Life and need assistance with the laboratory module, you should IM one of the TAs or speak to them using SL Voice.
- If you are having difficulties logging into the Second Life environment, check that your internet connection is active, that you have downloaded all required software, and are using the Second Life Viewer. If you still have problems, email help@cndg.info. If you do not receive a response, you can email Michele Yeargain at michele.yeargain@ucf.edu

Fall 2023: Laboratory Schedule (and point distribution)

Aug 14-25: Laboratory Registration

Aug 28-Sept 1: Laboratory Orientation (UCF closes at 2 pm on Thursday, Aug. 31. Students who have lab beginning at 1:30, 2:30, or 3:30 pm will have access to the lab Monday, Aug. 28 – Wednesday, Aug. 30)

Virtual Orientation: 6 points
Orientation post-quiz: 10 points

Sept 5-8: Measurements Laboratory (UCF is closed on Monday, Sept 4. Monday lab students will have access Sept 5-8)

Pre-quiz: 5 points
Laboratory Module: 1 point
Collection of at least 15 tickets: 10 points

Sept 11-15: Microscope Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points
Laboratory Module: 1 point
Correct ID of evidence/suspect: 10 points

Sept 18-22: Cellular Organelles/Structures Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points

Sept 25-29: Osmosis/Diffusion Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points

Oct 2-6: Enzymes Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points

Oct 9-13: Cellular Respiration Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points.

Oct 16-20: Mitosis Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points.

Oct 23-27: Meiosis Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points.

Oct 30-Nov 3 and Nov 6-10: Mendelian Genetics I Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points.

Nov 6-10: Mendelian Genetics II Laboratory

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points.

Nov 13-17 and Nov 27-Dec 1: DNA Synthesis, Transcription, and Translation Laboratory & EC quiz

Pre-quiz: 5 points

Laboratory Module: 1 point

Post-quiz: 10 points