

CHEM 567, General Biochemistry

Spring, 2021

COURSE INFORMATION

Lectures: Mostly on Mondays delivered as online videos

Laboratories: Tuesdays 2:00 to 4:40 pm mostly Cohort A; Thursdays 2:00 to 4:40 pm mostly cohort B

Instructor: Peter van der Geer

Email: pvanderg@sdsu.edu

During the week, I usually respond to emails within 24 hours.

Office location: CSL 322

Office hours: Tuesday, 9:00–10:30; Wednesday, 9:00-10:30

THIS COURSE IN YOUR DEGREE:

Prerequisites: Chemistry 560 or equivalent.

It is strongly recommended to take one or more of the biochemistry electives (Chemistry 562, 563, 564) before or concurrently with Chemistry 567- .

This course fulfills a requirement for majors in Chemistry or Biochemistry with an emphasis in Biochemistry

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Prerequisites: Chemistry 560 or equivalent.

It is strongly recommended to take one or more of the biochemistry electives (Chemistry 562, 563, 564) before or concurrently with Chemistry 567.

This course fulfills a requirement for majors in Chemistry or Biochemistry with an emphasis in Biochemistry

COURSE MATERIALS

- Chem 567 "Biochemistry Laboratory" by Stumph, Metzger, and Adams in loose-leaf folder in Aztec Shops bookstore. This is shelved under the name "Stumph". The 2008-2009 version includes material excerpted from Methods in Enzymology. Do not use older versions.
- An actual bound laboratory notebook.
- Please note the university charges a lab fee for this class.
- You may wish to wear a lab coat during the class, it will prevent stained clothing which is certainly possible during some of the experiments. It may be kept in the locker if desired. You will also need gloves for some of the experiments.

COHORTS

The class will be divided into two cohorts. Cohort A will have lab mostly on Tuesdays and Cohort B will have lab mostly on Thursdays.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students that have completed this course should be able to:

1. Explain the purpose of each chemical component used in an experiment, and how it aids in the ultimate goal of the experiment.
2. Safely set up and use standard laboratory equipment such as superspeed and ultracentrifuges, pipets, acrylamide and agarose gel electrophoresis modules, spectrophotometers, shakers, thermocycler, fraction collector, gravity chromatography columns.
3. Carry out measurements and calculations of results obtained using standard biochemistry laboratory equipment.
4. Perform techniques commonly used in biochemical research including PCR, electrophoresis, western blotting, enzyme kinetics, expression of recombinant proteins, isolation and purification of DNA, and growth of bacterial cells.
5. Observe safe practices in the laboratory, follow proper procedures and regulations for safe use and disposal of chemicals.
6. Interpret results of experiments in lab reports that include background information on the topic, a plan to accomplish the experiment, an outline of the theory behind relevant lab techniques, and results/discussion of the experimental outcome that allow students to draw reasonable, accurate conclusions from analysis of the results.
7. Conduct work in lab both independently and as part of a team.
8. Troubleshoot an experiment with the intention of improving the outcome.
9. Devise an experiment using previously practiced techniques

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS

3 quizzes

Lab notebook inspection: There will be one unannounced inspection of the lab notebook.

4 lab reports: Introduction and flow-chart are usually due before the onset of the experiment (see schedule). Complete reports are usually due 1 week after completion of the experiment (see schedule).

There are 4 exams:

Thursday February 18: Photosystems

Thursday March 4: LDH

Thursday April 22: Aldolase

Monday April 26: Molecular Biology

There is no final exam

GRADING POLICY

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| • 3 Quizzes | 30 points |
| • Photosystems report | 100 points |
| • LDH report | 100 points |

- Aldolase report 200 points
- GST-SH2 domain report 100 points
- Photosystems exam 100 points
- LDH exam 100 points
- Aldolase exam 100 points
- Molecular biology exam 100 points
- Total 930 points (100%)

Due date policy

Failure to hand in the **Introduction and Flow Chart** at the date due will result in a **10 point penalty per week (or part thereof)**. (I expect you to come to class prepared.) This penalty will be subtracted from the total points. Moreover, if you do not hand in a copy when initially due, you are still expected to prepare and include these sections as part of your lab report, or you will **lose even more points** in the grading of your report.

Late lab reports will be accepted up to the last day of wet lab work (but not after). Failure to hand in the lab report at the due date result in a **10 point penalty per week (or part thereof)**.

LETTER GRADES

Percentage	Points	Letter grade
93 and above	865 and above	A
90	837-864	A-
87	809-836	B+
83	771-808	B
80	744-770	B-
77	716-743	C+
73	678-715	C
70	651-677	C-
67	623-650	D+
63	585-622	D

60	558-584	D-
below 60	557 and below	F

COURSE SCHEDULE

CHANGES TO THE SYLLABUS

Consistent with University policy, I retain the right to adjust course design, including assignments, assessments and deadlines. Major departures from the syllabus shall be made only for compelling reasons. "Any major changes to the course syllabus will be announced in class, communicated to all students electronically, and incorporated into an updated and posted version of the syllabus."

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Accommodations: If you are a student with a disability and are in need of accommodations for this class, please contact Student Ability Success Center at (619) 594-6473 as soon as possible. Please know accommodations are not retroactive, and I cannot provide accommodations based upon disability until I have received an accommodation letter from Student Ability Success Center.

Student Privacy and Intellectual Property: The [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#) (FERPA) mandates the protection of student information, including contact information, grades, and graded assignments. I will use [Canvas / Blackboard] to communicate with you, and I will not post grades or leave graded assignments in public places. Students will be notified at the time of an assignment if copies of student work will be retained beyond the end of the semester or used as examples for future students or the wider public. Students maintain intellectual property rights to work products they create as part of this course unless they are formally notified otherwise.

Religious observances: According to the University Policy File, students should notify the instructors of affected courses of planned absences for religious observances by the end of the second week of classes.

Resources for students: A complete list of all academic support services--including the [Writing Center](#) and [Math Learning Center](#)--is available on the Student Affairs' [Academic Success](#) website. [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (619-594-5220) offers confidential counseling services by licensed therapists; you can Live Chat with a counselor at http://go.sdsu.edu/student_affairs/cps/therapist-consultation.aspx between 4:00pm and 10:00pm, or call San Diego Access and Crisis 24-hour Hotline at (888) 724-7240.

SDSU Economic Crisis Response Team: If you or a friend are experiencing food or housing insecurity, or any unforeseen financial crisis, visit sdsu.edu/ecrt, email ecrt@sdsu.edu, or walk-in to Well-being & Health Promotion on the 3rd floor of Calpulli Center.

Academic Honesty: The University adheres to a strict policy prohibiting cheating and plagiarism. Examples of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- copying, in part or in whole, from another's test or other examination;
- obtaining copies of a test, an examination, or other course material without the permission of the instructor;
- collaborating with another or others in work to be presented without the permission of the instructor;
- falsifying records, laboratory work, or other course data;
- submitting work previously presented in another course, if contrary to the rules of the course;
- altering or interfering with grading procedures;
- assisting another student in any of the above;
- using sources verbatim or paraphrasing without giving proper attribution (this can include phrases, sentences, paragraphs and/or pages of work);
- copying and pasting work from an online or offline source directly and calling it your own;
- using information you find from an online or offline source without giving the author credit;
- replacing words or phrases from another source and inserting your own words or phrases.

The California State University system requires instructors to report all instances of academic misconduct to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities. Academic dishonesty will result in disciplinary review by the University and may lead to probation, suspension, or expulsion. Instructors may also, at their discretion, penalize student grades on any assignment or assessment discovered to have been produced in an academically dishonest manner.

Classroom Conduct Standards: SDSU students are expected to abide by the terms of the Student Conduct Code in classrooms and other instructional settings. Violation of these standards will result in referral to appropriate campus authorities. Prohibited conduct includes:

- Willful, material and substantial disruption or obstruction of a University-related activity, or any on-campus activity.
- Participating in an activity that substantially and materially disrupts the normal operations of the University or infringes on the rights of members of the University community.
- Unauthorized recording, dissemination, or publication (including on websites or social media) of lectures or other course materials.
- Conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person within or related to the University community, including

1. physical abuse, threats, intimidation, or harassment.
2. sexual misconduct.

Medical-related absences: Students are instructed to contact their professor/instructor/coach in the event they need to miss class, etc. due to an illness, injury or emergency. All decisions about the impact of an absence, as well as any arrangements for making up work, rest with the instructors. [Student Health Services](#) (SHS) does not provide medical excuses for short-term absences due to illness or injury. When a medical-related absence persists beyond five days, SHS will work with students to provide appropriate documentation. When a student is hospitalized or has a serious, ongoing illness or injury, SHS will, at the student's request and with the student's consent, communicate with the student's instructors via the Vice President for Student Affairs and may communicate with the student's Assistant Dean and/or the [Student Ability Success Center](#).

Sexual violence / Title IX mandated reporting: As an instructor, one of my responsibilities is to help create a safe learning environment on our campus. I am a mandated reporter in my role as an SDSU employee. It is my goal that you feel able to share information related to your life experiences in classroom discussions, in your written work, and in our one-on-one meetings. I will seek to keep the information you share private to the greatest extent possible. However, I am required to share information regarding sexual violence on SDSU's campus with the Title IX coordinator, Jessica Rentto 619-594-6017. She (or her designee) will contact you to let you know about accommodations and support services at SDSU and possibilities for holding accountable the person who harmed you. Know that you will not be forced to share information you do not wish to disclose and your level of involvement will be your choice. If you do not want the Title IX Officer notified, instead of disclosing this information to your instructor, you can speak confidentially with the following people on campus and in the community. They can connect you with support services and discuss options for pursuing a University or criminal investigation. Sexual Violence Victim Advocate 619-594-0210 or Counseling and Psychological Services 619-594-5220, psycserv@sdsu.edu. For more information regarding your university rights and options as a survivor of sexual misconduct or sexual violence, please visit titleix.sdsu.edu or sdsutalks.sdsu.edu.