Chemistry 1810  Chemical Biology
Syllabus • Spring 2016 • University of Pittsburgh

Instructor: Professor Kazunori Koide
Office: Chevron Science Center, Room 1201 (12th floor)
Office Hours: MF 4:00-4:45 PM (subject to change)
E-mail: koide@pitt.edu; When you send an email message to me, use “Chem1810 Chemical Biology” as the subject line.

Class meetings
MWF 3:00-3:50 PM 154 CSC
Recitation W 4:00-4:50 PM 406 Allen Hall (subject to change) 655 CSC

Course Description
This course is designed to teach biochemistry from a chemical and molecular perspective. Revolutionary transformations in chemistry and biology have led to a merging at the boundary of these disciplines where contributions from both fields impact our molecular and quantitative understanding of biology. Throughout the course particular emphasis will be placed on the molecular interactions that underlie biological processes.

Textbook
David Van Vranken & Gregory Weiss, Introduction to Bioorganic Chemistry and Chemical Biology, 1st ed.; Garland Science: New York, 2013. Some course material may consist of advanced topics from published journal articles. Students can acquire these references online through the university library.

Attendance
New material will be introduced at each lecture period, and you are responsible for all material discussed in lectures. Exams will be centered on material presented in the course. An email notice of your expected absence is not necessary. Course participation in the classroom, particularly during students’ presentations, will count toward your final grade.

CourseWeb
PowerPoint files presented in class will be posted on CourseWeb typically within 2 days after each class period. In addition materials (e.g., reading assignments and videos) and other activities will also be posted on course-web to help you prepare for each class.

Disability Resources
If you have a disability that requires special testing accommodations or other classroom modifications, you need to notify both the instructor and Disability Resources and Services no later than the second week of the term. You may be asked to provide documentation of your disability to determine the appropriateness of accommodations. To notify Disability Resources and Services, call (412) 648-7890 (Voice or TTD) to schedule an appointment. The Disability Resources and Services office is located in 140 William Pitt Union.

Academic Integrity
Students in this course will be expected to comply with University of Pittsburgh's Policy on Academic Integrity (http://www.as.pitt.edu/fac/policies/academic-integrity). Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in the University Guidelines on Academic Integrity.
Copyright Notice
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Statement on Classroom Recording
To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may not record classroom lectures, discussion and/or activities without the advance written permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly approved in advance can be used solely for the student’s own private use.

Grading
The overall course grade will be based on the following distribution (dates subject to change). I will not accept late individual and group assignment. There will be no final exam for this course.

Component Tentative Dates
Exam 1: Chapter 1-4 Feb 10, 2016 20%
Exam 2: Chapter 5-6 Mar 18, 2016 20%
Exam 3: Chapter 7-9 3:15 PM, Apr 25, 2016, 20%
Individual Literature Assignment 1 Feb 26, 2016, 2%
Individual Literature Assignment 2 Mar 4, 2016, 5%
Group Presentation Assignment 1 Mar 21, 2016, 3%
Group Presentation Assignment 2 Apr 4, 2016, 5%
Literature Presentation Apr 8-22, 2016, 15%
Participation - ongoing - 10%
*No final exam will be given for this course.

Exam Re-grades
If you believe that part of an exam was scored in error, you may request that I regrade it. Such requests must be made in writing no later than the next class period after exams are returned. Attach a cover page identifying which problem(s) you believe were scored incorrectly. I will review the entire exam and return it promptly. This is the only mechanism by which an assigned exam grade will be reconsidered.

Tentative Dates  Theme/Assignments
1/6/-1/8 Chapter 1: The fundamentals of chemical biology
1/11-1/15 Chapter 2: The chemical origins of biology
1/20-1/25 Chapter 3: DNA
1/29-2/5 Chapter 4: RNA
2/10 Exam 1 (Ch 1-4)
2/12-2/19 Chapter 5: Peptide and protein structure
2/22-2/26 Chapter 6: Protein function
2/29-3/4 Chapter 7: Glycobiology
3/14-3/21 Chapter 8: Polyketides and terpenes
3/18 Exam 2 (Ch 5-6)
3/23-4/1 Chapter 9: Chemical control of signal transduction
4/4-4/6 More modern chemical biology from current literature
4/8-4/22 Students’ presentations
4/25 Exam 3 (Ch 7-9)