Course: BIOL 340: Genetics & Evolutionary Biology, Spring 2014
Lecture: MWF 2:00-2:50pm in 378 Waggoner Hall
Lab: TU 9–12 (sec 1) & 1–4 (sec 2); TH 9–12 (sec 3) & 1–4 (sec 4) in 237 Waggoner Hall
Credit: This is a 4 semester-hour, WID course that is required for a B.S. in Biology (you must earn a "D" for credit).

Prerequisites: C or better in BOT, MICR & ZOOL200 (Intro sequence): BIO330 (Cell Biology); & ENGI (College Writing II)

Instructor: Dr. Shawn Meagher (Ph.D.)  Office Hours: T: 9–10, W: 3–4, Th: 1–3
Office: 230 Waggoner Hall  By appointment
Phone: 298-2409

Lab Manual: exercises, report guidelines
Lab notebook: 80 sheets, bound—1 notebook per lab group of fly-breeding students (provided?)
Web page: https://westernonline.wiu.edu → Login → Username=Ecom username, Password=?

Objective: Genetics is the study of inheritance. The inheritance of traits, whether human birth defects or hog muscle mass, has important consequences for human health and well-being. In this course, students will become familiar with a variety of topics in this diverse field from 3 general areas: (1) patterns in the transmission of traits; (2) the study and manipulation of hereditary molecules (DNA); and (3) changes in the genetic makeup of populations (evolution). Students will perform data collection and learn when, and how, to apply basic statistical tests (χ² & t-tests).

Evaluation: Grades will be based on lecture exams, lab reports, and participation as follows:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture Exam 1</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture Exam 2 (cumulative)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture Exam 3 (cumulative)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture Final Exam (cumulative)</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab write-ups</td>
<td>100 (110 points available; SEE Lecture Schedule for details)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab participation</td>
<td>25 (no absences, FULL participation in fly experiments)</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>575</td>
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Lecture exams mainly (1) short answer/essay and (2) problems—make sure you do chapter-end problems as we go along! Lab write-ups will be graded on data analysis & writing quality (especially organization and clarity).

Grades:  
≥ 517.0 = A; ≥ 516.5 = A−; ≥ 516 = B+, ≥ 460.0 = B; ≥ 459.5 = B−; ≥ 459.0 = C+, ≥ 402.0 = C; ≥ 401.5 = C−; ≥ 401.0 = D+, ≥ 345.0 = D; ≥ 344.5 = D−; ≤ 344.5 = F

***LAB ATTENDANCE is mandatory! 2 absences of ANY kind will result in “F” in course!  
Arriving ≥ 10 minutes late counts as “absent”

Make-ups: NO LATE WORK, and NO MAKE-UP EXAMS, except for: (1) death in family (I’ll need documentation); or (2) rare extenuating circumstances (I’ll decide), and ONLY if I have 2 weeks advance warning (you must plan ahead).

Re-grades: I will ONLY consider written requests for exam re-grades within 3 days after tests have been returned (EXAMPLE REQUEST: “I believe the answer to Question X is …because…” [this last part is critical!]!). I will consider material in the text to be correct UNLESS I specifically tell you otherwise in lecture or lab.

Academic dishonesty/Plagiarism: Rules concerning student conduct will be strictly enforced. No appearance of dishonesty (such as plagiarism) will be tolerated, and consequences will be at my discretion. Details (forms, definitions, & time-lines) that you are responsible for are on WIU’s web sites:


Other administrative sites: You should also be familiar with the forms, definitions, & time-lines at these web sites:

Final Exam Policy: http://www.wiu.edu/policies/finexam.php  
Grade Appeal Policy: http://www.wiu.edu/policies/gradeapp.php

Special needs: Students with disabilities who require special arrangements for exams or emergency situations should contact me with documentation (I cannot ask you!) immediately. Please contact Disability Resource Center (298-2512) to learn all of your options.

**This syllabus is subject to change!!**

**NO CELL PHONE USE IN CLASS**