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

**NO CELL PHONE USE IN CLASS**

Course: BIOL 340: Genetics & Evolutionary Biology, Spring 2015

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 required for a B.S. in Biology (you must earn a "D" for credit). WID courses provide instruction in the processes & formats for writing with content & style necessary to be an effective professional in a particular field.

Prerequisites: C or better in BOT, MICR & ZOOL200 (Intro sequence); & ENGII (College Writing II)

Instructor: Dr. Shawn Meagher (Ph.D.)

Office: 230 Waggoner Hall

Phone: 298-2409

Materials


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= Econ 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 wellbeing. 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 ($\chi^2$ & $t$-tests).

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

- Lecture Exam 1
- Lecture Exam 2 (cumulative)
- Lecture Exam 3 (cumulative)
- Lecture Final Exam (cumulative)
- Lab write-ups
- Seminar summaries
- Lab participation

Total

Grades: \[ 545.0 = A, \geq 544.5 = A-, \geq 544 = B+, \geq 484.0 = B, \geq 483.5 = B-, \geq 483.0 = C+, \geq 424.0 = C, \geq 423.5 = C-; \geq 423.0 = D+, \geq 363.0 = D, \geq 362.5 = D-, \leq 362.5 = F \]

**LAB ATTENDANCE is mandatory! 2 absences of ANY KIND will result in “F” in course! Arriving \geq 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.