

Spring 2021

Department of Biology

Syllabus

Course: Topics Course COVID-19

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Sumanta Goswami Ph.D.

E-mail: goswami@yu.edu

Office: Monday 10:00AM to 2:00PM (zoom meeting by appt.)

COURSE OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND GOALS:

In this course we will study recent developments in the COVID-19 pandemic as it progresses topics covered will include:

1. The virus and its' source
2. Epidemiology
3. Virology
4. Molecular Biology
5. Diagnostics
6. Vaccine
7. Treatment
8. What went wrong
9. What can be done to prevent future pandemics?
10. Lessons learnt

PREPARATION FOR CLASS

It is expected that you complete assigned readings and review any posted sources before attending class. It is critical that you read the lab prior to coming into class to give you a complete understanding of what will be done during lab.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend class and arrive on online class. Late arrival is disruptive to the class and absence from class will be detrimental to your final grade. **If late or absent, it is your responsibility to get information missed from your classmates. Make up quiz or exams are not permitted**, except under extreme circumstances such as serious illness or death in the immediate family. Please contact the instructor before the scheduled exam to request and schedule a make-up exam. Please be courteous and respectful of your classmates by being punctual, by turning off all noise-making devices (e.g. cell phones), and by remaining attentive in class. Disruptive behavior may result in lowering of grades or class dismissal.

CELL PHONES OR SIMILAR DEVICES ARE NOT TO BE USED DURING EXAMS

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All work must be your own. Copying from any source (e.g. classmates, published sources, and internet) for any assignment is plagiarism, a serious offense, and can result in a grade of 'F' for the course as well as disciplinary action from the college. You must read and understand the section of the *Student Handbook* entitled *Violations of Academic Integrity*.

OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC SUPPORT

The Office of Academic Support provides services and resources designed to help students on Wilf Campus develop more efficient and effective study skills and strategies. Individual support is available in areas such as time management and organization, active reading, note-taking, exam preparation and test-taking skills. The office is located in Furst Hall, Suite 412. To schedule an appointment, call 646-592-4285 or email academic.support.wilf@yu.edu.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students with documented special needs should notify the instructor **within the first week of class (February 10th for the Spring 2021 semester)** so that the necessary arrangements can be made. Policy Statement on Non-Discrimination on the basis of Disability (ADA). The Institution is an equal opportunity educational organization. Please read The Institutional Policy Statement on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability Americans with Disability Act Compliance. "Students with disabilities who are enrolled in this course and who will be requesting documented disability-related accommodations should make an appointment with the Office of Disability Services, akelsen@yu.edu or 1-646-592-4280 during the first week of class. Once you have been approved for accommodations, contact me to ensure the successful implementation of those accommodations.

POLICY ON CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

From the undergraduate catalog, Academic Regulations and Procedures:
"Cheating and plagiarism are contrary to the purpose of any educational institution and must be dealt with most severely if student's work is to have any validity. An instructor who determines that a student has cheated on a test or assignment will

at a minimum give a zero for that item and may give a failure for the course. Normally the matter is handled between the instructor and the student, but the department chairperson may be consulted by either party to ensure fairness.

Plagiarism, which is the appropriation of words or ideas of another without recognition of the source, is another form of cheating. An instructor who determines that student has plagiarized will give a zero for the paper or project and may give a failure for the course. Both cheating and plagiarism are grounds for dismissal from the college.”

Make sure that your lab report is your own. You may work together with a lab partner to understand the information, but your report should be written separately. You may not use reports from students from previous years. If a student is found to have violated this, the matter may be brought to the Dean’s office and will likely be placed on your permanent record.

QUIZ & FINAL EXAMINATION:

There is no provision for making up a missed quiz or final exam - except under exceptional and documented circumstances. Makeup of final exam is then possible on specified dates- the students should contact Dean’s Office.

EVALUATION AND GRADING

Evaluation: Learning will be evaluated by written examinations as per schedule. Letter grades being determined from the total number of points earned in the semester. The values of the assessments are as follows:

Grading

Midterm paper: 20%

Final Paper: 20%

Data analysis and presentation: 50%

<https://aanotech.com/covid-19-risk-calculator>

Participation and homework: 10%

Course Grade: Letter grades for the course will be computed from the total score as follows:

Highest	Lowest	Letter
100.00 %	93.00 %	A
92.99 %	90.00 %	A-
89.99 %	87.00 %	B+
86.99 %	83.00 %	B
82.99 %	80.00 %	B-
79.99 %	77.00 %	C+
76.99 %	73.00 %	C
72.99 %	70.00 %	C-
69.99 %	67.00 %	D+
66.99 %	60.00 %	D
59.99 %	0.00 %	F