



# **MBG\*2040 Foundations in Molecular Biology and Genetics**

Fall 2019

Section(s): C01, C02

Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology

Credit Weight: 0.50

Version 2.00 - September 04, 2019

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## **1 Course Details**

### **1.1 Calendar Description**

This course will develop an understanding of the fundamental concepts in genetics, including patterns of inheritance, allelic variation, gene interaction, linkage, gene mapping and changes in chromosome structure and number. This will be followed by in-depth discussions on gene structure, replication, transcription, translation, recombination, mutation and DNA repair, and an introduction to gene regulation.

**Pre-Requisites:** 4.00 credits including BIOL\*1090

### **1.2 Course Description**

Course Goals:

This course will provide an introduction to the disciplines of molecular biology and genetics. The first half will serve to develop an understanding of the fundamental concepts in genetics, including patterns of inheritance, allelic variation, gene interaction, linkage, recombination, gene mapping, DNA and chromosome structure and its variations. This will be followed by an introduction to the field of molecular biology and include the topics of DNA replication, transcription, translation, mutation and DNA repair, transposable elements and gene regulation. (0.5 credits, Prerequisite: BIOL\*1090)

### **1.3 Timetable**

**Lectures:**

Section 1: M, W, F - 10:30 am - 11:20 am in ROZH 104

Section 2: M, W, F - 8:30 am – 9:20 am in WMEM 103

\*Note Lectures times and Locations subject to change, please check WebAdvisor for the most up to date information.

**Tutorials:** Please refer to WebAdvisor for your scheduled tutorial day, time and room.

**Students are responsible for all material given in lectures and tutorials.**

## 1.4 Final Exam

**Wednesday, December 4th 2019; 11:30 am - 1:30 pm - Location TBA**

Please see WebAdvisor for the latest information.

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## 2 Instructional Support

### 2.1 Instructional Support Team

**Instructor:** Dr. J. Uniacke  
**Email:** juniacke@uoguelph.ca  
**Telephone:** 519-824-4120 ex. 54739  
**Office:** SCC 2244  
**Office Hours:** Fridays: 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Lectures 1-18

**Instructor:** Dr. M Baker  
**Email:** mdbaker@uoguelph.ca  
**Telephone:** 519-824-4120 ex. 54788  
**Office:** SCC 4453  
**Office Hours:** Mondays: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
 Wednesdays: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Lectures 19-36

**Course Co-ordinator:** Elspeth Smith  
**Email:** elspeths@uoguelph.ca  
**Telephone:** 519-824-4120 ex 56583  
**Office:** SCC 3505  
**Office Hours:** Tuesdays: 1:00 pm -3:00 pm  
 Thursdays: 1:00 pm -3:00 pm

Quiz and tutorial questions; weekly tutorial pick-up

## 2.2 Teaching Assistants

The teaching assistants are graduate students in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology. Please do not contact them outside of your tutorial sessions unless they have given you a permission to do so.

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## 3 Learning Resources

### 3.1 Required Resources

#### U of G Custom Text (Textbook)

MBG 2040 utilizes select chapters from Genetics - A conceptual Approach by Benjamin A. Pierce, 6th Edition, 2017. Macmillan Learning. New York, NY. These chapters are packaged within a loose-leaf custom University of Guelph - Introduction to Molecular Biology, Cell Biology and Genetics textbook which is available for purchase at the U of G Bookstore or the Guelph Campus Co-op Bookstore. A digital only copy is also available.

**All students who took the MBG 2040 prerequisite course BIOL 1090 in the F18 or W19 semesters will have already purchased the BIOL 1090 - University of Guelph textbook package and therefore DO NOT need to purchase a text for MBG 2040;** you already have digital access to all of the text and digital resources required for MBG 2040. However, MBG 2040 will cover some text chapters that were not included in the loose-leaf custom University of Guelph -BIOL 1090 textbook. For those students who prefer hardcopy print for textbook readings, these additional loose-leaf chapters can purchased for ~ \$12.00 at the U of G Bookstore in a package called **MBG2040/MCB2050 Print Supplement for F19/W20 Semesters**.

The complete loose-leaf textbook is available on a 2 hour reserve in the library.

Questions regarding the MBG 2040 textbook package can be directed to the course coordinator Elspeth Smith at [elspeths@uoguelph.ca](mailto:elspeths@uoguelph.ca).

#### Course Website (Website)

<http://courselink.uoguelph.ca>

There is a CourseLink (D2L) site set up for this course. This will allow you to access the course material, post questions on the discussion board (see below), access useful websites, and check your grades. You can access this CourseLink from the link provided. Login with your username which is your Central Login ID and your password is your university email password.

**You are responsible for all information posted on the CourseLink page for MBG\*2040. Please check it regularly.**

### 3.2 4 Steps to Getting Help in MBG\*2040

Step 1: Read all posted instructions relevant to your question.

Step 2: Consult the discussion board on CourseLink.

The discussion board is an open forum to promote exchange of information between students.

You are encouraged to post clear, concise questions and to try to answer other students' posts. When posting a question please use a subject line that clearly indicates the topic of your question, making it easy for other students to find topics they wish to discuss. The teaching team will monitor the discussion board and provide input when deemed appropriate. Please keep all questions and comments relevant to the course. Offensive postings will not be tolerated.

Step 3: Post your question to the relevant discussion board on CourseLink.

Step 4: If you are not satisfied by the responses, see an instructor during office hours.

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## 4 Learning Outcomes

### 4.1 Course Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Understand and predict how single-gene traits can be tracked in multigenerational pedigrees.
  2. Understand that phenotype is the result of interactions between genetic and environmental factors.
  3. Explain how chromosome assortment and recombination result in gametes with new allele combinations.
  4. Understand how polyploidy is common in plants and rare in animals.
  5. Explain how chromosomal nondisjunction events can cause aneuploidy.
  6. Describe and discuss how structural changes in chromosomes can have medical and evolutionary significance.
  7. Understand and describe the processes of DNA replication, transcription and RNA processing, translation and the genetic code.
  8. Explain factors that contribute to genetic mutations and describe repair mechanisms and recombination events.
  9. Describe bacterial genetics, viruses and transposons.
  10. Understand the basic principles of genetic regulation.
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## 5 Teaching and Learning Activities

### 5.1 Lecture

**Topics:** Tentative Lecture Schedule

A provisional schedule of lecture topics and text chapter readings can be found below. Material given in the lectures is the responsibility of the student. Students are expected to attend all lectures and all tutorials. If you miss a lecture or tutorial, you should get the notes from another student in the course. Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without prior consent of the instructors. When recordings are permitted, they are solely for the use of the authorized students and may not be reproduced or transmitted to others without the written consent of the instructors.

Lecture	Lecture Topic	Pierce - 6th ed.  Text Chapters
1-5	Review, Extensions and Modification of Basic Principles	3,4.3,6,5, 25.2
6-8	Chromosome Variation	8
9-12	Linkage and Recombination	7
13-15	Bacterial and Viral Genetic Systems	9
16-18	DNA and Chromosome Structure	10-11
<b>Midterm Exam – Sat. Oct. 26th 9:30 am - 11:00 am Location TBA</b>		
<b>Covers lectures 1–18</b>		
19-21	DNA Replication	12

<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Lecture Topic</b>	<b>Pierce - 6th ed.</b>
		<b>Text Chapters</b>
22-25	Transcription and RNA Processing	13-14
26-28	The Genetic Code and Translation	15
29-33	Gene Mutation, DNA Repair and Transposable Elements	18
34-36	Control of Gene Expression in Bacteria	16

**Final Exam – covers lectures 1-36**

**December 4th, 2019: 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Location TBA**

## 5.2 Tutorials and Online Quizzes

The MBG\*2040 tutorials are designed to reinforce concepts and terminology introduced in lectures and to improve problem-solving skills. Tutorials will consist of one in class assignment. During the tutorial, students will work through the assignment with the assistance of the Teaching Assistants, and hand it in at the end of tutorial. You are responsible for ALL material covered in tutorials. There are 9 tutorial sessions each with a corresponding assignment. Assignments are posted on Courselink in advance of each tutorial. Students must print out each assignment and bring it to tutorial. Assignments are marked for completion by the Teaching Assistants and worth a total of 7% of the final mark (best 7 of 9). See the schedule below for tutorial topics and dates.

Online quizzes open on Thursdays at 4:30 pm each week of tutorial. They are designed to both assess your knowledge of the tutorial and lecture material for each unit as well as provide practice for the midterm and final. Each quiz will be 30 min. in length and consist of 10 multiple choice, True/False or short answer questions. Quizzes will be available for one week, closing on the following Wednesday at 11:59 pm. Quizzes are worth a total of 14% of the final mark (2% each) (best 7 of 9). Once each quiz closes you will be able to review your incorrect responses. The quizzes will re-open as a midterm/final exam practice tool and you will have unlimited attempts for each quiz, however your original quiz grade will be final. Any questions regarding the online quizzes should be directed to the course coordinator.

Any dispute regarding your tutorial or quiz grade must be brought to the attention of the Course Coordinator within one week after the grade has been posted on CourseLink.

**NOTE: Posting any tutorial or quiz questions on any social media or course material sharing websites violates University of Guelph copyright and Academic Integrity policies and will be considered academic misconduct. Please refer to the section on Academic Integrity below for more information regarding expectations and penalties.**

### 5.3 Tutorial and Online Quiz Schedule

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Tutorial Topic</b>	<b>Quiz Opens (4:30pm)/ Closes (11:59pm)</b>
Sept. 2nd	No tutorials scheduled	-
Sept. 9th	Tutorial 1: Review of Basic Principles	Sept. 12th/18th
Sept. 16th	Tutorial 2: Extensions and Modifications of Basic Principles	Sept. 19th/25th
Sept. 23rd	Tutorial 3: Chromosome Variation	Sept. 26th/Oct. 2nd
Sept. 30th	Tutorial 4: Linkage and Recombination	Oct. 3rd/9th
Oct. 7th	Tutorial 5: Bacterial and Viral Genetic Systems	Oct. 10th/23rd
Oct. 14th	No tutorials scheduled  Fall Study Break	-
Oct. 22nd	No tutorials scheduled –	-
<b>Midterm: Saturday Oct. 26th 9:30 am - 11:00 am</b>		
Oct. 28th	Tutorial 6: DNA Replication	Oct. 31st/Nov. 6th
Nov. 4th	Tutorial 7: Transcription and RNA	Nov. 7th/13th

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Tutorial Topic</b>	<b>Quiz Opens (4:30pm)/ Closes (11:59pm)</b>
	Processing	
Nov. 12th	Tutorial 8: The Genetic Code and Translation	Nov. 14th/20th
Nov. 18th	Tutorial 9: Gene Mutations and DNA Repair	Nov. 21st/27th
Nov. 25th	No tutorials scheduled	-

## 5.4 Missed Tutorials or Quizzes

The mark for both your tutorials and quizzes will be calculated from your best 7 of 9 marks. The first two missed tutorials or quizzes will be dropped as your lowest mark regardless of the reason for absence. If more than two tutorials or quizzes are missed the weight of either one can be transferred to the weight of the exam provided acceptable documentation has been received. Acceptable documentation must be received within one week of the missed assessment and should be emailed to the course coordinator. Please note that the tutorials and quizzes are separate grade items therefore you can write a quiz even if you miss the associated tutorial.

## 5.5 Important Dates

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Sept. 6th	First lecture
Oct. 15th	Fall Study Break – no tutorials scheduled this week
Oct. 26th	<b>Midterm exam - Saturday Oct. 26th 9:30 am - 11:00 am</b> , location TBA
Nov. 29th	Last lecture - Last day to drop courses
Dec. 4th	<b>Final exam - Wednesday Dec. 4th, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm</b> , location TBA



## 6 Assessments

Grades will be assigned according to the standards outlined in the U of G Undergraduate Calendar (p40H41).

### 6.1 Assessment Details

#### Tutorial Assignments (7%)

**Date:** In scheduled tutorials

**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10  
Best 7 out of 9

#### Online Quizzes (14%)

**Date:** Open week of tutorials

**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10  
Best 7 out of 9

#### Midterm Examination (35%)

**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

The midterm exam is scheduled on **Saturday, Oct. 26th 9:30 am - 11:00 am, location will be posted on Courselink in mid-October**. This exam will cover lectures 1-18. The midterm exam is compulsory and is worth 35% of your final grade. The format of this exam is multiple choice. Alternate times will be set for midterm exams only if there is a direct conflict with another course or with a Gryphon Varsity event that is confirmed by the coach. No other reasons will be accepted (voluntary, medical, compassionate, or other reasons). **Conflicts must be reported to the instructor by Sept. 27th**. If a student does not write the midterm exam they will receive a grade of 0% unless proper documentation is provided to the instructor no later than Thursday Oct 31st, 4:30pm. In cases with proper documentation, the weight of the missed midterm exam will be added to the final exam.

#### Final Exam (44%)

**Learning Outcome:** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

**The final exam is scheduled for December 4th 11:30 am - 1:30 pm; location TBA**. The final exam is a compulsory examination and will be cumulative. You will be assessed on your understanding of all lecture material presented to you in this course. The format of this exam will be multiple choice and short answer.

### 6.2 Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/20152016/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

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## 7 Course Statements

### 7.1 Grading

If you are absent from classes during the semester, you will be expected to make up missed lecture and tutorial material on your own.

## 7.2 Exam Procedure

Do not bring laptops, phones or other electronic devices to exams. Leave your phone at home or in your knapsack. If it is in your knapsack, make sure it is turned off. Phones that ring during exams will be put outside of the examination room. You are expected to bring a calculator to every exam. We do not provide calculators nor do we allow students to share calculators. You will be required to provide photo ID during exams.

# 8 Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology

## Statements

### 8.1 Academic Advisors

If you are concerned about any aspect of your academic program:

- Make an appointment with a program counsellor in your degree program. [B.Sc. Academic Advising](#) or [Program Counsellors](#)

### 8.2 Academic Support

If you are struggling to succeed academically:

- Learning Commons: There are numerous academic resources offered by the Learning Commons including, Supported Learning Groups for a variety of courses, workshops related to time management, taking multiple choice exams, and general study skills. You can also set up individualized appointments with a learning specialist. <http://www.learningcommons.uoguelph.ca/>
- Science Commons: Located in the library, the Science Commons provides support for physics, mathematic/statistics, and chemistry. Details on their hours of operations can be found at: <http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/get-assistance/studying/chemistry-physics-help> and <http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/get-assistance/studying/math-stats-help>

### 8.3 Wellness

If you are struggling with personal or health issues:

- Counselling services offers individualized appointments to help students work through personal struggles that may be impacting their academic performance. <https://www.uoguelph.ca/counselling/>
- Student Health Services is located on campus and is available to provide

medical attention. <https://www.uoguelph.ca/studenthealthservices/clinic>

- For support related to stress and anxiety, besides Health Services and Counselling Services, Kathy Somers runs training workshops and one-on-one sessions related to stress management and high performance situations. <http://www.selfregulationskills.ca/>

## 9 University Statements

### 9.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

### 9.2 When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

### 9.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml>

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml>

## 9.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

## 9.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to book their exams at least 7 days in advance and not later than the 40th Class Day.

More information can be found on the SAS website  
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas>

## 9.6 Academic Integrity

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity, and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community—faculty, staff, and students—to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff, and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct  
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml>

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct  
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml>

## **9.7 Recording of Materials**

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

## **9.8 Resources**

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars>

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