

**WIDENER UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY**

**BCH 101**

**Biochemistry Seminar I**

**Fall 2006**

**Topic: You are what you eat**

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**Office Hours:** Monday 10-12

Wed 8-9, Thursday 12-2

Friday 11-12

or by appointment

**Class meeting time and place:** Thursday 2-3:50, Kirkbride 571, Kirkbride461 (computer lab) and as otherwise arranged

**Text and materials:** There is no required text. Case problems will be handed out in class and are adapted from: Cornely, Kathleen. Cases in Biochemistry. New York: John Wiley and Sons, Inc, 1999, and the websites: Problem-Based Learning Clearinghouse, <http://www.udel.edu/pblc>, and National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science, <http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/projects/cases/case.html>. Additionally, you will be gathering information from the internet and scientific journals.

**Objectives:** This is the first seminar course in the two-semester sequence. This course is designed to introduce students to the essence of biochemistry and incorporates group and individual problem based learning through biochemical case studies. Your progress will be evaluated during class discussions, oral presentations and individual meetings with me. At the end of this course, you should be able to think critically about real world biochemistry problems, collect and evaluate information for problem solving from a variety of sources and effectively communicate your knowledge to a group setting.

**Office hours:** Hours are listed above although you are welcome to stop by at any time with any and all questions. I can also be reached by email or phone to answer questions or arrange additional meeting times that are more convenient for you.

**Class communications:** Announcements, information and certain course materials will be posted on the Campus Cruiser course web site. Additionally, email will be sent to your Campus Cruiser account; forward your messages to the account that you use most often.

**Attendance: Attendance is required.** Whether working in a group or as an individual, your participation and input are essential to your learning and that of the class. It is not possible to make up work. If you must miss a class, notify me in advance as soon as possible.

**Academic fraud:** The Science Division and the Biochemistry Department strictly enforce the University's policy on cheating and other forms of academic fraud. You will **never** let any one else do the work for you and **never** plagiarize. You must acknowledge all your sources and give

appropriate credit to any person that assists you with a journal article. Violate these policies and you fail the course.

**Grading:** The course will be graded on the +/- system and weighted as listed below. Please note that +/- adjustments will be made at my discretion.

<b>Group Problem</b>		
Class Discussion, Part I	5%	<b>A 90-100%</b>
Class Debate, Part II	10%	<b>B 80-89%</b>
<b>Individual Problem 1</b>		
Conference 1	5%	<b>C 70-79%</b>
Conference 2	10%	<b>D 60-69%</b>
Power point presentation	20%	<b>F &lt;60%</b>
<b>Individual Problem 2</b>		
Conference 3	10%	
Conference 4	10%	
Power point presentation	20%	
<b>Peer evaluations</b>	5%	
<b>Instructor's evaluation</b>	5%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

**Schedule:** Instructor reserves the right to modify the schedule. You will be notified in class, by email or on Campus Cruiser of any changes.

<b>September</b>	<b>7</b>	Introduction; Introduce Group Problem; Begin research
	<b>14</b>	Group Problem Class Discussion, Part I; Introduce Part II
	<b>21</b>	Scientific Literature Searching; Continue research
	<b>28</b>	Group Problem Class Debate, Part II; Introduce Individual Problem I; Begin research
<b>October</b>	<b>5</b>	Individual Conference 1; Continue research
	<b>12</b>	Individual Conference 2; Continue research
	<b>19</b>	<b>Problem 1 Presentations</b> (2 presentations)
	<b>26</b>	<b>Problem 1 Presentations</b> (2 presentations); Group discussion on case studies; Peer evaluations due
<b>November</b>	<b>2</b>	Introduce Individual Problem II; Begin research; Peer evaluations due
	<b>9</b>	Individual Conference 3; Continue research
	<b>16</b>	Individual Conference 4; Continue research
	<b>23</b>	<b>No Class -- Thanksgiving</b>
	<b>30</b>	<b>Problem 2 Presentations</b> (2 presentations)
<b>December</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>Problem 2 Presentations</b> (2 presentations); Peer evaluations due
	<b>14</b>	Group discussion of case studies; Peer evaluations due