



**Attendance policy:** Attendance to both lecture and lab is required. If you miss a lecture or lab I reserve the right to determine what constitutes an excused or unexcused absence. To name a couple of examples of unexcused absences, scheduled appointments or leaving town, except for University related activities (e.g. you are on a sports team or are presenting at a conference), do not constitute

- If you arrive late for an exam you will be allowed to take the exam. However, you must turn in the exam paper at the regular scheduled end of the class. You will not be allowed extra time unless a documentable emergency has occurred.
- The final exam is optional and it can replace the lowest grade of exams 1, 2, 3 or 4. This applies only to the final exam; no other exam can replace the lowest grade. If the final exam is used to

**Cheating or Plagiarism**

- Incidents of cheating or plagiarism will result in a referral to the Office of Student Conduct for disciplinary action.
- <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/student-conduct-office/>
- <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/vp-office/academic-honesty-policies-and-procedures.php>

**COVID-19 related policy**

As the Blazer Creed articulates, members of the VSU community are expected to live by the high standards of civility, integrity, and citizenship and embrace their responsibility as a member of the Blazer community. In recognition of this responsibility, and in response to the best available science and current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Georgia Department of Public Health, while face coverings are no longer required, individuals are strongly encouraged to continue wearing a face covering indoors. **Unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated.** Vaccines remain available at no cost for all members of the university community by appointment at Student Health Services.

**Learning Support**

Grade calculation*			Grade distribution	
Assessment		Max Points	Letter	Percentage
Lecture	Exam 1	100	A	90-100%
	Exam 2	100	B	80-89%
	Exam 3	100	C	70-79%
	Exam 4	100	D	60-69%
	Final Exam (Optional)	(100)	F	60%
	Weekly quizzes Lab Assignments	20		

**\*Final grade calculation: (Lecture exam + Laboratory + Extra credit)/650**

**NOTE:** Graduate students enrolled in BIOL 6500 will have additional assignments and adjusted grading scale in a supplementary syllabus.

**Tentative Lecture Schedule:**

<b>Lecture</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Textbook Readings</b>
1	10-Jan	Introduction to the course	
2	12-Jan	Cells and Genomes	Chapter 1
-----	<b>17-Jan</b>	<b>MLK Holiday</b>	



