



Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

Semester: Spring 2025

Year: 2025

Course Prefix: BIOL

Course and Section #: 497R-001

Course Title: Biology Colloquium

Credits: 1

Course Description

Gives a broad exposure to many aspects of the life sciences. Covers topics of biochemistry, energetics, cell structure and function, genetics, and evolution.

Course Attributes

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Staff

Student Learning Outcomes

1	Summarize material presented by scientific speakers.
2	Evaluate lectures in an oral or written response.
3	Develop questions based on the material presented by scientific speakers.
4	Compose a written reflection on the relevance of scientific presentations to current concerns of society.

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Course Materials and Texts

There is no required textbook for this course.

Students will need reliable internet access throughout the semester.

Please use a device that can access the internet during class (phone, laptop, tablet etc.)

Course Requirements

Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy

Percentage of Grade	Assignment
55%	Presentation Reflections
30%	Course Surveys and Participation
15%	Webinar Discussions

Presentation Reflections- Due Fridays at 11:59 pm

- Each worth 10 points
- You will find these reflections in the Assignment section of Canvas
- Late reflections will be reduced 10% for every day they are turned in late. After 3 days past the due date, you will only be able to score 75% on your assignment if you submitted a high quality assignment. For example, if you did not turn in any of your assignments until the last week of class and submitted all high-quality assignments, you would only receive 75% for those assignments. It is better for you to turn something in than nothing at all.
- Your two lowest reflection scores will be dropped

Webinar Reflections- Due Fridays at 11:59pm

- These webinar discussions will be for when we do not have a scheduled presenter. If a presenter cancels or I am unable to schedule someone to present, you will select a webinar of your choice to write a reflection on.
- The last two weeks of class will be webinar reflections (10 points each, you may not drop these assignments)
- You will find these discussions in the Assignment/Discussion section of Canvas

- Late reflections will be reduced 10% for every day they are turned in late. After 3 days past the due date, you will only be able to score 75% on your assignment if you submitted a high-quality assignment. For example, if you did not turn in any of your assignments until the last week of class and submitted all high-quality assignments, you would only receive 75% for those assignments. It is better for you to turn something in than nothing at all.

Course Surveys and Participation

- Syllabus quiz
- 2 course reflections
- 2 course surveys

- 9-13 attendance checks (depending on the number of presenters)

- You will find these reflections/surveys/attendance checks in the Assignment section of Canvas

You are required to attend every live streamed presentation. I know that life happens and to account for the times in which you are unable to attend, you may drop two attendance scores (i.e., you can miss two weeks of class). If you have to miss more than 2 live-streamed presentations, you will need to watch an online webinar **in addition** to watching the recorded presentation that you missed and write one reflection on both presentations (listed as a normal assignment on Canvas). You will need to email me when this occurs and I will update your participation points accordingly.

Required or Recommended Reading Assignments

None

General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion

As this is a colloquium course, each semester schedule of invited speakers will be different from week to week. Speakers who are invited to present to students come from a range of biology disciplines.

In this seminar course, you will be given a broad exposure to various work and research in biology. This course will showcase the type of presentations you would engage in at a scientific conference. At these conferences, presenters highlight their scientific work to an audience. These presentations are important in the scientific community as it allows scientists to keep up to date on the most recent research in their area. Additionally, audience members will sometimes ask questions that allow the presenter to look at their work in a new way. To ask relevant and thoughtful questions, one must learn how to actively listen to a speaker's presentation. Being able to digest information during a scientific talk, analyze that information, and create questions regarding it is an essential skill for all scientists. This course will help you learn how to actively listen during a presentation and engage with speakers in a scientific setting. Additionally, asking a question lets the speaker know who you are and that you are interested in what they are talking about. As you think towards future jobs or graduate school, these outside presenters can become key networking contacts for you.

Required Course Syllabus Statements

Generative AI

Generative AI can be used to brainstorm ideas but cannot be used to copy word for word for assignments. More details will be provided in Canvas.

Using Remote Testing Software

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

Required University Syllabus Statements

Accommodations/Students with Disabilities

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu or 801-863-8747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at DHHservices@uvu.edu

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

Academic Integrity

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and

writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

Equity and Title IX

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – TitleIX@uvu.edu – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

Religious Accommodation

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at accessibilityservices@uvu.edu. If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.